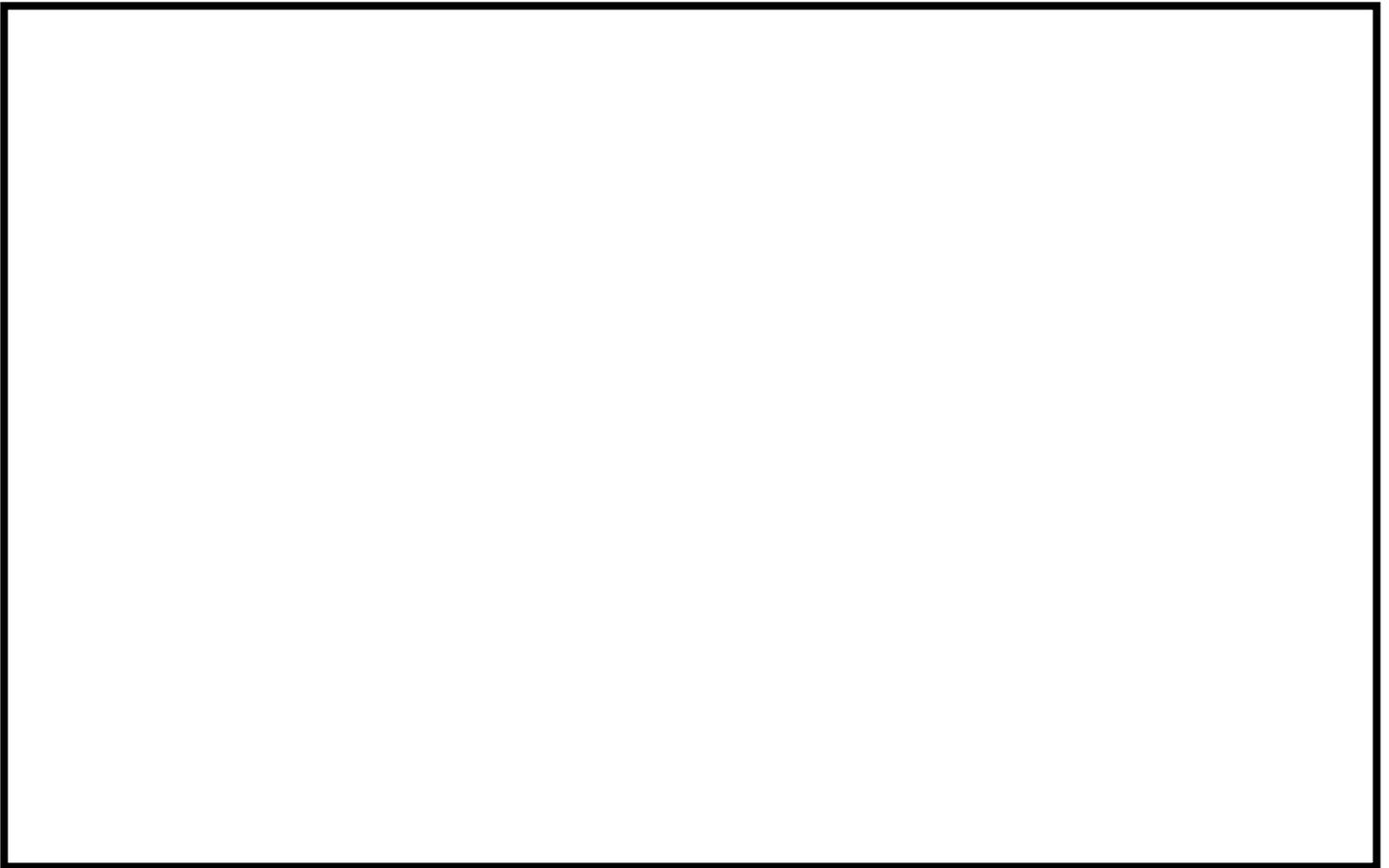


Recreation and Transportation

Name & Number: _____

Many people use the Great Lakes for recreation. **Recreation** means activities done for fun when you are not working. One the reasons the Great Lakes are “great” is because of all the fun things you can do, whether it is boating, fishing, diving, or playing on the beach. Use this box to draw a picture of your favorite activity while near a lake and explain where this might be.



Recreation by the Numbers

Recreation is important to people, but recreation is also important to the people of Michigan. Look at these statistics from 2014....

- Michigan hosted 113.4 million visitors.
 - 93% were domestic travelers.
 - 58% of these were day trips, while 42% spent the night.
- Visitors to Michigan spent \$22.8 billion dollars.
 - 73% of spending was for vacation.
 - 27% of spending was for business.
 - Overnight travelers account for 80% of that amount.
 - On average, overnight visitors spent \$385 during their stay.
- A total of 326,685 jobs were supported by travelers.
- Tourism generated \$2.4 billion in state and local taxes.
 - Without tourism, each house would need to pay \$640 to make up the difference.
- Tourism employment ranks as the 10th largest industry in Michigan.

Employment Ranking State of Michigan		
Rank	Industry	Employment (000s)
1	Health care and social assistance	658,631
2	Manufacturing	581,113
3	Retail trade	552,264
4	Administrative and waste management services	376,884
5	Accommodation and food services	374,385
6	Professional, scientific, and technical services	372,950
7	Other services, except public administration	317,865
8	Finance and insurance	242,925
9	Construction	234,885
10	TOURISM	214,333
11	Real estate and rental and leasing	195,517
12	Wholesale trade	180,658
13	Transportation and warehousing	144,145
14	Educational services	105,647

As you can see, tourism is very important to Michigan's economy. It's so important that the state of Michigan has come up with an advertising campaign to encourage people to come to Michigan. It is called, "Pure Michigan" and you have probably heard the commercials on the radio. Watch the three examples provided on the web site and see if they make you want to get out there and enjoy what our great state has to offer.

Transportation

The Great Lakes have always been important to Michigan for transportation. **Transportation** means ways of moving things and people from one place to another. It all began with the canoes of the fur traders and continues today with the **freighters** that carry thousands of tons of cargo around our state.

Rogers City is a perfect example of a Michigan **port** where goods are picked up to be transported around the world and a destination for travelers to relax. Rogers City is home to the World's largest limestone quarry. Try this, go to Google maps and type in Rogers City, click on the map feature and switch to satellite view. Now, see how far you can zoom out and still see the "whiteness" of this limestone quarry. Zoom back in to see all detail of downtown and beautiful harbor.



So what is limestone, anyway? Limestone is a sedimentary rock that comes from the skeletal fragments of coral and molluscs. It is used to make concrete, a base for road construction, used in toothpaste and paints and can be used in decorative rock gardens.

Rogers City is also home to Ocqueoc Falls, which is the only public waterfall in the Lower Peninsula and the only universally accessible waterfall in the entire United States, meaning even people in wheelchairs can enjoy this natural treasure. Be sure to check out the YouTube video on the web site to view this unique attraction in the Lower Peninsula.

