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): The first trans-continental railroad When the first trans-continental railroad was completed in 1869, native lands seemed even more desirable, and movement westward increased as industrialism spread. The railroads spurred America's transformation from an agricultural economy, or one based primarily on farming, to an economy where capitalism, or private ownership of businesses, prevailed. Industry in America developed far more rapidly than it had in Europe. Factories and mills spread quickly throughout New England prior to the Civil War due to good supplies of natural resources such as iron and coal, and the ease of transporting finished goods along the many navigable rivers. This in turn lead to the building of more railroads and canals to handle the increased traffic. 100Test 下载频道开通,各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com