

# Exercise walk-through

## Labor in the Gilded Age ■ 6.7

eXercise

## You must be able to

- state the CED's three-part claim about wages and living standards
- state what labour and management battled over
- name the two forms workers' action took
- state what happened to the industrial workforce

## Method — Three parts

**As the price of many goods decreased, workers' real wages increased, providing new access to a variety of goods and services; many Americans' standards of living improved, while the gap between rich and poor grew. Wages up, living standards up, inequality up — all three at once.**

## Method — The battle

**Labor and management battled over wages and working conditions.**

## Method — Two forms

Workers organised **local and national unions** and/or **directly confronted business leaders**. The CED's "and/or" allows either or both.

## Method — The workforce

**The industrial workforce expanded and child labor increased.** The CED states the second half without comment, and an accurate account carries it.

## Practice 2.1 ■ 3 marks

State the CED's three-part claim about wages and living standards.

## Solution 2.1

Method: Three parts

### Worked steps

workers' real wages increased **B1**; many Americans' standards of living improved **B1**; the gap between rich and poor grew **B1**.

## Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

State the two forms workers' action took.

## Solution 2.2

Method: Two forms

### Worked steps

organising local and national unions **B1**; directly confronting business leaders **B1**.

## Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

The workforce changed.

(a) State the two changes.

(b) State what labour and management battled over.

## Solution 2.3

Method: The battle

### Worked steps

(a) the industrial workforce expanded **B1**; child labor increased **B1**. (b) wages and working conditions **B1**.

## Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

As prices decreased, workers' real wages

- A** increased
- B** decreased
- C** stayed the same
- D** were abolished

## Solution 3.1

Method: Three parts

**A** increased



**B** decreased

**C** stayed the same

**D** were abolished

### Worked steps

**A.** increased.

## Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

Alongside the workforce's expansion, the CED records that

**A** child labor increased

**B** child labor ended

**C** unions were banned

**D** wages fell

## Solution 3.2

**A** child labor increased



**B** child labor ended

**C** unions were banned

**D** wages fell

### Worked steps

**A.** child labor increased.

## Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

Living standards rise and inequality rises at the same time.

- (a) State whether both can be true.
- (b) Explain how.

## Solution 3.3

Method: Three parts

### Worked steps

(a) yes **B1**. (b) a rise in real wages improves the position of those at the bottom **B1** while incomes at the top rise faster, so the gap widens even as everyone gains **B1**.