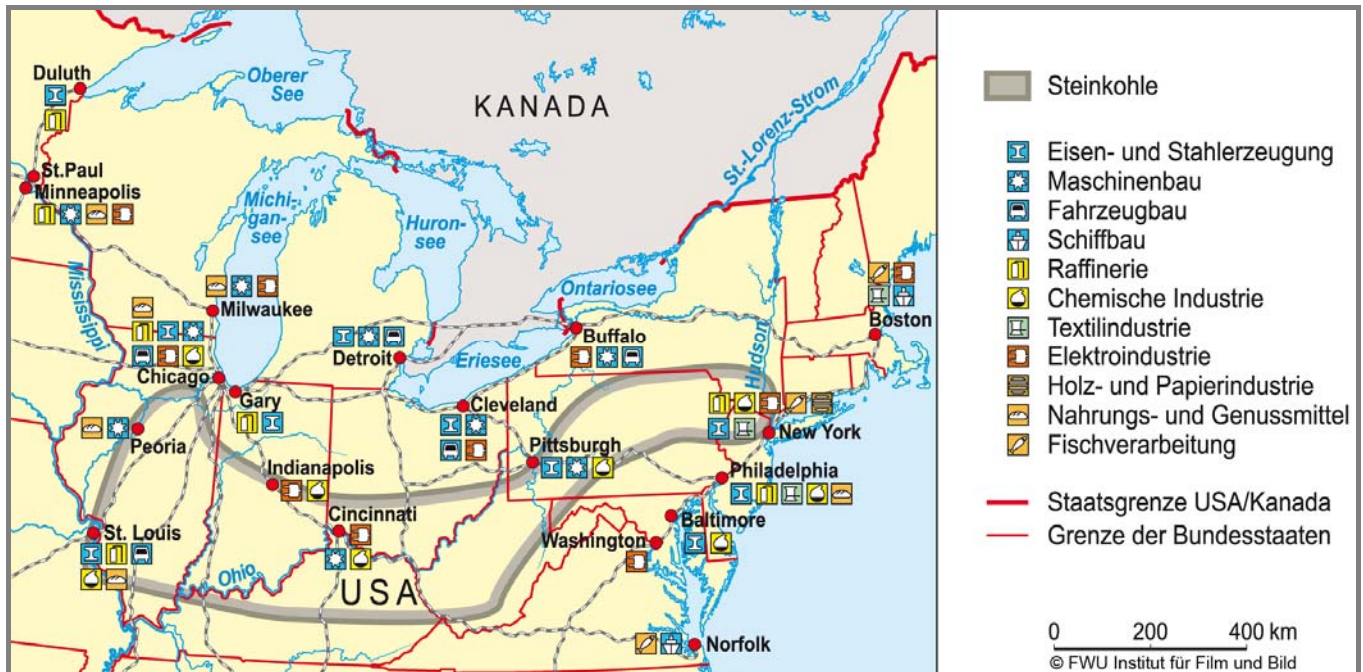


Name: Klasse: 

## Manufacturing Belt – Descent and Comeback – Solution



“The Manufacturing Belt is the industrial core area of the U.S. between Boston and Baltimore on the Atlantic Coast up to Milwaukee, Chicago and St. Louis in the center of the country. It is the biggest industry-oriented region on Earth. Around 1890 the Manufacturing Belt produced 80 to 90 percent of the net product of the U.S. During its evolution waves of growth and innovation repeatedly alternated with periods of stagnation and de-industrialization.”

(Source: Norbert von der Ruhren: *Manufacturing Belt, Fundamente*, Stuttgart, 2008, S. 366)

- The Manufacturing Belt is not an uniform industry zone, but consists of various groups each with its own economic profile. Identify the main groups with their economic priorities with the help of the map.

Group Boston-Washington: Iron and steel production, metal processing, electrical engineering, chemical industry, electrical industry, textile industry, (luxury) food industry etc.

Group Pittsburgh-Detroit: Iron and steel production, automotive engineering, engineering, electrical industry, etc.

Group Chicago-Milwaukee: Iron and steel production, automotive engineering, refinery, chemical industry, electrical industry, electrical engineering, (luxury) food production, engineering, etc.

Name: Klasse: 

2. Since the 1960s the Manufacturing Belt has been in an economic crisis, shown in the pictures below. The Manufacturing Belt turned into the Rust Belt. Give possible reasons for the decline of each economic sector in the different locations. Write your answers under the pictures.



*Abandoned steelworks in Pittsburgh*



*Former electric shop in New York*



*Closed car factory in Detroit*

*Iron and steel were for the most part replaced by synthetic materials.*     *Shift of the trade from the city to the outskirts or to the Sun Belt.*     *American car producers could not compete with competitors from Europe and Japan.*

3. In recent years, the Manufacturing Belt has experienced a renaissance. Its decline in significance was at least partly balanced. Explain the changes underneath each picture.



*Chemical company in Pittsburgh*



*Google office in New York*



*Corporate head office of GM in Detroit*

*Establishment of chemical and bio-technological companies.*     *Big IT companies create a boom.*     *Newly developed models attract more buyers.*