Henry Ford and the Model T: A Case Study in Productivity Questions

1) Which of the following reduced the cost of producing the Model T?
   a) Interchangeable Parts [CORRECT]
   b) Moving Assembly Line
   c) Limited the vehicle's options
   d) All of the above

2) Henry Ford revolutionized the automobile by using this cheap, light and strong material.
   a) Galvanized steel
   b) Aluminum
   c) Iron
   d) Vanadium Steel [CORRECT]

3) Who is given credit as being the first to use interchangeable parts in the United States?
   a) Henry Ford
   b) Ranson Olds
   c) Eli Whitney [CORRECT]

4) Who is given credit as being the first to use an assembly line in the United States?
   a) Henry Ford
   b) Ranson Olds [CORRECT]
   c) Eli Whitney

5) The Model T came in a rainbow of colors.
   a) True
   b) False [CORRECT]

6) Henry Ford wanted to make a car for the _______.
   a) wealthy
   b) great multitude [CORRECT]
   c) blue collar workers
   d) poor
1. In the early days of Model T production, Henry Ford used a cottage industry approach, which consists of small teams of workers at workstations. *Assembly line production generally reduces the amount of worker time required. HOWEVER, this may not be the case for all the assembly lines. Acknowledge that a poorly planned assembly line or a worker who experiences difficulties doing a specific task may cause a bottleneck and reduce productivity.]*

2. Why does the assembly line produce more than the other lines? *The line may have been more organized, group members may have worked harder or they may have been more skilled.]*

3. Can you think of other capital investments that might improve and speed up an assembly line. *Answers will vary.*