

1. Explain why the term "Gilded Age" is appropriate for the late 1800s.

A thin layer of prosperity covered the poverty and corruption

2. Explain the effects of the expansion of the railroads.

Increase standard of living, increase availability and variety of goods, drove industrialization, quicker and easier travel, people moved west (increased population in western cities), closing of the frontier (people claimed the land), Native Americans forced off their land

3. Why did the government give land to the railroads and homesteaders?

To promote economic development

4. What were the effects of the Homestead Act of 1862?

Great Plain became an agricultural center and was settled quickly because government land was given to farmers (land grants)

5. How did settlers/homesteaders adapt to their environment?

Built houses from sod – didn't have access to timber

6. What factors led to the cattle industry boom?

Large supply of cattle, demand for beef in the north, expansion of the railroads connects supply to demand

7. How did the Klondike Gold Rush impact the city of Seattle?

Population increased - Became a commercial center for miners

8. Why did steel become an important building material during the Gilded Age?

The Bessemer process made the production of steel more affordable and efficient

9. How did the development of electricity, the telephone, and farm equipment affect the economy?

Electricity – increased productivity because factories extended work hours

Telephone – faster communication = faster trade

Farm equipment – saved farmers time and effort

10. How did innovations developed during the Gilded Age change the standard of living?

Made life easier and gave easier access to goods – saved time and effort in farming

11. Explain the relationship between big business and government during the Gilded Age.

Laissez-faire – government supported big business by not interfering in businesses

12. Explain the effect of monopolies, trusts, and big business on the economy.

Limits competition

13. What were the factors that led to the organization of labor unions?

Unions developed to address dangerous working conditions and low wages

14. What was the effect of the Interstate Commerce Act and the Sherman Anti-Trust Act?
Government began to regulate big business by breaking up large monopolies and trusts and stopping unfair business practices

15. What did the Populists ask for in their Omaha Platform?
Government reforms, coinage of silver for larger money supply (monetary policy), income tax, government ownership of transportation and communication companies

16. Explain the sentiments behind the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act.
Nativism (anti-immigrant sentiment) and fear of cheap labor

17. Explain the causes and effects of civil service reform (Pendleton Civil Service Act).
Causes: corrupt and ineffective government
Effects: changed hiring practice in government jobs - civil service jobs were given based on merit (through exams)

18. Explain why political machines gained support during the Gilded Age.
Government could not keep up with rapid urbanization. Political machines were able to provide immigrants with better infrastructure, jobs, and living conditions in exchange for their votes

19. Explain the social gospel movement and settlement house movement.
Improve the living conditions of the poor because government was not helping
Jane Addams worked to help assimilate immigrants

20. Explain why many employers hired children during the Gilded Age and why parents let their children work in dangerous environments.
Source of cheap labor – families needed extra income

21. What were the causes and effects of urbanization?
Causes: industrialization (jobs were available), immigration (from rural areas and other countries), people in search of opportunities
Effects: overcrowded, poor sanitation, rapid spread of disease, poor infrastructure

22. What social issues affected women during the Gilded Age?
Conditions of the urban poor (Jane Addams and Settlement House movement)

23. Explain the positive arguments for wealthy industrialists, such as Andrew Carnegie and other philanthropists.
Philanthropy – gave away money to improve the community (example Andrew Carnegie donated money to education, libraries, and cultural centers)
Gospel of Wealth – used money to help the community

24. Why did immigrants come to America and what were their experiences once they reached America (ghettos and social tension)?
Came in search of jobs, a better life, and opportunities
Overcrowded tenements, assimilation schools, nativism, joined political machines and worked in sweatshops

25. Explain the relationship between geography and immigration during the Gilded Age.
People immigrate to places in the US closer to their native lands

26. Explain how a change in immigration changed the demographics of the United States.
Increased diversity

27. Explain efforts to assimilate/Americanize immigrants and Native Americans (Dawes Act and boarding schools).

Assimilation schools: taught English, American history, Government, and Civics

Dawes Act: changed Native American idea of land ownership from communal to private property

28. Explain the growth of nativism during the Gilded Age.

New immigrants were different and not assimilating to American culture – leads to Americans wanting to place restrictions on immigration

29. Explain the causes and effects of western expansion and industrial development in the US during the Gilded Age. (must give an example of EACH)

Using your review prepare and answer to this question WITH SUPPORT! If you don't give supporting examples, you will not get credit!!