

## Assessing with Primary Sources

**Grade Level:** 6

**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.3: Analyze in detail how a key individual, event, or idea is introduced, illustrated, and elaborated in a text.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.6: Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

### Library of Congress Resources:



Breaker boys, Woodward Coal Mines, Kingston, Pa.  
Created/published in 1900 by Detroit Publishing Co.

<http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/det.4a07285/>

### Topic Background:

The Industrial Revolution took place over more than a century, as production of goods moved from home businesses, where products were generally crafted by hand, to machine-aided production in factories. This revolution, which involved major changes in transportation, manufacturing, and communications, transformed the daily lives of Americans as much as—and arguably more than—any single event in U.S. history.

Excerpted from:

[http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/industrial-revolution/pdf/teacher\\_guide.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/industrial-revolution/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf)

### Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is a picture of Breaker boys. Breaker boys were young boys who worked in the coal mines. Their job was to sort through and separate unsalable pieces.

### Answer Key:

Question 1: D

Question 2: C

**Directions:** Look at the picture below and answer the questions that follow.

### The Industrial Revolution: Breaker Boys



<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/1994007312/PP/>

**Question 1:** How does this picture illustrate that being a Breaker boy is a physical and dirty job? (CCSS.RI.6.3.)

- A. The boys in the picture have dirty faces and have hard hats on.
- B. The boys are wearing long sleeves and pants to help keep them clean.
- C. None of the boys are smiling in the picture.
- D. Both A and B.

**Question 2:** What can you best argue as the artist's main purpose for taking this picture? (CCSS.RI.6.6)

- A. To show that boys had to work during the industrial revolution.
- B. To show that young boys worked at a coal mine.
- C. To show that young boys worked dirty and laboring jobs.
- D. To show that coal mines were a popular job.