

Subject: All About the Rust Belt and Sun Belt**1. True or False?**

- a. *Pittsburgh is nowadays a hub for robotics and artificial intelligence.*
- b. *California is considered to be a part of the Rust Belt.*
- c. *The Sun Belt is associated with innovation.*
- d. *The terms *Rust Belt* and *Sun Belt* emerged in the 1950s.*
- e. *It's uncommon for Americans to migrate from the Rust Belt to the Sun Belt.*

Answer Key: a. true; b. true; c. false; d. true; e. false

2. Match the verbs with their synonyms.

emerge, evoke, skyrocket, include, fade

- a. catapult
- b. involve
- c. appear
- d. dwindle
- e. bring to mind

Answer Key: a. skyrocket; b. include; c. emerge; d. fade; e. evoke

3. Complete each sentence with one fitting word.

- a. The misfortune of the Rust Belt has sparked the upward surge ___ the Sun Belt.
- b. Rust Belt states are often seen ___ political battlegrounds.
- c. Cities in the Rust Belt are home ___ historical landmarks.
- d. The Sun Belt is home to vibrant cities ___ as Los Angeles, Houston, Atlanta and Miami.
- e. The Rust Belt stretches _____ parts of the northeastern and midwestern United States.

Answer Key: a. of; b. as; c. to; d. such; e. across

4. Form adverbs from adjectives and nouns from the article.

example: important - importantly

- a. heavy - _____
- b. mild - _____
- c. occasional - _____
- d. success - _____
- e. culture - _____

Answer Key: a. heavily; b. mildly; c. occasionally; d. successfully; e. culturally

5. Fill in the gaps with the correct words.

flip, synonymous, subtle, mere, vibrant

- a. The Rust Belt and Sun Belt go beyond _____ geography.
- b. Cities in this region are home to _____ art scenes.
- c. On the _____ side, the Sun Belt reflects a unique fusion of traditions and modernity.
- d. The Phoenix Suns and Miami Heat aren't too _____ with their names.
- e. The Sun Belt is _____ with rapid population growth, cultural diversity and innovation.

Answer Key: a. mere; b. vibrant; c. flip; d. subtle; e. synonymous

6. Rewrite the sentences by paraphrasing the fragments in bold.

- a. Deindustrialisation was **at its peak** in the '80s.
- b. The Rust Belt moniker **rose to prominence** after midwestern states began to experience a severe economic decline.
- c. **On the other hand**, Sun Belt states have become increasingly conservative in recent elections.
- d. People of the Rust Belt **take pride in** their industrial heritage.
- e. The name of the Dallas Mavericks reflects the region's spirit of individuality, independence and **going against the grain**.

Example Answers: a. Deindustrialisation was at its highest point...; b. The Rust Belt moniker became popular...; c. Conversely, Sun Belt states...; d. People of the Rust Belt are proud of...; e. ...spirit of individuality, independence and nonconformity.