Summary 1:
Soon the lives of the poor will be as luxurious as those of the rich thanks to the inventions that have been made. Steam power is making the difference.

Summary 2:
In the past, only the upper class could afford a comfortable life. Now artisans and tradesmen can afford beautiful and comfortable things, and soon the working class will be able to as well. Steam powered machines already produce high quality goods at prices that everyone can afford. In addition, steamboats and trains now transport people over long distances luxuriously and quickly.

1. The main idea of the passage is that
   A. class differences are being erased by new discoveries.
   B. new inventions are making life better for people of all classes.
   C. steam-powered machinery has provided beautiful clothing for all people.
   D. industry will bring many conveniences to people in the future.

2. The information about machines and transportation
   A. explains how fabrics are produced, dyed, and moved to markets.
   B. discusses what the future of industry will be.
   C. supports the idea that practical items and luxuries are becoming more affordable.
   D. explains how everyone can afford to travel long distances.

3. The first summary
   A. provides a discussion of steam-powered machines.
   B. explains how transportation changed industry.
   C. does not state the main idea accurately.
   D. included few unnecessary details.

4. The second summary
   A. has too many details.
   B. covers all the main points.
   C. leaves out mention of transportation.
   D. includes the author’s wishes for the future.

Test Your Knowledge

What is the author’s attitude towards industry and technology?