Teacher Guide to Student Worksheet 2-History in Photos

Picture 1: "Cressy Dry Goods Store, South Bend, ca. 1920."

What are the store's basic features?

 Store is kind of cramped, with merchandise crammed into every available space. It is also kind of dark, with dark wood furniture and little natural lighting. The merchants in the store look distant and uninviting.

What items are sold in the store?

 Men's ties, shirts, watches, and other clothing and accessories. Little if any women's clothing seems to be sold.

Would you want to shop at this store, why?

- Student responses may vary:
 - Some may say "yes" because the student supports small businesses or they feel that the store may specialize in certain goods.
 - Many may say "no" because the store is not so warm and inviting, is cramped, and lacks a broad selection of goods to buy.

Picture 2: "Interior of Wanamaker's Grand Depot ca. 1876."

What are the store's basic features?

The store is huge with several concentric rings of displays showing merchandise. While the store is crowded with people, everyone seems to have room to move about freely, because the store and its aisles are so big. The store is also bright, flooded with natural light from the skylight or the large lights overhead. The store seems exciting as it is crowded with people and full of a variety of merchandise.

What items are sold in the store?

 From the department signs one can see an assortment of goods available in quantity at the store, from "gloves," to "linen sheets," to "laces."

Would you want to shop at this store, why?

- Student responses may vary:
 - Many may say "yes" because the students are drawn to the excitement and variety of the larger department store. They may also like the brightness or organization the store provides.
 - Some may say "no" because they may feel overwhelmed by the size of the store and the crowds of people there.