

**STUDENT WORKSHEET 1**  
**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CURVE**

1. Why do you think J. Edgar Thompson wanted to build the curve?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How did the addition of Horseshoe Curve change transportation in Pennsylvania?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. There are other horseshoe-shaped railway curves in the United States. What makes this one significant historically?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What are some points of engineering significance associated with Horseshoe Curve?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What significance does the Curve hold in our popular culture?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. If you were our enemy during war, would you target the Pennsylvania Railroad's Horseshoe curve in Altoona, PA? Explain your answer in terms of geography and economy.