

# THE AGE OF BIG BUSINESS

## Study Thing

1. List the three interrelated themes of the Era of Big Business.

① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_

2. What was America's first big industry?

3. How did the American public respond to the industrial boom?

4. How did the government view the influence of the "industrial aristocracy" on everyday America?

5. Match each of the leading business tycoons (left) with the industry they dominated (right).

_____ John Davison Rockefeller	A. petroleum
_____ Andrew Carnegie	B. railroads
_____ Johns Hopkins	C. tobacco
_____ Leland Stanford	D. iron and steel
_____ J. Pierpont Morgan	E. textiles
_____ Cornelius Vanderbilt	F. carnival rides

6. Who benefited the most from the increasing condition of "economic democracy" offered in America?

7. How did labor address injustices in the American workplace?

8. What were the three main sources of immigration between 1850 and 1900?

① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_

9. What were the three largest American cities in 1900?

① \_\_\_\_\_      ② \_\_\_\_\_      ③ \_\_\_\_\_

10. List three important transitions America made during the late nineteenth century.

①

②

③

11. What was the “social Darwinism” theory?

12. What was the state of national politics during this time?

13. According to most historians, who was the best President during the last third of the 1800s?

14. Who was Jane Addams and what was her contribution to the late 1800s?

15. Author Mark Twain referred to the last 35 years of the nineteenth century as the “Gilded Age.” Give two examples that support Twain’s label.

①

②

# ***LABOR GROUPS & PROTESTS DURING THE AGE OF BIG BUSINESS***

## ❶ National Labor Union

- ✓ Federation of unions formed in \_\_\_\_\_ by William Sylvis
- ✓ Leaders out of touch with needs & desires of workers
- ✓ Chief objective was formation of worker-owned coops

## ❷ Knights of Labor

- ✓ Formed in 1869 by Uriah Stephens & \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Grouped workers into one huge union
- ✓ Major goal was \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Declined in late 1880s due to \_\_\_\_\_

## ❸ American Federation of Labor

- ✓ Skilled workers organized by craft
- ✓ Founded in 1886 by Adolph Strasser & \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Target goals were \_\_\_\_\_ & shorter hours
- ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ became chief weapon against management
- ✓ Merged in 1955 w/ Congress of Industrial Organizations

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## ❶ Great Railroad Strike

- ✓ \_\_\_\_\_ workers in 1877
- ✓ Spread to other railroad companies
- ✓ President Rutherford B. Hayes felt strikers harmed \_\_\_\_\_

## ❷ Haymarket Square Riot

- ✓ Took place in \_\_\_\_\_ in 1886
- ✓ Called by anarchists after striker killed at McCormick Harvester plant
- ✓ Bomb tossed into crowd (7 policemen killed; 60+ others injured)
- ✓ Labor movement branded as \_\_\_\_\_ & rapidly lost popular support

## ❸ Homestead Strike

- ✓ 1892 at Andrew Carnegie's steel plant near \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Strikers attacked 300 Pinkerton Agency guards hired to protect scabs
- ✓ Labor in steel industry suffered until 1930s

## ❹ Pullman Railway Car Strike

- ✓ Chicago in \_\_\_\_\_ resulting from Panic of 1893
- ✓ American Railway Union under Eugene Debs participated
- ✓ President \_\_\_\_\_ sent troops to preserve order
- ✓ Debs jailed; became active socialist

# ***AMERICA'S URBANIZATION DURING THE AGE OF BIG BUSINESS***

1. The largest city west of the Mississippi River in 1900 was:
  - a. Los Angeles
  - b. Denver
  - c. New Orleans
  - d. Kansas City
  - e. San Francisco
  
2. All of the following were major sources of urban population growth in the Northeast during the Gilded Age except:
  - a. farmers and people from small rural towns
  - b. southern blacks
  - c. immigrants from Europe
  - d. unsuccessful California gold prospectors
  - e. immigrants from East Asia
  
3. The formation of ethnic neighborhoods by immigrants in American cities:
  - a. prevented their advancement in the workplace
  - b. resulted from discriminatory restrictions
  - c. intensified a sense of incoherence with American values
  - d. tended to reinforce the cultural values of their previous societies
  - e. was highly regulated by most city zoning laws
  
4. All of the following were problems which accompanied rapid urban growth during the late nineteenth century except:
  - a. increased crime
  - b. epidemic illnesses
  - c. factory closures
  - d. unfair labor practices
  - e. sanitation
  
5. The chain store concept was pioneered by:
  - a. James Cash Penney
  - b. Montgomery Ward
  - c. Frank Winfield Woolworth
  - d. Marshall Field
  - e. Sam Walton
  
6. All of the following American novels portrayed the urban world of the late 1800s realistically except:
  - a. *How the Other Half Lives*, by Jacob Riis
  - b. *Maggie: A Girl of the Streets*, by Stephen Crane
  - c. *A Hazard of New Fortunes*, by William Dean Howells
  - d. *Call of the Wild*, by Jack London
  - e. *The Bitter Cry of the Children*, by John Spargo