

Unit 2 Review Questions

1. Why would John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and J.P. Morgan have the nickname “Robber Barons”?
2. What are two economic effects of the inventions of the late 1800’s?
3. Name three things Thomas Edison invented.
4. Who was the head of the Standard Oil Trust?
5. What industry did Cornelius Vanderbilt dominate?
6. What did steel monopoly owner Andrew Carnegie do with most of his money?
7. How did the consolidation by Cornelius Vanderbilt help America?
8. Why was this time period called the ‘Gilded Age’?
9. Identify two similarities John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie shared.
10. What were three bad conditions workers were facing in factories?
11. Who was the powerful banker that bought up all of the steel and railroad companies in the late 1800’s?
12. Why was this time period called the “Gilded Age”?
13. How did the assembly line affect the prices of cars?
14. Corporations, stocks and monopolies all contributed to what economic trend?
15. What was Thomas Edison’s approach to inventing?
16. Why were there not more laws outlawing Monopolies in the 1800’s?
17. Who was hurt the most by the Monopolies and Trusts that controlled American business in the late 1800’s?
18. Name two Push Factors going on in foreign countries during the late 1800’s that drove people to move to America.
19. Name two Pull Factors that drew people to America during the late 1800’s.
20. What are two reasons some people called Nativists were opposed to allowing Immigrants into the USA?
21. Why did the government open Ellis Island in New York City?
22. Who was moving to the inner-cities during the late 1800’s?
23. What problems were occurring in cities during the late 1800’s?
24. What are at least two examples of technology that helped cities grow in the late 1800’s?
25. What were two economic effects of Thomas Edison’s lightbulb?
26. What did workers do to fight for better working conditions?

Unit 2 Review Answers

1. These monopoly owners were ruthless and often broke the law when dealing with their competition, the government, and their employees.
2. Businesses became more efficient, more jobs are created, and prices fell.
3. Motion picture, storage battery, light bulb, phonograph, power plant
4. John D. Rockefeller
5. Railroads
6. He gave it away to charity.
7. Travel and trade become faster and cheaper, time zones created, and a standard gauge of track was established.
8. A small number of people became fabulously wealthy which covered up the fact that the majority of Americans were unbelievably poor.
9. Both men gave money to charity, built universities, were born poor, were very intelligent, worked very hard and could predict what America needed.
10. Long hours, low pay, unhealthy, no safety laws.
11. J.P. Morgan
12. There was a thin layer of ultra-wealthy people while the rest of the country was living in poverty.
13. Prices go down because supply is way up (mass production)
14. The Rise of Big Business.
15. He used the assembly line approach. Members of a team would improve on a product and pass it to another team that would do the same thing.
16. Monopolies bribed and controlled many members of the local, state, and national governments
17. Small businesses and the workers
18. Wars in Eastern Europe, Overcrowding in Asia, Famine, Disease, Not enough land, not enough jobs, going to jail for what you believe in.
19. Freedom of Speech and Religion, plenty of jobs, ethnic neighborhoods, lots of available land.
20. Immigrants take jobs and living space from those who are already here, immigrants sometimes bring anti-American ideas and actions into the country and America should be reserved for Americans.
21. To process the thousands of Immigrants who were arriving in America each day.
22. African Americans, Former Farmers, Immigrants, poor people
23. Crime, Disease, Pollution, Overcrowding, Poverty
24. Trolley, Subway, Steel Reinforced Buildings, Elevators, Sewers, Recycling
25. Jobs created to make, ship, and sell lightbulbs, factories stay open 24 hours
26. Formed unions and went on strike.