

Test Your Investigative Skills



A companion worksheet to
www.lifeinwesternpa.org

TEST YOUR INVESTIGATIVE SKILLS

The following section is provided as a way to familiarize students and other users with the photographs available on the “Life in Western Pennsylvania” website, and to improve their research skills and knowledge of Western Pennsylvania history. You are encouraged to use keyword searches or browse by subject on the site. Answers and pertinent information can be found in the text accompanying each photograph.

Print out the following questions and record your answers.

Question:

Using the photograph, describe what type of buildings that occupied the Point and the Golden Triangle before Renaissance I.



What does the architecture tell you about Pittsburgh during these years?

Compare this photograph with a picture of Pittsburgh after Renaissance I. How did the city change and what remained the same?

Question:

What Oakland sports facility was the predecessor of the Mellon Arena?

Where was it located and what replaced it?

Question:

This uniquely shaped building is home to the world's largest retractable roof. Can you name the structure?



Question:

What is the tallest building in Pittsburgh?
How many floors does the tallest building in Pittsburgh have?

Question:

What famous hotel was located at the corner of Smithfield and Water Streets?
Can you name two international dignitaries from the 19th century who stayed there?

Question:

What religious building houses one of Pittsburgh's grandest stained glass collections and is home to some of the tallest transept windows in the world?
With which denomination is the building affiliated?

Question:

What famous mansion was built by a Pittsburgh industrialist in the late 19th century? It is now a museum commemorating its owner.

Question:

What college created by a Pittsburgh industrialist provided training for women in the early 1900s? Household economics was one of its major areas of study.

Question:

What was the original name of the University of Pittsburgh and where was the college located?

Question:

What fighting force was assembled from numerous Western Pennsylvania communities to serve the Union during the Civil War?

Can you locate the official name of these volunteers and some of the communities they came from?

Question:

What person was one of Western Pennsylvania's staunchest abolitionists and even began an anti-slavery newspaper? What was the newspaper?

What type of service did this person provide for troops during the Civil War?

Question:

Approximately how many bridges are in Allegheny County?

Question:

What bridge is depicted here and what special distinction does it still have?



Question:

What two bridges in Pittsburgh share names with Western Pennsylvania military fortifications before the Revolutionary War?

Question:

What bridge led to nowhere for six years and shares a name with an early Western Pennsylvania fort and a downtown university?

Question:

This multi-level vehicle could hold over 100 passengers on its upper level. It was one of the most unique forms of public transportation in Western Pennsylvania. Can you name this European-style vehicle?

Question:

What organization was developed in the early 20th century to promote aviation in Pittsburgh?

Question:

What author and poet (author of *My Antonia*) taught at a Pittsburgh high school in the early 20th century? Can you name the school?

Question:

What famous artist of the French Impressionist school was born in Allegheny City. What is the name of this area today? She exhibited with Edgar Degas and other famous Impressionists during the late 19th century.

Question:

What important Pittsburgh art instructor painted murals on the walls of county judicial buildings?

Question:

Can you name at least one World War II era jazz musician who called the Hill District home in the 1920s and 1930s?

Question:

The woman who wrote a book of poetry entitled “The White Rose of Essex” was a long-time member of the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society. Can you name her? What are some of the other organizations which she supported?
