Defined Major Points for Unit 2: The Gilded Age (The Late 1800s)

Unit 2 Calendar (A Days & B Days)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Sept 25Gilded Age Vocab Grids & PresentationsHW: Pictures/sentences, wksht due Wed. | Sept 26Gilded Age Vocab Grids & PresentationsHW: Pictures/sentences, wksht due Thurs. | Sept 27Settling the WestIndian Assimilation Source AnalysisVideo-Amer.Story/Us | Sept 28Settling the WestIndian Assimilation Source AnalysisVideo-Amer.Story/Us | Sept 29Quiz over VocabIndustrialization in the Gilded AgeRead *The Jungle* |
| Oct 2Quiz over VocabIndustrialization in the Gilded AgeRead *The Jungle* | Oct 3Immigration & UrbanizationQuiz over Settling the West, Assimilation, & Industrialization | Oct 4Immigration & UrbanizationQuiz over Settling the West, Assimilation, & Industrialization | Oct 5Political Cartoon-Corruption, Patronage, & Political Machines AnalysisReview for Test | Oct 6Political Cartoon-Corruption, Patronage, & Political Machines AnalysisReview for Test |
| Oct 9No School | Oct 10Test over Unit 2Start Next Unit | Oct 11PSAT-No Class | Oct 12Next unit | Oct 13Test over Unit 2Start Next Unit |

Defined Major Points for Unit 2: The Gilded Age (The Late 1800s)

Settling the West

* Americans begin to move west for new land, opportunities, and to find natural resources (like gold, silver, iron ore)
* Railroads facilitate westward movement and telegraphs improve communication
* It is dangerous to move west, and life is hard.
* Texans begin to ranch (raise cattle) and move them to railroads to sell beef in the East
* Homestead Act: law that gives free land to people wanting to move to the Great Plains; this increases westward settlement.
* Settlers fight with Natives, as they move west.
	+ The Dawes Act forces American Indians to leave their land and move to reservations, so they can assimilate to American culture (ex. learn English, cut their hair, wear American clothes, get trained to perform a job, etc.)
	+ This has disastrous effects for American Indians, and they do not like the reservations or assimilating.

Gilded Age Vocab Words-definitions will be provided on vocab grids

* Transcontinental Railroad
* Interstate Commerce Act
* Time zone
* Market
* Consolidate
* Laissez-faire
* Monopoly
* Sherman Anti-Trust Act
* Labor union
* Nativism
* Chinese Exclusion Act
* Urbanization
* Tenement
* Settlement house
* Social Gospel
* Political machine
* Patronage
* Corruption

Industrialization/Big Business

* In the Gilded Age, the United States experiences rapid industrialization, due to the newly discovered natural resources in the west (they power factories), petroleum (which powers the lamps), the transcontinental railroad, and a large workforce made up of immigrants.
* Conditions for workers in factories are terrible. This can be seen in the novel “The Jungle” which describes the horrible working conditions and lack of sanitation in the meat industry. Eventually, workers form labor unions to improve their working conditions.
* Many entrepreneurs (people who start businesses) become rich.
* Some big businesses form monopolies, which are illegal, and the government tries to regulate them.

Growth of Railroads

* Railroads are built in the late 1800s by Chinese workers. Working conditions are terrible.
* Railroads facilitate westward movement and open up new markets.

Immigration & Urbanization

* In the late 1800s, immigration increases, specifically from Eastern Europe and Asia.
* Immigrants live in ethnic neighborhoods (in crowded tenements) in cities and work for low wages in factories.
* Living conditions for immigrants are poor. Jacob Riis writes a book about the poor living conditions for immigrants in cities called *How the Other Half Lives.*
* In the late 1800s, the US experiences the growth of cities, as more people flock to cities to find work in factories. Skyscrapers are built (thanks to steel) to compensate for the population increase.
* Nativists are people who do not like immigrants, and nativism emerges in the late 1800s. One example of this is the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Political Machines & Corruption

* There is much corruption in the Gilded Age.
* At the national level, elected officials give jobs to their friends (patronage), instead of giving jobs to people who are qualified for the position. The Patronage Act tries to address this, stating that government jobs should only be given to people who are qualified for the job by passing a civil service test.
* At the local level, political machines are established in cities, which control local politics. Party bosses are in charge of the political machine. They do illegal things in order to make money on the side. The Democratic party boss in New York City is Boss Tweed, and he is in charge of the political machine Tammany Hall. He stays in power by trying to help immigrants, but he really does illegal things.
* Political cartoons expose the corruption of political machines.