

Mapping Alabama's History

Writing Exercise

On the back of early road maps, the author listed many reasons why a person should visit or move to Alabama. This included wonderful natural resources, such as clean water and air, great agriculture, such as a booming cotton crop, outstanding schools, and safe communities. Here are parts of introductory paragraphs from two early Alabama maps.

Rand McNally and Company Map of Alabama: 1894

"Do you wish to leave...the Northwest and bring your family to Alabama, where life is worth living?...to a country of equable climate-neither too hot nor cold, fine timber, abundance of pure water, all the comforts of home, rewards for the toil...churches, schools, well-established society."

Rand McNally and Company Map of Alabama: 1904

"If for whatever reason you are contemplating a change of residence and wish to come to Alabama, leaving the rigors and shivering winds of your present abode, and are seeking a more congenial and pleasant place of residence, your earnest attention is invited to the many advantages that Alabama can offer you."

Directions:

In the space below or on the back of the page, create an expository paragraph explaining why you think someone should move to Alabama.

DEFINITION OF EXPOSITORY WRITING:

EXPOSITORY WRITING is defined as presenting reasons, explanations, or steps in a process. Effective expository writing should contain a main idea, supporting details, and a conclusion.