

A Short History of Natural Gas

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

Millions of years ago, the remains of animals and plants decayed and built up in thick layers. This decayed matter from plants and animals is called organic material. Over millions of years, some of it turned into natural gas. The main ingredient in natural gas is methane.

Many centuries ago the ancient people of Greece, India, and Persia discovered natural gas. These ancient peoples were mystified by the fires created when natural gas leaked from cracks in the ground and were ignited by lightning strikes. Occasionally they built temples around these burning springs and worshipped the fire.

About 400 BC the Chinese put natural gas to work. In the United States, the first natural gas well was drilled in 1821. Today, natural gas remains the largest provider of energy in the U.S.

The city of _____ was the first city in the United States to use natural gas to fuel street lamps.

- Boston
- Boise
- Baltimore

Ancient people sometimes built _____ around burning springs created from natural gas.

- stadiums
- temples
- gardens

3. The _____ used natural gas to evaporate seawater to make salt.

- Chinese
- Greeks
- Romans

The first successful natural gas well in America was in _____.

- New Jersey
- New York
- New Hampshire

_____ is the third largest supplier of energy in the United States.

- Natural gas
- Petroleum
- Coal

The main ingredient in natural gas is _____.

- oil
- odorless
- methane