

Name _____ Date _____

Canals vs. Railroads Worksheet

The Transportation Race!

1. Describe the conditions experienced by Captain Miles and the crew of *Pride of Baltimore II* during the May 28th, 1997 and the September 18th, 1997 voyages through the C&D Canal.

2. Use the map at the end of the worksheet to complete the “Bay to Bay Link” map activity by:
 - locating and labeling the Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, the Atlantic Ocean, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Virginia and the Delmarva Peninsula
 - locating the two cities, one in Maryland and one in Pennsylvania, that were trading partners during the 19th century
 - drawing a blue line that shows a possible water route linking these two cities
 - drawing a red line that shows a possible overland route linking these two cities
 - estimating the distance between these two cities for your water route and for your overland route
 - creating a key for your map that explains the two routes

3. Complete the following resources charts.

Resources needed to build the **C&D Canal**

	Natural Resources	Capital Resources	Human Resources
C&D Canal (13 miles)			

Resources needed to build the **C&O Canal**

	Natural Resources	Capital Resources	Human Resources
B&O Railroad (the first 13 miles)			

4. How were immigrants new to Maryland in the early 1800s so important to both canal and railroad construction projects?

5. Name some other canal projects that were under construction at the same time that the C&D Canal was being built. Why was this time period called the 'golden era of canal building'?

6. Reread this message from Thomas Gray of England.

No speed with this, can fleetest horse compare,
No weight like this, canal or vessel bear,
At this, will Commerce every way promote,
To this, let Sons of Commerce grant their vote.

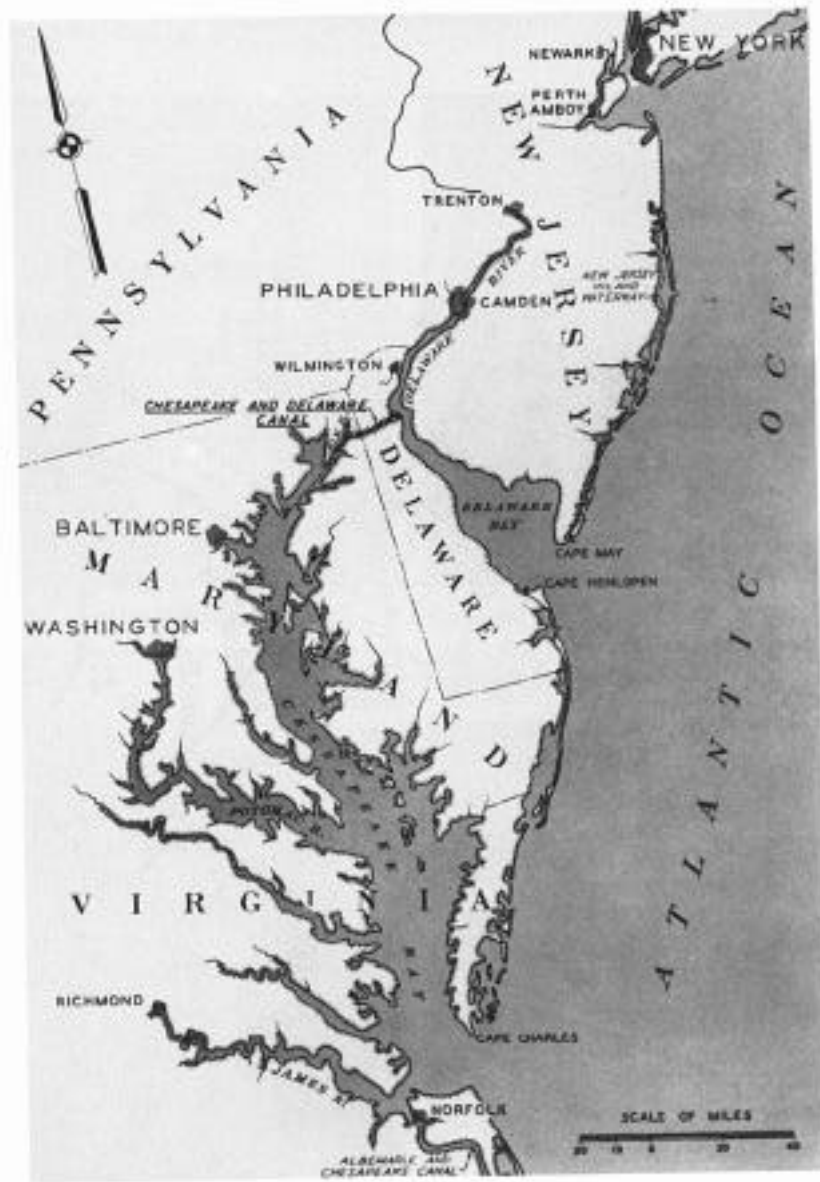
What do you think Mr. Gray was trying to tell possible investors about both canals and railroads? Do you agree with him? Why or why not?

7. Use the chart below to organize your thoughts about building canals and railroads in the 1800s in Maryland.

C&D CANAL	B&O RAILROAD
Pros:	Pros:
Cons:	Cons:

8. Using the hamburger model for persuasive writing and the persuasive writing rubric provided, write a letter to Mr. Bell to advise him on how he should invest his money. Be sure to support the persuasive reasons in your letter with details that you have learned during this lesson. Remember, too, that there are five basic parts to a letter: date, greeting, body, closing and signature. Good luck!

9. After looking at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Philadelphia District website, describe in detail why you think the C&D Canal is still useful today. Do you think that the C&D Canal will still be in use ten years from now? Why or why not?



The Chesapeake and Delaware bays. (*Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army*)