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**After reading A Little Luck , answer the following questions.**

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| **1. What was the author’s purpose in writing this article?****A.** To inform readers on how Cornelius Vanderbilt became a leader in the transportation industry.**B**. To inform readers about the good work ethic and strong business sense of the captains of industry.**C.** To inform readers about how the Erie Canal led to a wave of canal building across America.**D.** To inform readersabout the many effects the transportation revolution of the 19th Century had on the United States. |

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| **2. Part A – Why did the wave of canal building have such a short existence?****A.** There was no more room in the nation to build canals.**B.** The captains of industry decided there were enough canals in the nation.**C.** There were enough miles of turnpike in the country to handle the transportation of people and goods.**D.** A better and easier method of transportation was developed. **Part B – Which evidence from the article supports the correct answer in Part A.****A.** “By 1821, 4,000 miles of new turnpike had been completed just in New York.”**B.** “Finally, the greatest of all 19th-century transportation innovations appeared: the railroad.”**C.** “Men who spotted the trend, such as “Cornelius “Commodore” Vanderbilt, became the industry’s leaders.”**D.** “It overcame the obstacles of moving people and goods over land through interior sections of the country.” |

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| **3. Why was the result of the “transportation revolution” so amazing?****A.** It made millionaires out of the captains of industry**.****B.** Roads and canals were built all over the United States.**C.** Each new transportation innovation enabled goods and people to move at greater speeds and for less cost than each of the earlier methods.**D.** More Americans began moving to other countries. |

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| **4. Part A - Why did the 19th-century captains of industry owe much of their success to luck?****A.** They were very wealthy.**B.** They were willing to take risks.**C.** They were in the right place at the right time.**D.** They worked very hard. **Part B – Which evidence from the article supports the correct answer in Part A?****A.** “Most of the 19th –century captains of industry showed good work ethic.”**B.** “… a strong business sense and a willingness to take risks.”**C.** “And entrepreneurs who anticipated this national expansion became the richest people in America.**D.** “Many of these men were fortunate to launch their careers at the start of what is referred to as America’s “transportation revolution.” |

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| **5. What does the author mean when he says: “They [each innovation] connected the growing nation physically and economically”?****A.** He means that as the new transportation forms became outdated, they caused the nation physical and economic problems.**B.** He means that the new methods of transportation allowed Americans to move more quickly about the country and encouraged economic growth at the same time.**C.** He means that the economy of the United States grew at a slower rate as the nation became more connected.**D.** He means that the physical features of the nation were connected to the economy. |

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| **6. What is the central idea of the article?****A.** The captains of industry made their fortunes because they had good work ethic, were risk takers, and had a strong business sense; however, they also were lucky that their careers started at the beginning of America’s transportation revolution.**B.** The inventionof the railroad was the greatest of all the 19th Century transportation innovations.**C.** The age of the river steamboat lasted from 1815 – 1860, and during this time period men like Cornelius Vanderbilt became one of the industry’s leaders.**D.** The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, connected the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean; thus, it encouraged a wave of canal building across America. |