

US History
Turn of Century America
Exam Review Sheet

1. Identify three reasons for the industrial boom that occurred at the turn of the century in the United States.
2. What enabled oil drilling to become practical and steel to be mass produced at an affordable price?
3. What invention did Thomas Edison create to make electricity more useful?
4. How did this invention along with the typewriter and telephone change American life?
5. What did a national network of railroads make possible? What did the government do for railroad companies to make this national network possible?
6. What type of workers did the railroad companies hire to finish the transcontinental railroad? Which ones performed the most dangerous tasks?
7. Why did the national railroad system lead to the creation of the time zone system?
8. What do towns like Flagstaff, Denver, Seattle, and Pullman all have in common?
9. What makes Pullman, IL different than the others listed in question 8?
10. What business did Andrew Carnegie come to dominate in the late 1800s? By using vertical and horizontal integration Carnegie became very rich. Explain the difference between the two.
11. What does Social Darwinism attempt to explain?
12. What do holding companies and trusts hope to achieve? What law attempted to stop this?

13. Why were robber barons given this name? Was it a compliment?
14. What was the impact of the industrial boom on the southern United States?
15. What conditions led to the formation of labor unions at the turn of the century?
16. Identify a difference between craft unions, like the American Federation of Labor, and industrial unions, like the Industrial Workers of the World.
17. What was the similarity in the ending between the Great Strike of 1877 and the Homestead Steel strike?
18. Identify some reasons that urban populations rose so dramatically at the turn of the century.
19. What was the purpose of the Americanization movement?
20. Identify problems that developed in America's cities? What was the common theme that all these problems shared?
21. Identify some solutions to the above problems in America's cities.
22. How did Mark Twain use the term "Gilded" to criticize the wealthy in America?
23. How did Jacob Riis attempt to expose the severity of poverty in the U.S.?
24. Identify major sources of immigrants in America at the turn of the century. What were two major locations of entry for immigrants into the U.S.?
25. Where did immigrants often live when coming to the U.S.? What characteristics did these neighborhoods often have?
26. Explain the concept of nativism.

27. What did the Chinese Exclusion Act and Gentlemen's Agreement have in common?
28. What was the main goal of the political machines in America's major cities?
29. How did the political machine use immigrants to their advantage?
30. Give an example of election fraud and graft performed by the political machine.
31. Explain what supporters of patronage believed and how that differed from supporters of reform when it came to government jobs and appointments.
32. Which president was actually assassinated due to his support of reform?
33. Explain why Republicans and big business supported raising the tariff and why Democrats supported lowering the tariff.
34. How did southern states restrict voting for African Americans?
35. What was the purpose of Jim Crow Laws? How did Plessy vs. Ferguson help Jim Crow Laws remain as law?
36. Identify several common elements of racial etiquette.
37. How did mass culture change America?
38. Identify some leisure activities that became part of this new mass culture of America.
39. How did mass culture spread across the U.S. at the turn of the century?
40. How did consumerism and shopping change at the turn of the century?