Name _____ Contrast, details, main idea

**What do you know about colonial times?**

What jobs did people have during colonial times? Some people were farmers. A colonial farmer planted and harvested crops by hand. Some people were blacksmiths. They made pots, nails, tools, and horseshoes. There were no dentists, so blacksmiths also pulled teeth!

A cooper was another important colonial worker. He made barrels to hold food and water. Cobblers, or shoemakers, made, mended, and sold shoes. To make their jobs easier, cobblers made left and right shoes the same.

Today some people have jobs that are like jobs from long ago. Machines make their work faster, though. Machines can help plant seeds, harvest crops, and sew clothes. They can even help make left and right shoes!

1. What is a good title for the passage? **Circle** the letter for the best answer below.

   a. Farming Long Ago
   b. Left or Right?
   c. Jobs Long Ago and Today
   d. Machines Are Great!

2. **Write** the letters to match the jobs and items. **Use** each letter only once.

   _____ cobbler
   _____ farmer
   _____ cooper
   _____ blacksmith

   a. crops
   b. nails
   c. barrels
   d. shoes

3. What is one way that colonial jobs are different from today's jobs?

   _____

Look back at your answer for number 1. On the back of this sheet, explain how you decided on your answer.

©The Mailbox® • www.themailboxcompanion.com • June/July 2010