1. Complete each day's work.
Week 4 Day 1
Louisiana's Economy

Louisiana's Resources

Louisiana has natural resources both on land and at sea. Many of these become economic resources. The Gulf of Mexico, for example, provides Louisiana with oil and seafood. Large industries in the state exist to turn these into marketable items. The forests of the state provide materials for the timber industry. Agriculture and livestock industries are all over the state. Louisiana grows rice, sugarcane, fruits, soybeans, and sweet potatoes. Cattle and chicken are raised and sold in the state. The map below shows you the location of Louisiana's many economic resources.

Tourism is a major industry in Louisiana. People come from all the US to experience unique Louisiana culture. In 2017, 47.1 million people took a vacation to Louisiana. These tourists spent 17.5 billion dollars. 236,000 people work in the tourism industry. Tourism is one of the biggest industries in Louisiana.
Louisiana exports goods to many different countries, including China, Mexico, Canada, and France. Louisiana exports goods like seafood, sugarcane, and oil. Louisiana's location has helped make it an important trade center. The state is near the Gulf Coast as well as the Mississippi River. The Port of New Orleans has been a trade center since the French opened it in 1718. This port receives imports and sends out exports. Some of Louisiana's imports include coffee, rubber, steel, fruits, and vegetables.

Practice 4: Louisiana's Economy

1. What is a way that a person living on the Gulf Coast cannot make money (meaning that it is not possible to do so)?
   A. drilling for oil
   B. harvesting seafood
   C. running a dairy farm
   D. doing snow removal for his or her neighbors

2. Look at the list below. Which three are natural resources of the state of Louisiana?
   A. cotton
   B. steel
   C. cod fish
   D. sugarcane
   E. salmon
   F. wild horses
   G. sweet potatoes

3. Explain why the Port of New Orleans is so important to Louisiana.
Chapter 9 Key Term Activity

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Bank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>supply producers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>demand households</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abundance price</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scarcity consumers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Almost every adult person is involved in economic activity. At its most basic, economic activity means the making and selling of goods and services. 1. ________________ form the single most important section of the US economy. That's because people who make and people who buy often live under the same roof. 2. ________________, or the people who make things, and 3. ________________, or the people who buy things, are subject to the same laws of economic activity, which are expressed in the relationship between 4. ________________ and 5. ________________. The relationship between the people who make things and the people who buy them leads to the 6. ________________ which is charged for the item or service. 7. ________________ exists when an item is in high demand and not enough of that item can be found. 8. ________________ exists when an item is in low demand and too many of those items are on the shelves of the store or marketplace.

Key terms are defined in the book's glossary.
Answers to Key Term Activities and chapter reviews are found in the Teacher’s Guide.
Week 4 Day 2
Chapter 10
Louisiana and
Its Unique Challenges

**Unit Five:** Louisiana's Future

**Standards covered:** 3.1.6, 3.2.4, 3.4.5

Key term activity at the end of the chapter

**Unique Louisiana**

**Cultural Melting Pot**

Louisiana contains many cultures. This has been true from the beginning of its history. The unique blend of cultures and peoples makes Louisiana an exciting and dynamic place to live. But it also creates a special set of challenges.

![African Krewe Princess](image)

**Why do People Visit Louisiana?**

People visit Louisiana to experience a place quite different from the rest of the US. Some first-time visitors say that downtown New Orleans is more like a Caribbean city than a North American one. Visitors come to experience exciting activities, with Mardi Gras at the top of the list. The parades and celebration are world famous. But people also visit Louisiana in order to eat. They come to experience Creole, Cajun, French, and Spanish dishes. And they also come to hear live music. Jazz and zydeco are at the top of their lists. Of course, New Orleans is not the only place to see in Louisiana.
The northern part of the state has many forests and waterways. People go there to camp, fish, and hunt. Louisiana is called the “Sportsman’s Paradise,” and this is especially true in the northern sections.

The swamps and bayous of Louisiana attract many visitors. People fish in the bayous. Many take boat rides to see the wildlife and scenery. Many hope to see alligators in the bayous and waterways. Tourists also like to eat food which is fished from the bayous. Crawfish and gator meat are popular tourist dishes.

Louisiana has many lakes, ranging from large to small. Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Charles are among the most famous. Pontchartrain gets its unusual name from a French leader in colonial times. Tourists take boat rides, fish, and camp near the lakes. There are many types of wildlife in and around these lakes. And of course, many people come each year in order to enjoy boat rides and cruises along the Mississippi River. The Father of Waters—as the Native Americans called it—continues to be a major attraction.

Visitors come to experience Louisiana’s rich history. The state is filled with historical sites and markers. The archeology at Poverty Point is a major draw, but so are the many plantation houses. There are many museums that have artifacts about the state’s history. Each year, the National World War II Museum draws hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world.

Practice 1: Unique Louisiana

1. Louisiana is called the Sportsman’s Paradise. Which section would you travel to in order to see this at its finest?
   A. the northern section
   B. the southwestern section
   C. the southeast section
   D. the far western section
2. Look at the list below. Which three are places or events that got their names either from a French leader in colonial times or a later French experience?

A. Lake Pontchartrain  
B. Mardi Gras  
C. the Spanish Quarter  
D. Baton Rouge  
E. Lincoln Parish  
F. Shreveport  
G. Caddo Parish

3. Why is wildlife—and natural beauty—so important to Louisiana’s economy?
Week 4 Day 3
Louisiana’s Challenges
Industry and human activity have changed Louisiana over time. Some of these changes are positive, and some are negative. Businesses bring money to the state. But some can cause problems, such as polluting the air, water, and land. Because of its tropical climate, Louisiana has a special need to keep its air clean.

Water-Related Natural Resources
The Gulf of Mexico is a huge natural resource. It is shared by Mexico, the US, and the Caribbean islands. The Gulf allows ships from Louisiana to reach the Atlantic Ocean. Ships from other parts of the world reach Louisiana by the same route in reverse. The Gulf provides seafood, especially the shrimp Louisiana is famous for. Louisiana’s bayous and inland waterways support plant life. They also provide water for the wetlands, which produce rice, and seafood like crawfish.

Agriculture and Energy
Louisiana’s soil is a natural resource. It allows Louisiana farmers to raise many cash crops. Louisiana is also rich in oil and natural gas. These provide the energy that powers homes and vehicles.

How Humans Modify Their Environment
Humans have modified their environment since the earliest times. The Native American settlement at Poverty Point is a good example. Most human modifications are done with one thing in mind. That is to make life easier and more convenient. Some of the modifications have a negative overall impact, however.

Much of Louisiana’s Gulf Coast and Marsh regions are below sea level. Under normal conditions, these areas would be flooded or completely underwater.
With the federal government’s help, Louisiana has built many levees. These are earthen walls that keep water out of an area. Levees help to protect lives and property. But the levees also cause problems sometimes. When a levee is “topped” by a storm, the flood that follows is even worse than normal. Many cities and towns rely on levees to protect them from flooding. Many parts of New Orleans flooded during Hurricane Katrina in 2005. This is because some of the levees broke while others were “topped.”

Louisiana’s climate is very hot and humid. Air conditioning is one way that people have modified their environment. A homeowner or business owner can simply flick a switch or move a button to turn on the air conditioning.

Irrigation allows farming in areas where it normally would not be possible. Northern Louisiana has a slightly different climate from the southern part of the state. The land is not as wet. Farmers often use irrigation to pump water from the Mississippi to water crops.

Building roads is another example of how humans modify their environment. Towns often sprang up in areas where dirt roads intersected. Roads which were well traveled had many towns and settlements grow up over time.

Over time, the dirt roads were improved and widened. People traveled those new, paved roads. Many workers came to Louisiana to work in the oil industry. They needed better ways to travel across the state. Governor Huey P. Long was responsible for the building of many roads and bridges in the 1930s. He is remembered by Louisianans for many things. The most visible memory is the Huey P. Long Bridge, the first bridge to cross the Mississippi River. Completed in 1934, it allowed cars and trains to cross the Father of Waters.

Physical Processes Affecting Louisiana’s Environment

River Change

Rivers don’t stay the same forever. In their push to reach the sea, rivers often change the curves of their movement. This is true for small rivers in the local neighborhood and for huge rivers like the Mississippi.

The Mississippi River and its delta form a massive but also fragile ecosystem. Few places in the world see such a joining of fresh and salt water. But the unique qualities of the Mississippi River and the delta mean that those areas are also fragile. Too much salt water moving into freshwater areas causes problems. And the same is true in reverse.

Massive storms like Hurricane Katrina also cause river—and delta—change. Katrina created new wetland areas where the land had previously been dry. The new wetlands brought seawater, increasing the amount of salt in the southern sections of Louisiana. Wetlands have increased in size, but marshlands are slowly disappearing. Some people blame human activity for this change. Others say that the process happened naturally. Regardless of who is right about this, Louisiana’s government is making efforts to save the marshlands.
Coastal Erosion

Coastal erosion is a major problem facing Louisiana. Ocean currents have washed away sections of the state's coastline. Erosion often results in the destruction of plant life and human property. Louisiana loses many square miles to coastal erosion each year. This erosion affects the fishing and seafood industries.

Ocean currents are the number-one cause of coastal erosion. This effect is slow, taking place over many decades. But sudden, dramatic events, such as Hurricane Katrina, also take a toll on the coast. Look at the map below. Notice how different the Louisiana coastline looks in the year 2011 from the year 1932.

Human activity also contributes to coastal erosion. When beaches are mined for coral and sand, coastal erosion usually results. Redirecting rivers also affects coastlines. Louisiana's government and the state's environmental groups are working hard to conserve the coastline.

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Oil Spills and Water Pollution

Water is easily polluted. Sometimes the body of water is large enough that it can absorb the pollution. This is not the case with the lower Mississippi River or the Delta region.

Water pollutants are substances present in water and high enough in the water to cause harm. Water pollution affects surface water (above ground) and groundwater (below ground). Water pollution sometimes causes a wide variety of health problems. It affects plants, animals, and humans alike. Of all the fifty states in the nation, Louisiana is the most vulnerable to oil spills. The best-known example happened in 2010. The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill took place after an oil rig exploded in the Gulf of Mexico. The oil spread throughout the Gulf. The area of the spill was about the same size as the state of Oklahoma.

The impacts were negative. Many birds, fish, and sea mammals were harmed or killed. The spill impacted the entire ecosystem of the Mississippi River Delta and the upper Gulf of Mexico. The environmental effects were very negative. So were the economic effects. Tourism dropped dramatically. Louisiana’s economy suffered. People lost their jobs.

The oil cleanup cost millions of dollars. The oil continued to poison the marine life long after the actual spill. Years passed before it was safe for fishermen to do their work in the Gulf of Mexico. Many people received money for the damage(s) they suffered as a result of the spill.
Practice 2: Louisiana's Challenges

1. Identify and describe two ways in which Louisianans modify their environment.

2. How did farmers modify their environment to improve farming?
   A. by using wind power
   B. by drilling oil
   C. through irrigation
   D. by using air conditioning

3. What are the different kinds of waterways from which the people of Louisiana get fish and seafood?

4. Explain how you think Louisiana's government should deal with river change and erosion.
Chapter 10 Key Term Activity

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>water pollutants</td>
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<tr>
<td>coastal erosion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hurricane Katrina</td>
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</table>

1. __________________ is the single biggest reason people come to Louisiana. This festival draws hundreds of thousands of tourists each year. Louisiana is also famous for its outdoor activities. They are commemorated in the unofficial slogan 2. ____________________.

Just east of the city of New Orleans is 3. ____________________, one of the largest bodies of water of its kind. This area is famous for boating and pleasure activities. Southern Louisiana also has many 4. ____________________, which allow for fishing, boating, and fun. But the lower Mississippi River is also known for the manmade protections, called 5. ____________________, which have been built by the state and federal governments. Those manmade protections usually keep the city of New Orleans safe from flooding, but this was not the case during 6. ____________________ in 2005.

7. ____________________ is essential for most people in Louisiana. The hot humid climate makes it a “must.” Louisianans can usually control the temperature in their homes. But outside they are vulnerable to 8. ____________________, especially those that come from oil and natural gas spills. And finally, the state is vulnerable to the ongoing problem of 9. ____________________.

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