

Unit Three: Politics, Power, and the People

Chapter 21: **An Age of Extremes** (pages 108-110)

Why was the turn of the 20th century called the "Gilded age" or the "age of extremes?"

What things were invented or developed around this time?

What 2 new games were invented around this time?

It was a time of **prosperity** and poverty; of **corruption** and **idealism**; and, for almost everyone, a time of faith in the future. In other words, it was a very interesting time.

Define the **bold words**: What do they mean? Look up the words on your own.

Why was Cornelius Vanderbilt considered a "robber baron?"

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Chapter 22: **Andrew Carnegie** (pages 111-115)

The invention of power looms led to job loss for what type of worker?

What is an idealist? _____

What is a realist? _____

Andrew Carnegie immigrated to America, from where?

But while he was getting rich he didn't seem to worry much about the

_____. He forgot his father's troubles. What he did do was work hard himself, use his imagination and intelligence, and take every chance that came his way.

His first job, in _____, Pennsylvania, was as a _____ in a textile factory. He worked from _____ in the morning until _____ at night and was paid \$1.20 a day. He was _____ years old.

A newspaper, the *Pittsburgh Gazette*, wrote a story about him; it called him "an honest little fellow." Why? What did he do?

Carnegie became king of America's _____ and soon American steel dominated the world. The Carnegie steel company was very profitable: it used the best, most efficient machinery and kept wages very _____. Carnegie's workers—men who were like his _____—earned very little. Life for their families was awful.

What happened in Homestead, PA?

Who did Carnegie sell his business to, making him the richest man in the world?

What did Carnegie do after selling his business?

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Chapter 23: **A Bookkeeper Named Rockefeller** (pages 116-119)

In 1858 what discovery prompted a "gold rush like" influx of people to Pennsylvania?

What successful businessman invested heavily in the oil businesses?

Within how many years of purchasing his first small oil refinery did Rockefeller control the nation's oil industry?

What was the name of Rockefeller's oil company?

Describe how Rockefeller treated his employees.

How was Rockefeller similar to Carnegie?

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Chapter 24 **Powerful Pierpont** (pages 120-121)

J. P. Morgan held what profession? _____

How did J. P. Morgan help out when the U.S. Treasury seemed on the edge of collapse?

What was the name of J. P. Morgan's bank?

What 2 major purchases did J. P. Morgan make from other very wealthy businessmen?

Chapter 25 **Monopoly not Always a Game** (pages 122-125)

Define monopoly.

Competition makes _____ work well for the consumer.

When there is competition it is called " _____ " or a "market

economy." The people who are thirsty are much better off if businesses

are _____. You, the business person, would like less competition. So

you make plans to gain a _____ in the field. You go

to the two other soft-drink sellers and buy their stands. If they sell out, you can charge the public anything you want

Who suffers from monopolies? _____

Rockefeller's Standard Oil trust was a huge monopoly. It owned more than _____ percent of America's oil industry, as well as pipelines, tankers, and related industries

What is a "trust?"

What was the Sherman Antitrust Act?

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Chapter 26 **Builders and Dreamers** (pages 126-130)

There was no point in building a really tall building, because people were only willing to walk up four or maybe five flights of stairs. So that was as high as most buildings went until a Vermonter, Elisha Graves Otis, designed _____.

What material did American architects come up with the idea of using to build the frames of buildings?

What U.S. architect has been called "the inventor of the skyscraper?" Was this completely true? Why or why not?

Sullivan believed that the individual is very important. Sullivan got this idea from reading the works of whom?

What famous architect from Wisconsin came to work for Sullivan and became even more famous than Sullivan?

What German immigrant designed the first modern suspension bridges? What discovery did he make that led him to the idea for the suspension bridges?

Roebing had a crazy idea - to build a bridge across New York's East River between Manhattan and Brooklyn - was he successful? What is the name of this now famous bridge? How long did it take to build?

Who took over for John Roebing after he died? What happened to Washington Roebing? How did he manage to oversee the project after his accident?

People questioned whether or not the bridge was actually safe until what happened?

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Chapter 27: **Presidents Again** (pages 131-135)

Briefly describe Andrew Johnson's presidency.

Which Civil War general, turned president's term as president is marked by corruption and dishonesty, which he didn't realize was happening until it was too late?

During the Johnson and Grant presidencies, former slaves were able to _____ and black men were _____.

Some white Southern leaders didn't like what happened during the Johnson and Grant presidencies so they set out to have _____ elected. _____ won the election by _____.

What president was shot and killed by a man with mental problems?

Chester A. Arthur made the Civil Service Commission powerful. What did the Civil Service Commission make people who wanted government jobs do?

During what President's term did the Apache Chief Geronimo surrender to army forces, ending the Indians' freedom to live as they wished?

When President Harrison was in office the _____ was passed. It outlawed the monopolies that suppressed competition.

While William McKinley was president, the United States fought a war with what country?

What territories did the US control after the war with Spain?

What ended McKinley's tenure as president?

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Chapter 28: **The People's Party** (pages 136-142)

What were some of the problems with voting that needed to be changed?

Watson and his Populists see themselves as the party of the _____.
They believe the government is working for the rich and powerful and taking advantage of
the _____. They believe that the people—ordinary
people—must take control of the government. They are considered _____.
They want to change the system.

Describe some of the ideas the Populist Party was in favor of.

Why were farmers at this time unhappy about their current situation?

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Chapter 29: **Hard Times** (pages 143-145)

What happened in the United States in 1893?

What is a mortgage? How does it work?

What did Congress do in an attempt to help the struggling US economy? Was it successful? Why or why not?

What is a tariff?

What problems did tariffs cause?

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Chapter 30: **Gold and Silver** (pages 146-150)

What does strike mean?

What did Jacob Coxey do in an effort to convince the government to help it's out of work citizens?
Were his efforts successful?

Describe the Pullman Company Strike?

When the nation was in danger of going bankrupt, who did President Cleveland turn to for help?

Was J. P. Morgan's help to government beneficial for the American people? Why or why not?

In 1985 the nation was divided between two groups of people. Who were they?

What is a "mint?"

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Chapter 31: **A Cross of Gold** (pages 151-155)

In the 1890's _____ were considered heroes, more so than good athletes.

Who was William Jennings Bryan?

Describe some of the differences between William Jennings Bryan and William McKinley.

How did Bryan run his campaign?

What was the difference in monies spent by each candidate for their campaign?

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Chapter 32: **Some Bad Ideas** (pages 156-155)

Did Bryan ever become president? _____

Tom Watson, who began his political career by doing something no other party leader was doing: calling on _____? For a while it happened. He brought the races together. When a black Populist leader was threatened by the racist _____, Watson called for help. More than _____ farmers came in buggies and on horseback. This was the 19th-century South, and these were white farmers rushing to the aid of a black man.

Tell me about Tom Watson, how did he become a bigot (hypocrite) during his last years?

They were grappling with difficult problems. Life was unsettling in this age of extremes. In America, everyone could see that something was wrong, and not just on the farm. People were becoming too _____, too concerned with money and things. The economic system wasn't working well.

Some people had a simple solution to the new problems. They blamed others. Who did they blame?
