

Exam Review: Gilded Age - New South, New West, and Growth of Big Business 1877-1900

Key Terms and People: Jim Crow, poll taxes, literacy tests, Plessy v. Ferguson, Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Homestead Act, Helen Hunt Jackson, Dawes Act, horizontal consolidation, vertical integration, pools, trusts, Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, “robber baron”, social Darwinism, “gospel of wealth”, labor union, collective bargaining, lockout, yellow dog contract, blacklist, trade union, industrial union, Knights of Labor, American Federation of Labor, “bread and butter issues”, Samuel Gompers, Eugene Debs, Socialist Party, Haymarket incident, Homestead Lockout, Pullman Strike, Agrarian revolt, Grange, Munn v. Illinois, Wabash case, Interstate Commerce Act, Sherman Anti-trust Act, Populist Party, William Jennings Bryan, Old Immigrants, New Immigrants, nativism, Chinese Exclusion Act,

1. How were the gains made by African-Americans during Reconstruction undone during the decades that followed?
2. How did the federal government encourage the settlement of the “New West” during the second half of the 19th century?
3. How did settlement of the “new west” affect Native-American societies?
4. Explain the policies of the federal government towards native Americans from 1865 to 1900.
5. What tactics did big business men such as J.D. Rockefeller use to eliminate competition. Why did many people call big businessmen “robber barons”? Why did others call them “heroes of industry”? How did big businessmen try to justify their practices?
6. Compare and contrast the goals and tactics of the following early national labor unions – Knights of Labor, American Federation of Labor
7. What tactics did businessmen use to limit the power of organized labor?
8. Explain the causes and outcomes of the Homestead Lockout and the Pullman strike. Why did labor unions often fail to win labor-management disputes such as the Homestead lockout and Pullman strike?
9. What were the complaints of farmers during the late 19th century? Were they partly to blame for their problems? What did farmers propose as solutions to their problems?
10. What were the goals of the Populists? What is the importance of the Populists as a political movement?
11. How did the federal government become more involved in the American economy during the late 19th century?

Possible Essay Questions –

1. Why did workers form national labor unions during the late 19th century? Compare and contrast the Knights of Labor and the American Federation of Labor. What obstacles did workers face in trying to improve their conditions? Support your response with specific examples of labor management disputes.
2. The Agrarian Revolt – Discuss the major grievances of farmers during the agrarian revolt of the late 19th century. How did farmers attempt to address these problems? How did the agrarian revolt affect people’s views of the proper role of government.
3. Analyze the continuities and changes in the federal government’s policies towards Native American from the 1830s through the 1890’s.