

Westward Movement / Gilded Age / Progressive Movement Student Portfolio

US History SATP Review

Summary: The Gilded Age and the first years of the twentieth century were a time of great social change and economic growth in the United States. Roughly spanning the years between Reconstruction and the dawn of the new century, the Gilded Age saw rapid industrialization, urbanization, the construction of great transcontinental railroads, innovations in science and technology, and the rise of big business. Afterward, the first years of the new century that followed were dominated by progressivism, a forward-looking political movement that attempted to redress some of the ills that had arisen during the Gilded Age. Progressives passed legislation to rein in big business, combat corruption, free the government from special interests, and protect the rights of consumers, workers, immigrants, and the poor.

Westward Movement: 1877 – 1900 Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison

Century of Dishonor by Helen H. Jackson – a book which highlighted all the treaties the US made (400+) and then broke with the Native Americans.

Assimilation Laws – these laws were passed to make the Indians emulate and embrace American culture. (White middle-class culture)

Dawes General Allotment Act – this act broke up the Reservation system and gave each Native American head of household 160 acres of land (single males, orphans, etc. also received land, but not the full 160 acres). They were trying to encourage them to become farmers and become “**Americanized**” (a way of making them assimilate). Unlike the **Homestead Act**, Native Americans had to work and improve the land anywhere from 10-25 years before they could legally own it. Many failed to make a go of the farming way of life, so their land reverted back to the US gov.

Government boarding schools: children were sent to US gov boarding schools. They were forced to speak English, adopt Christianity, cut their hair, etc.

Homestead Act – gave settlers 160 acres of land; it was theirs free if they could cultivate it/make improvements after 5 years. They would have to build permanent homes. Clear sections of land for farming, put up fencing, windmills, etc., dig a well, and build a road. This basically proved they would be there for the long haul.

Pacific Railway Act/Transcontinental Railroad: built by the **Union Pacific** and **Central Pacific Rail Road** Companies. The Union Pacific built their stretch of the railroad from Nebraska to Utah. Central Pacific built their stretch of railway from California to Utah. These two companies met up at Promontory, Utah. The railroad was built on land the US gov took from the Native Americans, via family treaties. Indian land was also used to subsidize the cost of the railroad i.e., the US gov paid for the construction of the railroad using cash and land.

Impact of Railroad on the West: The transcontinental railroad brought more people out west faster. Homesteaders got mail quicker and card catalogs began to cater to rural needs. The RR

split up buffalo herds. The RR allowed the US Army to react to Indian uprisings quicker. For homesteaders the railroad led to the development of cities, the economy grew, and encouraged the development of new inventions/methods (refrigerated RR cars, mail order catalogs, RR delivered mail).

American Cowboy and Cattle Boom: we borrowed most of our customs from Mexican vaquero (chaps, spurs, hat, etc.); cattle industry encouraged settlement out west; cattle boom ended because of barbed wire and eventually RR.

“Closing of the Frontier”- 1890: all the land out west had been settled; there was no more unknown land to explore. The Native American defeat at Wounded Knee signaled the end of Indians insurrection.

Gilded Age Unit: 1870-1900 Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, Harrison, Cleveland, McKinley

Gilded Age”- period when corruption existed in society but was overshadowed by the wealth of the period (“gilded” is when something is golden/beautiful on the surface but is really cheap/worthless underneath)

Inventors/inventions- Edison/light bulb, Alex. Graham Bell/telephone, Eastman/camera, Ford/assembly line, Morse/telegraph, Wright bros/airplane

Department stores and mail order catalogs- 1st stores were Macy’s, Marshall Field’s, and Wanamaker’s; 1st catalogs were Sears and Roebuck and Montgomery Ward’s

Mass production- when things are produced by machine in large quantities instead of by hand

Industrial Leaders- Vanderbilt (RR), Carnegie (steel), Rockefeller (oil), and Morgan (steel)

Vertical and horizontal integration- Vertical/when a monopoly exists b/c it owns/controls every step in producing a product; Horizontal/when a monopoly exists b/c they have bought out all the competition

Captains of Industry- positive idea that industrial leaders worked hard and deserved their wealth and gave back to society.

Robber Barons- negative idea that industrial leaders stole from their workers by giving them low wages and were greedy

Social Darwinism- “survival of the fittest” in society; the strong will survive b/c they work hard and the weak will be weeded out

Gospel of Wealth- belief that the wealthy were “chosen by God” to be successful and were therefore responsible to look out for the well-being of those less fortunate; many shared their wealth through charities (Carnegie)

Laissez Faire- idea that government should not regulate business in any way; this is the basic idea behind capitalism

Industrial era terms- monopoly/when a company is the only one that can provide a good or service trust/a large monopoly created when several businesses combine their holdings to eliminate competition, stock/a share or piece of the company, dividends/profits shareholders receive from owning stock

Sherman Anti-trust Act- passed to break up monopolies; was not enforced until Teddy Roosevelt was pres.

Interstate Commerce Act- passed to regulate trade b/t states; it regulated RR rates

Immigrants and push/pull factors- push factors push someone out of their country to another country (ex. someone leaves a country b/c they are persecuted for their religion); pull factors pull someone to a country b/c they are attracted to a country for a reason (ex. Job opportunities, promise of a better life)

Xenophobia- fear of foreigners

Changes in transportation and construction in cities (trolleys, dumbbell tenements (buildings divided into several rooms on one floor where families would live and have to share one bathroom,))

Bessemer Process- Henry Bessemer improved the process of making steel, which made it more affordable

Political machines- when a group of corrupt politicians controlled city governments by doing favors for poor immigrants and in return, would receive their vote on election day; were almost impossible to defeat

Settlement Movement/Houses- developed to compete with pol. machines; they offered similar services but did not expect anything in return (this led to social work)

Jane Addams/Hull House- most famous settlement worker/house

Patronage/spoils system-when a politician gives someone a job b/c that person helped them get elected; the Person is not qualified; led to corruption and incompetence in government; believed to be the reason why Garfield was assassinated

Pendleton Civil Service Act- passed after Garfield was shot to eliminate the spoils system/patronage; said in Order to be hired for certain govt. jobs you had to be qualified by passing the civil service exam

Jim Crow laws- segregation laws in the south in the late 1880's-1960; ex. Curfews for Af-Am, Af-Am could not testify in court against a white person

Plessy vs. Ferguson- 1896; Supreme Court case that established "separate but equal"; said you could have

Separate schools as long as they were equal... they never were

Booker T. Washington- Civil Rights leader of late 1800s; born a slave; encouraged Af-Am to work hard and Obtain an education; fought for economic equality

WEB DuBois- Civil rights leader of early 1900s; from Massachusetts; 1st Af-Am to get PhD. From Harvard; Said Af-Am should fight for social, political, and economic equality; helped found the NAACP

Populism/Populist Party- movement/political party made up of mostly farmers who wanted

- 1- graduated income tax
- 2- change the way we elect Senators
- 3- back money by both gold and silver (this would create inflation that would benefit them)
- 4- have the Govt. regulate large businesses like Railroads

5- other reforms that would benefit the “common man”

Knights of Labor – labor union that allowed skilled and unskilled workers, men and women, and black & white workers to join

American Federation of Labor- labor union that only allowed skilled white males to join

Purpose of a labor union- “strength in numbers”; workers could gain better wages/hours etc. in a large group instead of working alone to achieve better conditions

Progressive Era Unit: 1900-1920: T. Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson,

“Progressive Era”- 1900-1920; when people worked to rid corruption in society; progressives were educated like teachers, lawyers, ministers, doctors, middle-upper class

Upton Sinclair and The Jungle- wrote about the problems of capitalism; wrote about problems in the meat-packing industry

Muckrakers- journalists who exposed corruption in society in hopes of bringing about change; other muckrakers include Tarbell, Riis, Norris and Steffens

Triangle Shirtwaist Fire- 146 people died when a fire started in a factory; exit doors were chained; brought about reforms in fire codes

Capitalism- idea that the govt. does not get involved in business; does not regulate business; same as laissez-faire

Women’s Christian Temperance Union- WCTU; worked to abolish (make illegal) alcohol

NAACP- organized by both blacks and whites to help achieve equality for AF-Am

Direct primary- election held to select who the candidates will be in the upcoming general election

Secret ballot- when voters may vote on an unmarked ballot without being intimidated by pol. machines

Amendments- 16th/graduated income tax, 17th/changed method of electing Senators,

18th/prohibited alcohol, and 19th/gave women the right to vote

Theodore Roosevelt- Progressive president (conservation, big stick, gunboat diplomacy, Panama Canal, Meat Inspection Act, Square Deal, arbitration, trustbusting)

United Mine Workers Strike and arbitration- when TR forced mine owners and workers to settle differences through arbitration; a neutral third party hears both sides and reaches a settlement that both must accept

“Square Deal”- phrase that came from Mine Workers strike that means both sides got a fair deal; became 1904 campaign slogan

Trustbusting- breaking up monopolies, good for consumers

“Good” trusts v. “bad” trusts- TR only broke up the “bad” trusts that did the most harm to the greatest # of consumers; he kept a close eye on the “good” ones that weren’t as harmful and warned them that he was watching

Meat Inspection Act- passed after publication of *The Jungle*; said meat would have to be inspected when transported from one state to another

Pure Food and Drug Act- required labels on goods to list ingredients in foods

TR and conservation- 1st president to recognize need; set aside millions of acres for animal refuges and National parks

1912 election- TR and Taft split the Republican vote, which allowed Woodrow Wilson to win

Bull Moose Party- new political party formed by TR when he did not win the Republican nomination; Allowed Wilson to win the election

Underwood tariff- Wilson lowered tariffs significantly which made American companies lower their prices; good for the consumer

Federal Reserve Act- 3 level banking system that controls the flow of money in the US by controlling interest rates ;(Wilson)

Clayton Anti-trust Act- another act passed to break up monopolies

Workmen's Compensation- allows workers to be paid if injured in a job-related accident

Women's "suffrage"- movement to achieve the right to vote

Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth C. Stanton, and Lucretia Mott- all fought for women's suffrage

Quotes:

Excerpt 1

“The coal is hard and accidents to the hands, such as cut, broken, or crushed fingers, are common to the boys. Sometimes there is a worse accident: a terrified boy is mangled and torn in the machinery, or disappears in the chute to be picked out later smothered or dead. Clouds of dust fill the breakers and are inhaled by the boys, laying the foundations for asthma and miner's consumption.”

John Spargo, *The Bitter Cry of the Children*, 1906

1. Name four things that happen to boys in coal mines?
2. What is the significance/importance of this excerpt?
3. What impact will this excerpt have on society politically?

Excerpt 2

We met in the midst of a nation brought to the verge of moral, political, and material ruin. Corruption dominates the ballot box, the legislatures, the congress... The people are demoralized... The fruits of the toil of millions of people are stolen to build colossal fortunes. We breed two classes ---paupers and millionaires.

Ignatius Donnelly, Preamble to the Omaha Platform

1. What is being discussed?
2. What does the author mean by “The fruits of the toil of millions of people are stolen to build colossal fortunes?”
3. What impact will this have on society?

Activity 3. Use your knowledge of US History to analyze the political cartoon and contrasting viewpoints. Then answer questions that follow.

What is the Legacy of the Business Tycoons?

Business tycoons like Carnegie, Rockefeller, and Vanderbilt had a huge role in spurring America’s industrial growth. Yet even today, historians debate the real legacy of those men.



Comparing Viewpoints

Matthew Josephson	Burton W. Folsom, Jr.
Josephson (1899 – 1978) was the political and economic historian who coined the phrase “robber barons”.	Folsom (born 1948) is a historian who has described the great businessmen of the time as entrepreneurs.
<p>Primary Source</p> <p>“To organize and exploit the resources of a nation upon a gigantic scale, and to do this only in the name of an uncontrolled appetite for private profit – here surely is the great inherent contradiction whence so much disaster, outrage, and misery has flowed.”</p>	<p>Primary Source</p> <p>“In 1870, when Rockefeller founded Standard Oil, kerosene was 30 cents a gallon. Twenty years later, Rockefeller had almost a 90 percent market share and kerosene was only eight cents a gallon. Customers were the real winners here because Rockefeller’s size allowed him to cut costs.....”</p>
<p>Compare</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the basic difference between Folsom’s and Josephson’s views of these businessmen? 2. What is Folsom’s main defense of Rockefeller’s tactics? 3. What market did Rockefeller control? Why is this important to note? If he controlled 90% market share, he controlled? Why is this bad? What impact could it have on the American economy? 	



What is represented in Figure 4?

What time period?

What is significance/impact?

What major legislations are connected?

Presidents:

The Triumph of Industry

Technology and Industrial Growth

During the Civil War, industries had grown because of the need to make products more quickly than they had been made before. Two factors fueled the country's growth. One was the vast supply of natural resources. The other was a huge workforce for industries. Many workers immigrated to the US from Europe and Asia.

Entrepreneur	protective tariff	patent	Thomas Edison	time zone
Mass production	Bessemer process	laissez faire	suspension bridge	

_____ people who invest money in a product or enterprise in order to make a profit

_____ taxes that would make imported goods cost more than those made locally

_____ a policy which allowed businesses to operate under minimal government regulation

_____ a grant by the federal government giving an inventor the exclusive right to develop, use, and sell an invention for a set period of time

_____ an inventor and creative genius who received more than 1,000 patents for new inventions

_____ a process for purifying iron resulting in strong, but lightweight, steel
_____ bridges in which the roadway is suspended by steel cables

_____ twenty-four zones around the world, one for each hour of the day

_____ systems that depended on machinery to turn out large numbers of products quickly and inexpensively

Industrialization touched every aspect of American life. Framers became mechanized. People had easy access to goods. The US became more involved in the affairs of other nations as it grew as an economic power.

The Rise of Big Business

Industrial growth led to changes in business and society. Corporations developed and wielded enormous power over politics and people's lives.

Corporation	horizontal integration	John D. Rockefeller	monopoly	cartel	
Social Darwinism	trust	Andrew Carnegie	ICC	vertical integration	Sherman Antitrust Act

_____ a form of group ownership in which a number of people share the ownership of a business

_____ complete control of a product or service

_____ an arrangement in which businesses making the same product agree to limit production to keep prices high

_____ an oil tycoon who made deals with railroads to increase his profits

_____ a system of consolidating many firms in the same business to lower production costs

_____ a situation in which companies assign their stock to a board of trustees, who combine them into a new organization

_____ a steel tycoon who used vertical integration to increase his power

_____ the practice of gaining control of many different businesses that make up all phases of a product's development

_____ an application of Charles Darwin's work which held that wealth was a measure of one's inherent value and those who had it were the most "fit"

_____ the Interstate Commerce Commission, a government body set up to oversee railroad operations

_____ a bill passed in 1890 which outlawed any trust that operated “in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states”

The Organized Labor Movement

The American economy needed millions of workers to drive its success. As tensions arose between business owners and workers seeking better pay and safer conditions, organized labor unions developed.

Sweatshop	Knights of Labor	collective bargaining	Haymarket Riot	socialism
Homestead Strike	Samuel Gompers	Eugene V. Debs	Terence V. Powderly	
AFL	company town	Pullman Strike		

_____ small, hot, dark, and dirty workhouses

_____ communities near workplaces where housing was owned by the business and rented out to employees

_____ negotiating as a group for higher wages or better working conditions

_____ an economic and political philosophy that favors public, instead of private, control of property and income

_____ a labor union that included workers of any trade, skilled or unskilled

_____ the leader of the Knights of Labor beginning in 1881 who encouraged boycotts and negotiations with employers

_____ a poor English immigrant who formed the AFL, a skilled workers union, in 1886

_____ American Federation of Labor, a loose organization of skilled workers from many unions devoted to specific crafts or trades

_____ a labor protest in Chicago in 1886 that ended in dozens of deaths when someone threw a bomb

_____ an 1892 Pennsylvania steelworkers’ strike that resulted in violence between company police and strikers

_____ leader of the American Railway Union who eventually became a Socialist

_____ a nationwide strike in 1894 of rail workers that halted railroads and mail delivery

Immigration and Urbanization

The New Immigrants

The foreign-born population of the U.S. nearly doubled between 1870 and 1900. Push and pull factors led “new immigrants” to America. These immigrants adapted to American life and faced prejudice and discrimination.

“New” immigrant	Ellis Island	Chinese Exclusion Act	nativism	Americanization
Angel Island				

_____ Southern and Eastern European immigrant who arrived in the United States in a great wave between 1880 and 1920

_____ island in New York Harbor that served as an immigration station for millions of immigrants arriving to the United States

_____ immigrant processing station that opened in San Francisco Bay in 1910

_____ belief that assimilating immigrants into American society would make them more loyal citizens

_____ belief that native-born white Americans are superior to newcomers

_____ 1882 law that prohibited immigration by Chinese laborers

Cities Expand and Grow

Industrialization led to the rapid growth of American cities as people moved off farms and into urban areas to get jobs. Living conditions were not always ideal, but city dwellers enjoyed innovations such as skyscrapers and mass transit.

Urbanization	mass transit	rural-to-urban migrant
Tenement	skyscraper	suburb

_____ expansion of cities accompanied by an increase in the number of people living in them

_____ a person who moves from an agricultural area to a city

_____ very tall building built with modern materials like steel

_____ public transportation systems that carry large numbers of people

_____ residential area surrounding a city

_____ multistory building divided into apartments to squeeze in as many families as possible

Social and Cultural Trends

The Gilded Age brought improved education and consumerism to the masses. As people from all classes enjoyed new products, entertainments, and improvements to their standard of living, a shared mass culture developed.

Conspicuous consumerism	Hearst	Horatio Alger	mass culture	vaudeville
Mark Twain	Joseph Pulitzer	Gilded Age		

_____ a satirical novelist who wrote about American life in the late 1800s

_____ term coined by Mark Twain to describe the post-Reconstruction era which was characterized by a façade of prosperity

_____ purchasing of goods and services to impress others

_____ similar consumption patterns as a result of the spread of transportation, communication, and advertising

_____ an immigrant who became a publisher of sensationalistic newspapers

_____ a competitor of Pulitzer's who also published sensationalistic newspapers

_____ a novelist who wrote about characters who succeeded through hard work

_____ type of show, including dancing, singing, and comedy sketches that became popular in the late 19th century

Issues of Gilded Age

Segregation and Social Trends

After Reconstruction ended, the rights of African Americans narrowed. A significant turn away from equality occurred, as Jim Crow laws mandating segregation and limiting voting rights took hold. Other minority groups also struggled for equality at this time.

Jim Crow laws	W.E.B. Du Bois	poll tax	Ida B. Wells	literacy test
Booker T. Washington				

_____ laws that kept blacks and whites segregated

_____ a tax which voters were required to pay to vote

_____ a test, given at the polls to see if a voter could read, used to disenfranchise black citizens

_____ the most famous black leader during the late 19th century, he encouraged African Americans to build up their economic resources through hard work

_____ a black leader in the late 19th century who disagreed with Washington and argued that blacks should demand full and immediate equality

_____ an African American teacher who bought a newspaper and embarked on a lifelong crusade against the practice of lynching

Political and Economic Challenges

The political scene during the Gilded Age was marked by inaction, as party loyalties were very evenly divided. Corruption challenged the national government and its spoils system while many called for reform.

Spoils system	gold standard	civil service	Pendleton Civil Service Act
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_____ a system in which politicians awarded government jobs to loyal party workers with little regard for their qualifications

_____ a system that includes federal jobs in the executive branch

_____ a law passed in 1883 that established a Civil Service Commission, which wrote a civil service exam

_____ using gold as the basis of the nation's currency

Farmers and Populism

When millions of people moved West after the Civil War, they did not expect to face the nearly impossible conditions they did. In response, farmers powered a new political revolt called Populism that grew into a large third-party movement.

William McKinley	Grange	Populist Party	William Jennings Bryan
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_____ an organization of farmers who joined to learn about new farming techniques, to call for the regulation of railroad and grain elevator rates, and to prompt the establishment of the ICC

_____ a political party formed in 1892 on a platform of silver coinage, government ownership of the railroads, and fighting the corrupt and unresponsive elite

_____ the Democratic nominee for president in 1896, who supported many Populist principles including silver coinage, and who toured the country to speak directly to voters

_____ the Republican candidate for president in 1896, who followed a traditional strategy of letting party workers campaign for him

Progressive Movement:

Key Terms and People

Use the terms and people in the word bank to fill in the blanks in the statements below. You will not use all of the terms and people.

Social Gospel	Jane Addams	muckrakers
Recall Initiative	settlement house	direct primary
	Jacob Riis	referendum

1. _____, such as Upton Sinclair, reported on the hazardous conditions in factories and cities during the Progressive Era.
2. A[n]_____ is an election in which citizens vote to select nominees for upcoming elections.
3. The_____ blended ideas from German socialism and American Progressivism into a plan for building a better society.
4. In the late 1800s,_____ photographed tenement buildings in which the urban poor lived.
5. The_____ allowed citizens to approve or reject laws passed by a legislature.
6. _____ was a leading figure in the settlement house movement.

Key Terms and People:

WCTU	Woodrow Wilson	settlement house	Square Deal	Margaret Sanger
Federal Reserve Act	muckrakers	W.E.B. Du Bois	Gifford Pinchot	NAACP
Booker T. Washington	Clayton Antitrust Act	NAWSA	Ida B. Wells	

_____ 1. socially conscious writers who dramatized the need for reform

- _____ **2.** a community center that provided social services to the urban poor
- _____ **3.** an activist who opened the country's first birth-control clinic
- _____ **4.** an organization that worked for women's suffrage
- _____ **5.** a leader who urged African Americans to demand their rights
- _____ **6.** an organization that used courts to challenge discriminatory laws
- _____ **7.** Theodore Roosevelt's plan for fair government
- _____ **8.** a man who led the Division of Forestry under President Theodore Roosevelt
- _____ **9.** President who attacked the "triple wall of privilege"
- _____ **10.** legislation that strengthened the Sherman Antitrust Act