

## Geography Application

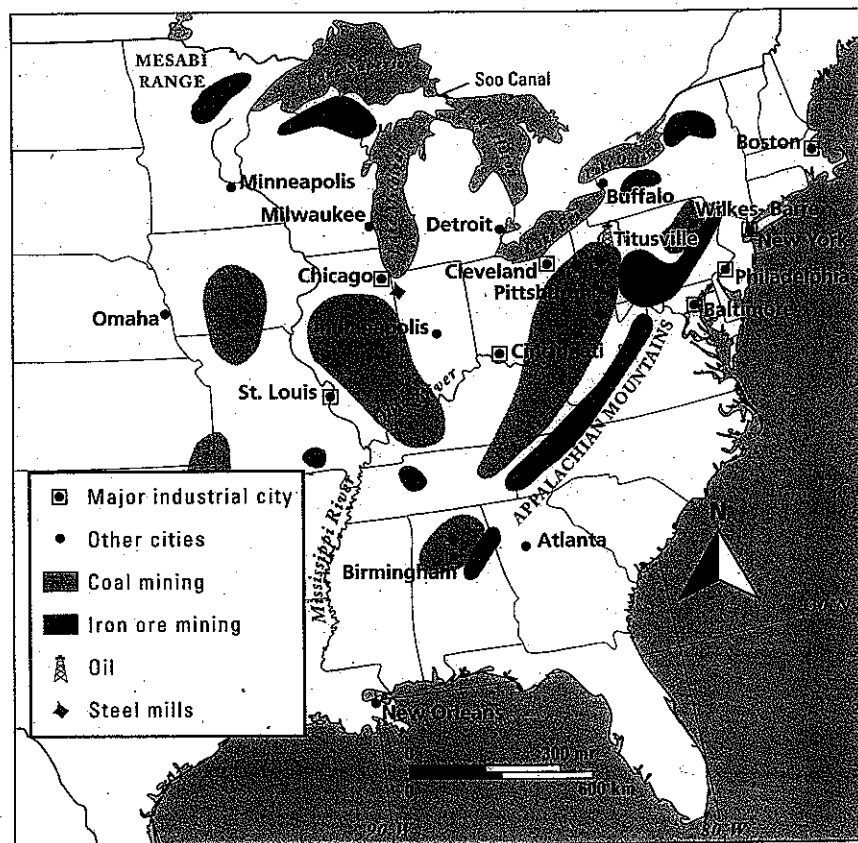
**Natural Resources and the Oil and Steel Industries**

A major contribution to the growth of industry in the United States in the late 1800s was the increase in oil and steel production.

The first oil corporation was created to distribute oil discovered floating on water in a lake in Titusville, Pennsylvania. Then people thought to drill for oil in that area. For the first time, in 1859, oil was taken from underground. Soon areas of western Pennsylvania were turned into patches of oil derricks. Pipelines from Titusville connected to a railroad station five miles away and then to Pittsburgh, 67

miles away. Cleveland and other cities with an access to the natural resource of water for transportation became centers of oil refining.

The process of making steel begins with the heating of iron ore with burning coal. As a result, western Pennsylvania was also in a perfect position to be an early leader in the U.S. steel industry. By 1889, large deposits of iron ore had been found around the Great Lakes. This established the region as a major supplier of iron ore. The map below shows the relationship between resources and industry.



## Interpreting Maps and Text

1. What are the four natural resources found on this map?

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2. What makes western Pennsylvania unique among the map's regions?

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3. In what way do coal and iron ore work together to help produce steel?

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4. What natural resource do all but one of the cities identified on the map as "Major industrial city" have in common?

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5. What natural resource besides water is abundant in the Great Lakes region?

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6. The Appalachians Mountains are rich in what natural resource?

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7. Why do you think the area around Pittsburgh has so many steel mill symbols?

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8. The south end of Lake Michigan has no iron ore. How do you think it became a site for steel mills?

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