

## ***Progressive Era***

The Progressive movement started as a social movement to correct the problems that rapid industrialization had created for America and would later evolve into a political movement. In the beginning Progressives, often called “muckrakers,” felt that the problems that Americans faced in the Gilded Age could be solved by a good education, a safe environment, and a safe workplace. Professor Walter Nugent in his *Progressivism: A Very Short Introduction* noted, “Progressivism reflected a growing, if temporary, consensus among Americans that major changes in the late nineteenth century had produced unwelcome, un-American imbalances in their society. Evidences of this were a new class of ostentatious millionaires, monopolistic and out-of-control corporations, conflict (often violent) between workers and capitalists...” Reformers began to believe that some form and degree of government should be responsible in helping correct these problems as they pushed for the reforms in many aspects of American life.

Directions: Use the content from the Texas Citizen Bee website to help answer the following questions:

### **PEOPLE**

Jane Addams

- 1) What were the goals of Jane Addams’ Hull House?
- 2) Why was Jane Addams awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931?

Susan B. Anthony,

- 1) How did Susan B. Anthony bring attention to the women’s suffrage movement?

Carrie Chapman Catt

- 1) What was Carrie Chapman Catt’s “winning plan”?

Alice Paul

- 1) What actions did Alice Paul take that alienated the National American Women Suffrage Association and Carrie Chapman Catt? And explain why you believe these actions would do so?
- 2) How did Alice Paul’s imprisonment and hunger strike help the women’s suffrage movement?

W.E.B. DuBois

- 1) What organization did W.E.B DuBois found?
- 2) When W.E.B. DuBois later left that organization, what idea did he support?

Theodore Roosevelt

- 1) How did Theodore Roosevelt fight for a “square deal” for Americans?
- 2) Why were some critical of Theodore Roosevelt’s actions as president?

Upton Sinclair

- 1) Why did Upton Sinclair join the Socialist Party?
- 2) Explain how Sinclair brought about needed change to the Meatpacking Industry.

Ida B. Wells

- 1) Why was Ida B. Wells motivated to launch an anti-lynching campaign?
- 2) What actions did she take to try and end lynching in this country?
- 3) What was *The Red Record* and why was it important?

## DOCUMENTS

Pure Food and Drug Act

- 1) Why was the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act important?
- 2) How did things change after the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act?

Meat Inspection Act

- 1) What inspired the passage of the Meat Inspection Act?

Federal Reserve Act

- 1) Why was the Federal Reserve Act of 1913 passed?
- 2) How does the Federal Reserve Act attempt to regulate and stabilize the economy today?

National Park Service Act

- 1) Why was Theodore Roosevelt considered the nation's "conservation president"?
- 2) Why was there a push for conservation in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century?
- 3) Why was the National Park Service Act passed in 1916?

## CONNECTION QUESTIONS

- 1) Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt, and Alice Paul were all suffragettes. Describe how these women were similar and different in their approaches to gaining women's suffrage.
- 2) How is W.E.B. DuBois' approach the civil rights for African Americans different from Booker T. Washington?
- 3) Which reformer of the Progressive Era best exemplifies the era? Defend your answer.
- 4) Which law, Pure Food and Drug Act or the Federal Reserve Act, is the most important and has had the most long term impact? Defend your answer