

Unit 3

After Confederation

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 9, Lesson 2: The Canadian Pacific Railroad - Key

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What were the three parts of the National Policy?

The three parts of the National Policy were:

- transportation policy - build a transcontinental railway
- immigration policy - encourage farmers to populate the West
- economic policy - build a strong economy for Canada

2. Why did the government want to build the transcontinental railway?

The government wanted to build a transcontinental railway to bring British Columbia into Confederation and to keep the Americans out of Canada.

3. Why did the surveyors choose the southern prairie route for the railway?

The southern route was chosen for the following reasons:

- The land was flatter with fewer trees, making it easier to build the railroad.
- Coal deposits near Lethbridge provided fuel for the steam engines.
- The route was close to the US border, keeping travellers in Canada.
- The railway controlled much of the southern prairie land, so they would make higher profits with a southern route.
- Scientists reported the southern prairies were well suited to farming.

4. What were some of the challenges faced by the railway workers?

The challenges faced by the railway workers included mosquitoes and flies, bitter cold, poor accommodations, and fleas and rats.

5. In what ways were the Chinese workers treated differently from other workers?

Chinese workers were paid half of what the other workers were paid. Chinese workers also were the ones who did the most difficult and dangerous jobs.

6. What were some of the opinions about the railway? (Hint: See page 206 of the textbook for assistance.)

Those in favour of the railway:

- BC joined Confederation.
- CPR shareholders made money from land they sold for the railway.
- Ontario farmers and manufacturers could now move their products west.
- BC loggers and prairie miners would make profits and there would be jobs.

Those against the railway:

- Prairie residents were resentful of the land the railway company received free.
- Prairie farmers felt they were charged too much for shipping their crops.
- First Nations were concerned about the influx of newcomers to the West.