

## Ch. 24 Reading Guide: Industry Comes of Age (p. 512-536)

### **Period 6: The Gilded Age (1865-1898)**

*Target # 1: I can identify examples of political corruption and social discrimination, list causes to the beginnings of the rise of American Big Industry, and explain how population and industrial growth transformed cities and the Western Frontier.*

*Target # 2: I can explain (using historical thinking skills) examples of how the U.S. government (city, state, & federal) saw corruption within its ranks; Analyze (using historical thinking skills) how American industry shaped cities, the workforce, and the Western Frontier, and explain various responses to the rise and power of U.S. Big Business.*

### **Big Ideas:**

- Key industries sprang up that accelerated America's growth to an industrial power: railroad, steel, oil, banking
- U.S. Government took a "hands off" approach (laissez faire) in interference with the U.S. economy
- Wage-earning jobs attracted farmers and immigrants into U.S. cities to work in dangerous factories for long hours of the day performing a low-skilled, repetitive task
- Concerns about worker treatment led to the formation of America's first major labor unions; however, strikes in the 1800s saw little success
- Early attempts by the government to 'crack down' on Big Business saw little success in controlling the monopolies that had grown over time

**Prediction Statement (50 words or less):** What is one prediction you have about what you will learn based on the big ideas above?

### **Key Questions:**

#### **The Iron Colt Becomes an Iron Horse (p.512-514)**

Know: Land grants

**1. In addition to loans, how did the government assist railroad companies in developing the transcontinental railroad, AND why was this effort so important to the government?**

#### **Binding the Country with Railroad Ties (p. 516)**

Know: Union Pacific, Central Pacific

**2. Although the second half of the 19th century saw great economic growth largely thanks to the large rail network, what, according to the text, formed the sordid side of railroad construction?**

**Revolution by Railways (p. 517-518)**

Know: Time Zones,

**3. Briefly describe the impact of the railroad in the following areas**

- A. Industry
- B. Development of cities
- C. Immigration
- D. Environment

**Government Bridles the Iron Horse (p. 519)**Know: *Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific RR*, Interstate Commerce Commission/Act**4. Briefly explain the shortcomings of the following attempts to “reel in” the power of the rail companies:**

- A. *Illinois v Wabash, St. Louis, & Pacific RR*
- B. Interstate Commerce Act

**5. What successes/changes resulted from such attempts to “corral” the power of the railroads?****Miracles of Mechanization (p. 519-520)**

Know: Interchangeable parts, Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison

**6. How did the following concepts contribute to the rapid industrial growth seen in the U.S. during the late 19th century: (Hint: consider cause & effect)**

- A. Foreign Investment
- B. Innovations in transportation
- C. Immigration
- D. Patents

<p><b><u>The Trust Titan Emerges (p. 520-521)</u></b>          Know: Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, J.P. Morgan, Vertical Integration, Horizontal Integration, Trust</p> <p><b>7. Briefly define/describe the following methods used by Big Business to short circuit competition &amp; reap greater profits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Vertical Integration</li> <li>B. Horizontal Integration/Trust</li> <li>C. Interlocking Directorates</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>The Gospel of Wealth (p.524-525)</u></b>          Know: Social Darwinism, "Gospel of Wealth"</p> <p><b>8. How did the concept/social belief of Social Darwinism become a roadblock for social reform?</b></p> <p><b>9. How did Carnegie's "Gospel of Wealth" vision make him somewhat unique among the Big Industrialist class?</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Government Tackles the Trust Evil (p. 525)</u></b>          Know: Sherman Antitrust Act</p> <p><b>10. Why could the Sherman Antitrust Act be considered another failure to 'reign in Big Business'? Any successes from this attempt?</b></p>	
<p><b><u>The South in the Age of Industry (p. 525-528)</u></b></p> <p><b>11. What obstacles did the 'New South' face in its attempt to become more industrialized?</b></p>	
<p><b><u>The Impact of the New Industrial Revolution on America (p.528-530)</u></b></p> <p><b>12. Briefly discuss the <u>benefits</u> AND <u>problems</u> associated with the following elements of U.S. industrialization:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Concept of time</li> <li>B. Impact on women</li> <li>C. Distribution of wealth</li> </ul>	

**In Unions There is Strength (p. 530-531)**

Know: Company town

**13. What were some of the ‘weapons’ that employers had in their arsenal to combat the threat of union strength?**

**Summary Exit Ticket:**

**Cause/Effect (3 parts):**

**#1) Analyze ONE factor that led to industrial growth in America from the period of 1865-1900.**

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**#2) Analyze ONE positive (social, political, economic) effect of industrial growth in America from the period of 1865-1900.**

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**#3) Analyze ONE negative (social, political, economic) effect of industrial growth in America from the period of 1865-1900.**

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