

GILDED AGE IMMIGRATION, URBANIZATION & REFORM

Unit 10 Review Guide

1: IMMIGRATION & URBANIZATION

The late 1800s and early 1900s was a time of enormous immigration and internal migration. For the first time more Americans lived in cities than on farms and inventors and leaders had to deal with the problems of growing cities.

2: WRITERS

In the late 1800s, newspaper publishers competing for readers developed the Yellow Press style of sensational headlines and articles. This led to misleading journalism, but also fueled the muckrakers who exposed corruption and scandal in politics and business.

3: THE PROGRESSIVES

Populists and Progressives tried to reform society around the turn of the last century. They focused on fair business practices, education, political reform, the income tax, aid to the poor, workplace safety, food safety, women's rights and conservation.

4: WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Women had one of their greatest successes in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was ratified, guaranteeing them the right to vote. Women at this time had less success in their efforts to win workplace equality and access to birth control.



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10-1: IMMIGRATION & URBANIZATION

BIG IDEA: The late 1800s and early 1900s was a time of enormous immigration and internal migration. For the first time more Americans lived in cities than on farms and inventors and leaders had to deal with the problems of growing cities.

Beginning in the 1880s, America experienced about four decades of massive immigration. These people are called the New Immigrants because they were different from earlier immigrants in important ways. First, they were poor and didn't come with many skills. They left their homelands to escape poverty, war, famine and persecution. They came in search of jobs, religious freedom, and opportunities for their children. Most came from Southern and Eastern Europe. They were Italian, Greek, Romanian, Polish and Russian. Also, Chinese immigration increased.

New York City's Ellis Island was a major immigration station and the city grew and expanded its reputation as a multicultural melting pot. Immigrants tended to settle into neighborhoods with support systems in place that they could rely on. The growth of ethnic enclaves such as Chinatown or Little Italy was a hallmark of urban growth at this time.

Some Americans did not like these new immigrants. Nativism once again was common. Efforts to make English the official language expanded. Anti-Semitism grew. Eventually, the KKK embraced these anti-immigrant ideas. The Chinese Exclusion Act officially banned all immigration from China, a victory for nativists. In contrast, the Statue of Liberty stood as a sign of welcome and symbol of all that immigrants hoped for in their adopted country.

Immigrants and migration from the countryside drove urbanization. It was around the year 1900 that America became a nation where more people lived in cities than on farms. As cities grew, so did problems associated with urban areas. Garbage and polluted water, crime, fire, poverty, and overcrowding were issues. In response, city leaders created professional police and fire departments.

Mass transit was developed. Cities built the first subways and trolley systems. Mass transit made it possible for people to live in suburbs and commute to work, so cities expanded outward. Otis's safety elevator made skyscrapers possible, and cities expanded upward as well. Edison and Tesla's work on electricity resulted in electric lights both inside and out. Bell's telephone also revolutionized American city life.

Tenements were built to help house the poor. These low-rent apartments soon became overcrowded and emblematic of the problems with growing cities.

Cities built sewer systems to combat disease. The City Beautiful Movement encouraged the construction of parks such as Central Park in New York City. Americans went to baseball games for fun. Vaudeville performers travelled from place to place in the time before movies to entertain the masses.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Push Factors
Pull Factors
Nativism
Melting Pot
Urbanization
City Beautiful Movement
Vaudeville



PEOPLE & GROUPS

New Immigrants
Josiah Strong
Elisha Otis
Thomas Edison
Nikola Tesla
Alexander Graham Bell
Frederick Law Olmsted
Harry Houdini



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Mass Transit
Omnibus
Electric Trolley
Elevated Train
Subway
Skyscraper
Tenement
Cholera
Yellow Fever
Tuberculosis
Sewer Systems



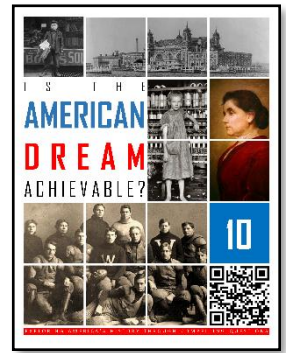
LAWS

Chinese Exclusion Act



LOCATIONS

Ellis Island
Ethnic Neighborhoods
Statue of Liberty
Suburbs
Central Park



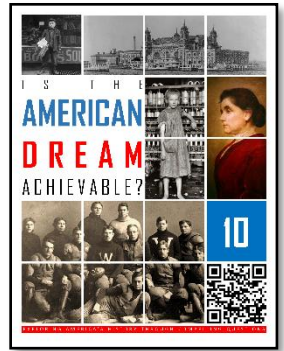
10-2: WRITERS

BIG IDEA: In the late 1800s, newspaper publishers competing for readers developed the Yellow Press style of sensational headlines and articles. This led to misleading journalism, but also fueled the muckrakers who exposed corruption and scandal in politics and business.

The beginning of the 1900s was a time of growth in the print industry. Before the Internet, radio or television, most people got their news from newspapers, and even small cities had multiple newspapers that were printed twice a day. Two great publishers, Pulitzer and Hearst competed for subscribers and developed a style of sensational journalism that exaggerated the truth and used flashy headlines to catch potential readers' attention. Called Yellow Journalism, it was both good and bad.

The Yellow Journalists loved publishing stories that exposed wrongdoing by politicians and business leaders. These muckrakers did America a great service by showing the wrongs of city life, the meat packing industry, robber baron practices, and government corruption. Some of their work led directly to changes in laws that made America better. The best-known example is the connection between Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* and the passage of the Meat Inspection and Pure Food and Drug Acts.

This was a time period of growth in magazines as well. Weekly publications such as *Puck*, *McLure's*, *Collier's*, and the *Saturday Evening Post* grew in popularity and remained a staple of American life until after World War II when television replaced reading as a favored pastime.



VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Human Interest Story
Yellow Journalism
Pulitzer Prize



BOOKS & MAGAZINES

The Shame of the Cities
How the Other Half Lives
The Jungle
Puck
McClure's
Collier's
The Saturday Evening Post



TECHNOLOGY

Linotype Machine



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Journalist
Dorothea Dix
Joseph Pulitzer
William Randolph Hearst
Muckraker
Lincoln Steffens
Ida Tarbell
Jacob Riis
Nelly Bligh
Upton Sinclair



GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Food and Drug Administration



LAWS

Pure Food and Drug Act
Meat Inspection Act



10-3: THE PROGRESSIVES

BIG IDEA: Populists and Progressives tried to reform society around the turn of the last century. They focused on fair business practices, education, political reform, the income tax, aid to the poor, workplace safety, food safety, women's rights and conservation.

Farmers in the West were upset with the railroad in the late 1800s. They needed railroads to carry their crops to the East where they could be sold to hungry people in growing cities. However, railroads were the only way to move these products, and they were charging enormous rates, so the farmers wanted government to take over the railroads and lower prices. The farmers also wanted inflation which would make it easier for them to repay loans. Thus, they wanted the government to start minting silver money. These two key political goals led to the creation of the Populist Party. A group of farmers led by Jacob Coxey even marched to Washington, DC to demand change. William Jennings Bryan championed these ideas. Although he never won the presidency, Bryan's Cross of Gold Speech captured the Populists' grievances. Government regulation of the railroads and free coinage of silver didn't become law, and eventually, the Democratic Party took on these issues and absorbed the Populist voters.

Other reformers around 1900 were more pragmatic. They looked for small changes they could achieve. These were the Progressives.

Some political reforms did become law. Initiatives, referendums and recalls became law, making it easier for the people to get rid of corrupt politicians and pass laws that politicians might be unwilling to vote for on their own. City commissioners became common as a way to stop political machines. The 17th Amendment provided for the direct election of senators. Before this, the state legislatures had elected senators.

Americans passed the 16th Amendment to make an income tax legal. The graduated income tax required the wealthy to pay a higher percentage of their income than the poor.

Some progressives were inspired by religion. The Social Gospel Movement encouraged people to serve others the way they believed Jesus would have done. They created the YMCA and YWCA. They built settlement houses to help the waves of new immigrants. They opened the Salvation Army to serve the poor. This era of service-minded Christianity is sometimes called the Third Great Awakening.

Other Progressives tried to improve working conditions. The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire showed just how bad working conditions were. These reformers were especially concerned with children who had to work instead of attending school. Although the Keating-Owen Act that was passed at the time was later declared unconstitutional, the Fair Labor Standards Act still stands as protection against exploitation of children as workers.

Progressives worked to improve public education and the first free, public high schools were built.

The first environmentalists emerged. President Theodore Roosevelt helped launch the National Park Service as a means of protecting America's natural wonders. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts were founded, as was the Sierra Club.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Free Coinage of Silver
Graduated Income Tax
Initiative
Referendum
Recall
Whistle-Stop
Laissez Faire
Social Darwinism
Settlement House
Work Permit
Normal School
High School
City Commission
City Manager



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Patrons of Husbandry / Grange
Populist Party
Jacob Coxey
Coxey's Army
William Jennings Bryan
William McKinley
Progressives
Progressive Party
YMCA & YWCA
Christian Science
Salvation Army
Jane Addams
John Dewey
Robert La Follette
John Muir
Sierra Club
Boy Scouts
Girl Scouts



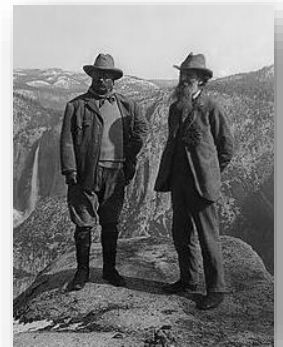
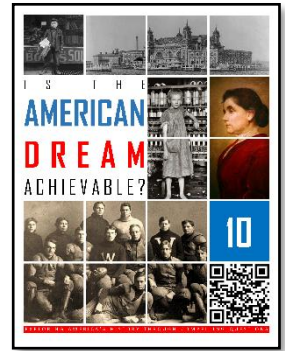
LAWS

Keating-Owen Act
Fair Labor Standards Act
16th Amendment
17th Amendment



GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

National Child Labor Committee (NCLC)



EVENTS

Panic of 1893
Third Great Awakening
Triangle Shirtwaist Fire



LOCATIONS

Hull House



EVENTS

Cross of Gold Speech

10-4: WOMEN'S RIGHTS

BIG IDEA: Women had one of their greatest successes in 1920 when the 19th Amendment was ratified, guaranteeing them the right to vote. Women at this time had less success in their efforts to win workplace equality and access to birth control.

During the 1800s, Americans were very conservative about the roles of men and women and especially about how women could behave and dress. In the 1870s, Victoria Woodhull challenged these beliefs. She championed free love, the idea that she could love whoever she wanted and change her mind as much as she wanted. Her ideas were controversial, but she was an important early challenger to social restrictions.



Margaret Sanger believed that women couldn't be free if they had no control over how many children they would have. She challenged the Comstock Act which prohibited the promotion of birth control. She went to jail multiple times for sending information about birth control through the mail and for opening a birth control clinic in New York City. Her organization grew and is now called Planned Parenthood. Although she wasn't successfully able to change

the law at the time, the government did become concerned about promoting reproductive health during World War I when American troops started contracting STDs. After the war, Americans continued to use condoms they had learned about while in the army.

Women suffered a legal setback in their quest for equality in the Muller v. Oregon Supreme Court Case when the Court ruled that laws that limited the number of hours women could work were constitutional. They reasoned that the primary role women played in society was to be mothers and that allowing women to work as much as they wanted might hurt society.

Women finally won the right to vote in 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment. Women had been working for this right since the early 1800s, but Alice Paul and Carrie Chapman Catt succeeded in convincing men in government to approve the amendment. Many western states had already granted women the right to vote in state elections.

VOCABULARY



IDEAS

Cult of Domesticity
Free Love
Contraception
Birth Control
Suffrage



LOCATIONS

Brownsville Clinic



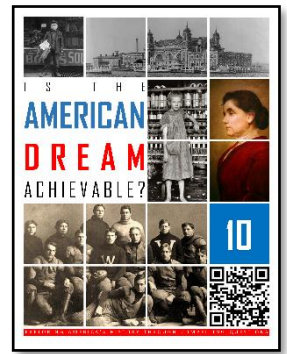
LAWS & COURT CASES

Comstock Act
Muller v. Oregon
19th Amendment



PEOPLE & GROUPS

Victoria Woodhull
Henry Ward Beecher
Emma Goldman
Margaret Sanger
Planned Parenthood
Susan B. Anthony
Elizabeth Cady Stanton
Lucy Stone
National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA)
Alice Paul
National Woman's Party (NWP)
Carrie Chapman Catt
National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage



ESSENTIAL TERMS



PEOPLE AND GROUPS

New Immigrants: The name for the immigrants who arrived in the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. They were different from the “Old Immigrants” in that they were often from Southern and Eastern Europe, were Catholic, Orthodox Christian or Jewish instead of Protestant. Unlike earlier groups of immigrants, they were also often poor and uneducated with few skills.

Elisha Otis: Inventor of a safe electric elevator. His invention made skyscrapers possible.

Thomas Edison: Prolific American inventor. His creations included the electric lightbulb, phonograph (record player) and movie camera.

Alexander Graham Bell: Inventor of the telephone and founder of the various Bell Telephone Companies.

Frederick Law Olmsted: Champion of the City Beautiful Movement and designer of many famous city parks including Central Park in New York City.

Dorothea Dix: Turn of the century social reformer and journalist. She invented the advice column for newspapers.

Joseph Pulitzer: American newspaper publisher who helped pioneer the style of yellow journalism. His primary rival was William Randolph Hearst.

William Randolph Hearst: American newspaper publisher who helped pioneer the style of yellow journalism. His primary rival was Joseph Pulitzer.

Muckraker: A journalist at the turn of the century who research and published stories and books uncovering political or business scandal. The term was coined by President Theodore Roosevelt.

Lincoln Steffens: Muckraker and author of *The Shame of the Cities* about corruption in city governments.

Ida Tarbell: Muckraker and author of a tell-all book about John D. Rockefeller and the rise of Standard Oil.

Jacob Riis: Muckraker, photographer and author of the book *How the Other Half Lives* about the life in city slums.

Nellie Bly: Muckraker who wrote about corruption in New York government and business and traveled around the world in 72 days.

Upton Sinclair: Muckraker and author of *The Jungle* about working and sanitary conditions in meat packing plants in Chicago at the turn of the century.

City Commission: A legislative body for a city. Sometimes called a council, this form of government was a progressive reform and limited the influence of corrupt political machines by allowing voters to select city leaders.

City Manager: A professional selected by a city government who executes policy. This was a progressive reform and sought to separate the decision to spend public money from the awarding of contracts, thus reducing corruption.

Populist Party: Political party formed in the late 1800s out of the Grange Movement. They advocated for the free coinage of silver, a graduated income tax and government regulation of business. Their leader was William Jennings Bryan. Eventually their members mostly joined the Democratic Party.

William Jennings Bryan: Populist, Progressive, and later democratic leader who championed the rights of farmers. His “Cross of Gold” speech catapulted him to national fame. He ran four times for president but never won.

William McKinley: Republican President first elected in 1896. He defeated William Jennings Bryan. Reelected in 1900, he led the nation through the Spanish-American War, but was assassinated.

Progressives: Groups of people at the turn of the century interested in making change in society, business and government. They were often urban, northeastern, educated, middle class, and protestant.

Jane Addams: Founder of the Settlement House movement.

John Dewey: Advocate for education reform at the turn of the century. He championed the development of normal schools, which were colleges that prepared future teachers.

Robert La Follette: Progressive governor of Wisconsin. He led the way in promoting many reforms in state government.

Margaret Sanger: Champion of birth control in the early 1900s.

Susan B. Anthony: Early champion of women’s suffrage. She headed the NAWSA. She was honored when a silver dollar coin was minted in 1979 with her likeness.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Early champion of women’s suffrage. She cofounded a group with Susan B. Anthony.

Lucy Stone: Early champion of women’s suffrage. Her organization merged with that of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Stanton’s to form the NAWSA.

National American Woman Suffrage Association (NAWSA): Major organization working for women’s suffrage. It was led first by Susan B. Anthony and later by Carrie Chapman Catt.

Alice Paul: Advocate for women’s suffrage in the early 1900s. She founded the National Women’s Party and used more aggressive tactics to publicize the movement.

National Woman’s Party (NWP): Organization founded by Alice Paul in 1916 to work for women’s suffrage. They used more aggressive tactics to spread their message.

Carrie Chapman Catt: Leader of the NAWSA in the early 1900s. She succeeded Susan B. Anthony and saw the ratification of the 19th Amendment.



LOCATIONS

Ellis Island: Major immigration station in New York Harbor.

Angel Island: Major immigration station in San Francisco Harbor.

Suburbs: Cities built around a larger city. These developed because mass transit made it possible to live far from where a person worked.

Hull House: The most famous settlement house. It was founded by Jane Addams in Chicago in 1889.

Brownsville Clinic: Clinic opened in Brooklyn, NY by Margaret Sanger to provide birth control. It was closed down and Sanger was arrested for violation of the Comstock Act.



LAWS

Chinese Exclusion Act: Law passed in 1882 ending immigration from China and preventing Chinese immigrants already in the United States from applying for citizenship.

Pure Food and Drug Act: Law passed in 1906 providing public inspection of food and pharmaceutical production. It was inspired in part by Upton Sinclair’s book *The Jungle*.

Meat Inspection Act: Law passed in 1906 providing regulation of the meat industry. It was inspired in part by Upton Sinclair’s book *The Jungle*.

Keating-Owen Act: Law passed in 1916 prohibiting the shipment of products across state lines created with child labor. It was struck down as unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in *Hammer v. Dagenhart* in 1918. It was replaced by the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Fair Labor Standards Act: Law passed in 1938 protecting workers, and effectively ending child labor in America.

16th Amendment: Constitutional amendment that made a federal income tax legal.

17th Amendment: Constitutional amendment that provided for the direct election of senators.

19th Amendment: Constitutional amendment ratified in 1920 granting women the right to vote.

Comstock Act: Law passed in 1873 that prohibited the distribution of birth control and any material promoting birth control. It was used to prosecute Margaret Sanger.



KEY CONCEPTS

Push Factors: Reasons to leave a place. In the time of the New Immigrants these included religious persecution, war, famine and poverty.

Pull Factors: Reasons to come to a place. In the time of the New Immigrants these included jobs, religious freedom, education and land.

Nativism: A belief that people born in the United States are superior to immigrants.

Urbanization: The process of developing cities.

Yellow Journalism: A style of newspaper writing pioneered by Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst at the turn of the century featuring bold headlines, images and sensational stories designed to capture readers' attention and sell papers. This style is generally credited with inflaming public opinion in the lead up to the Spanish-American War.

Free Coinage of Silver: Objective of the Populist Party. They wanted inflation to ease loan repayments and asked the government to go off the gold standard. This was the topic of William Jennings Bryan's famous "Cross of Gold" speech.

Graduated Income Tax: An income tax system in which wealthy individuals pay a higher percentage of their income in taxes than lower class individuals.

Initiative: When citizens can gather signatures and force their legislature to vote on an issue.

Referendum: When citizens can gather signatures and have a proposed law put on a ballot so everyone can vote. This was a way to enact legislation that might otherwise have been prevented by business interests who could pay off elected officials.

Recall: When citizens can gather signatures and force a vote to remove an elected official. This was enacted to curb corruption in government.

Laissez Faire: A government policy toward business that favored low taxes and regulation.

Social Darwinism: An idea common at the turn of the century applying the survival of the fittest concept to human experiences. It argued that people and nations that succeed did so because they were inherently superior to those who lost or were less successful.

Pragmatism: A way of approaching problems developed by William James at the turn of the century. It advocated that people did not need to accept life as it was, but could work for change.

Social Gospel Movement: A movement at the turn of the century based on the belief that helping the poor was a Christian virtue. Members of the movement built settlement houses, formed the YMCA and YWCA and founded the Salvation Army.

Settlement House: A place in large cities where new immigrants could come to learn English, job skills, and find childcare while they worked. The most famous was Hull House in Chicago.

Cult of Domesticity: Idea that men should leave home to work and earn money while women stayed at home to cook, clean and raise children. It developed in the early 1800s with the onset of the industrial revolution.

Birth Control: Any form of contraception. The term was coined by Margaret Sanger.

Suffrage: The right to vote.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Mass Transit: Any form of transportation in cities designed to move many people. These include busses, subways, trolley cars and elevated trains.

Elevated Train: Similar to a subway, these trains ran on tracks built on bridges above city streets. The most famous is in Chicago and nicknamed the "L."

Subway: A form of mass transit that has trains running in tunnels underground. The first in the United States was in Boston, but the most famous is in New York City.

Skyscraper: Tall buildings in cities. They made it possible for many more people to live and work in a smaller area.

Tenement: Public housing designed to provide inexpensive places to live in cities. Designed by James Ware, they were usually overcrowded, dirty, and places where disease was common.

Sewer Systems: Major public works at the turn of the century designed to clean wastewater and provide clean drinking water.



BOOKS

The Shame of the Cities: Lincoln Steffens' book about corruption in major American cities at the turn of the century.

How the Other Half Lives: Jacob Riis's book of photographs about life in city slums at the turn of the century.

The Jungle: Upton Sinclair's book about working and sanitary conditions in meat packing plants in Chicago at the turn of the century.