The Making of America: Immigration, Industrialization, and Reform

Timeline Cards
Introduction

Over a period of thousands of years, as the ice sheets covering North America melted, people spread out over the land and settled on it.
CHAPTER 1: A Nation of Immigrants

The earliest British settlers founded the colony of Jamestown in 1607.

Big Question: What were the various causes of mass migration to America?
Between 1775 and 1781, colonists from the thirteen English colonies fought the American Revolution to establish their independence from Great Britain.

**Big Question:** What were the various causes of mass migration to America?
CHAPTER 1: A Nation of Immigrants

Europeans from different countries continued to settle throughout the United States, and thousands of Africans were forced to come to America against their will.

Big Question: What were the various causes of mass migration to America?
CHAPTER 1: A Nation of Immigrants

As a result of crop failures in Germany and the potato famine in Ireland during the 1840s and 1850s, thousands of German and Irish immigrants came to America seeking a better life.

Big Question: What were the various causes of mass migration to America?
Imigrants settled in cities, especially in the Northeast, creating overcrowding and impoverished conditions.

**Big Question:** How was life different for immigrants who came to America with some money, or had a skill, from those who were poor farm workers?
CHAPTER 3: The New Immigration

The 1870s were the beginning of the “New Immigration,” when people from southern and eastern Europe started to immigrate to America.

Big Question: How would you compare the experiences of those who came to America as part of the “old wave of immigration” to the experiences of those who were part of the “new wave of immigration”? 
In the 1870s, an influx of Japanese and Chinese immigrants came to America and settled in their own sections of cities.

**Big Question:** How would you compare the experiences of those who came to America as part of the “old wave of immigration” to the experiences of those who were part of the “new wave of immigration”?
In 1884, France gave the State of Liberty to America as a gift; Emma Lazarus later memorialized the statue in her poem, “The New Colossus.”

**Big Question:** What were the different reactions to the “sudden flood” of particular groups of immigrants?
Ellis Island, a small island in New York Harbor, opened as an immigration processing center in 1892.

**Big Question:** What were the different reactions to the “sudden flood” of particular groups of immigrants?
In 1909, Israel Zangwill wrote *The Melting Pot*, which became an important metaphor for the American immigrant’s experience.

**Big Question:** Why do you think “becoming an American” was easier for those who were born in America to immigrants, than for those who had moved to America from the country of their birth?
CHAPTER 5: Becoming American

Immigration continues to be part of America’s story.

Big Question: Why do you think “becoming an American” was easier for those who were born in America to immigrants, than for those who had moved to America from the country of their birth?
Introduction

During the 1700 and 1800s, agriculture was the major form of income for most people in Europe and America.
Introduction

During the Industrial Revolution, from the 1760s through the 1830s, factories became widespread in Great Britain and the United States and began to change people’s way of life.
After the end of the Civil War in 1865, even greater changes took place in America.
CHAPTER 1: The Industrial Giant

After Samuel Slater opened the first cotton spinning mill in America in 1791, factories spread throughout the United States.

**Big Question:** How did America transform from an agricultural nation into an industrial giant?
Andrew Carnegie became a millionaire as a result of experience, hard work, and creativity.

**Big Question:** How did America transform from an agricultural nation into an industrial giant?
By the early 1900s, the United States had nearly two hundred thousand miles of railroad track across the country. Cornelius Vanderbilt was a leader in combining many small, separate railroad lines into a single network. Time zones were established so train schedules would be accurate and consistent.

**Big Question:** How did the development and expansion of railroads help grow the American economy?
Natural resources, such as timber, coal, and oil, in addition to the ready availability of people and capital, contributed to rapid industrial growth in America.

**Big Question:** How did investment in corporations help to drive America’s rapid industrial development?
CHAPTER 4: An Inventive People

Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876.

**Big Question:** How would you describe the inventors Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Alva Edison?
Thomas Alva Edison and his research team invented the phonograph, the electric light bulb, and many other modern inventions.

**Big Question:** How would you describe the inventors Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Alva Edison?
Building on his initial success in the railroad industry, Andrew Carnegie created the Carnegie Steel company, which provided steel for building bridges, railroad tracks, and tall city buildings.

**Big Question:** Why do you think Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller were so successful?
John D. Rockefeller quickly recognized that he would make more money by buying and controlling the refineries that cleaned impurities of crude oil than by drilling for oil. He founded Standard Oil Corporation in 1870.

**Big Question:** Why do you think Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller were so successful?
In 1887, the government passed the Interstate Commerce Act to regulate the unfair practices of the railroads, which had led to higher consumer prices.

**Big Question:** What were the perceived advantages and disadvantages of large and powerful businesses?
In 1890, the government passed the Sherman Antitrust Act to regulate the growth of trusts and monopolies, which had led to higher consumer prices.

Big Question: What were the perceived advantages and disadvantages of large and powerful businesses?
In 1891, John D. Rockefeller donated millions of dollars to build the University of Chicago.

**Big Question:** What were the perceived advantages and disadvantages of large and powerful businesses?
Andrew Carnegie donated millions of dollars to build more than 2,500 libraries, many of which were public or university libraries.

**Big Question:** What were the perceived advantages and disadvantages of large and powerful businesses?
Unskilled workers—including men, women, and children—worked long hours, often in unsafe conditions. By the 1900s, more than twenty thousand workers were killed, and two hundred thousand others were injured yearly in America in factory accidents.

Big Question: What were some of the advantages and disadvantages for American workers during this period of change?
In the mid-1800s and early 1900s, the invention of new machines, such as the typewriter, offered new positions for skilled workers.

**Big Question:**
What were some of the advantages and disadvantages for American workers during this period of change?
Although labor unions had little to do with the 1886 riot in Chicago’s Haymarket Square, where seven people were killed by a bomb, many Americans at the time connected this violence with unions.

**Big Question:** What is a union, and what did Samuel Gompers do to change how unions were organized?
In 1886, Samuel Gompers helped bring together various trade unions to start the American Federation of Labor.

**Big Question:** What is a union, and what did Samuel Gompers do to change how unions were organized?
When workers at the Carnegie Steel mill in Homestead, Pennsylvania, went on strike in 1892, the company brought in armed men to battle the strikers. Men on both sides were killed.

**Big Question:** What is a union, and what did Samuel Gompers do to change how unions were organized?
Many different factors led to rapid population increases in many American cities between 1860 and 1910. These included the expansion of factories and the manufacturing industry, the decrease in farm prices coupled with the glamour of the city, as well as the emancipation of slaves and the increasing number of European immigrants.

Big Question: Why did many American cities grow so rapidly during the early 1900s?
Improvements in transportation—such as the expanded railroad network, trolley car, elevated trains, and subways—were especially important in the growth of many cities.

Big Question: Why did many American cities grow so rapidly during the early 1900s?
The rapid growth in the size of city populations in the 1900s led to many problems, including poor housing conditions, garbage disposal and street maintenance issues, and an increase in crime.

Big Question: Why do you think this chapter is called “growing pains”?
The threat of fire was also a problem in cities with crowded buildings. The Great Chicago Fire in 1871 left three hundred people dead and ninety thousand homeless.

**Big Question:** Why do you think this chapter is called “growing pains”?
The growth of cities also led to greater opportunity for government corruption and the rise to power of political bosses. One of the most notorious was William Marcy Tweed in New York City.

**Big Question:** Why do you think this chapter is called “growing pains”?
Reform in Industrial America

Timeline Cards
Introduction

During the Industrial Revolution, the widespread growth of factories and cities dramatically changed people’s way of life.
CHAPTER 1: The Populist Movement

In 1891, American farmers formed the Populist Party to express the belief that the railroad companies and big businesses were hurting farmers.

Big Question: What was the populist movement, and what were their main concerns?
William Jennings Bryan was an extraordinary public speaker. He lost the election to become president, but later served as U.S. secretary of state.

**Big Question:** What was the populist movement, and what were their main concerns?
Ida Tarbell published *The History of the Standard Oil Company*, which led to the 1911 breakup of the Standard Oil Company.

**Big Question:** Why were some journalists at this time called “muckrakers,” and why was their work important?
CHAPTER 2: The Muckrakers

Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle* was published in 1906, causing Theodore Roosevelt to order an investigation into the meatpacking industry.

**Big Question:** Why were some journalists at this time called “muckrakers,” and why was their work important?
In 1889, Jane Addams established Hull House in Chicago as a settlement house to meet the needs of immigrants living in poverty.

**Big Question:** What causes did Jane Addams and Jacob Riis champion?
Jacob Riis was a powerful writer and photographer who exposed the poor living conditions of immigrants in New York City, in his book, *How the Other Half Lives*.

**Big Question:** What causes did Jane Addams and Jacob Riis champion?
CHAPTER 4: Theodore Roosevelt

Theodore Roosevelt became president of the United States after the assassination of William McKinley.

Big Question: Why might it be true to say that Theodore Roosevelt was a champion of the American people?
During his two terms as president, Theodore Roosevelt worked to conserve the natural wonders of the United States. Here he visits Yosemite Valley in California with John Muir.

**Big Question:** Why might it be true to say that Theodore Roosevelt was a champion of the American people?
Ida B. Wells urged a boycott of Memphis businesses to protest lynchings and began an anti-lynching campaign.

*Big Question:* What were the Jim Crow laws, and what were the views of Ida B. Wells, Booker T. Washington, and W.E.B. Du Bois in terms of gaining rights for African Americans?
CHAPTER 5: Reform for African Americans

Booker T. Washington advocated for an improvement in the lives of African Americans by stressing the importance of building economic power through a job or trade. He founded the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Big Question: What were the Jim Crow laws, and what were the views of Ida B. Wells, Booker T. Washington, and W.E.B. Du Bois in terms of gaining rights for African Americans?
W.E.B. Du Bois advocated for an improvement in the lives of African Americans by focusing on eliminating the barrier of the color line. He led the Niagara Movement and later became the leader of the NAACP.

**Big Question:** What were the Jim Crow laws, and what were the views of Ida B. Wells, Booker T. Washington, and W.E.B. Du Bois in terms of gaining rights for African Americans?
Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton participated in the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention supporting women’s rights. As a suffragette, Anthony continued the fight for women’s right to vote.

**Big Question:** What causes did American women fight for in the 1800s, and what actions did they take to gain the right to vote?
In 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment, which gave women the right to vote, was ratified by the states.

Big Question: What causes did American women fight for in the 1800s, and what actions did they take to gain the right to vote?
As leader of the Socialist Party, Eugene Debs championed the civil rights of workers, immigrants, African Americans, and women. Though he did not win, he ran for president as the candidate of the Socialist Party several times.

**Big Question:** What were Eugene Debs’s political beliefs?
Immigration

Industrialization and Urbanization in America

Chapter 1, Card 1

Chapter 1, Card 2

Chapter 2, Card 1

Chapter 2, Card 2

Chapter 3, Card 1

Chapter 3, Card 2

Chapter 4, Card 1

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Chapter 5, Card 1

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Front Cover of ‘Twenty Years at Hull House’ by Jane Addams, 1910 (colour litho), American School, (20th century) / Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, 1892 (engraving), Staniland, Charles J. (1838–1896) / Private Collection / American School, (18th century)/Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA / Bridgeman Images

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Chinese Immigrants in San Francisco, USA, 1880 (engraving) / Photo © Chris Hellier / Bridgeman Images

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Campaign poster for William McKinley (1843-1901) as President and Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) as Vice-President, 1900 (colour litho), American School, (20th century) / Private Collection / Peter Newark American Pictures / Bridgeman Images

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Israel Zangwill (1864-1926) (litho), English School / Private Collection / Pharcide/Pantheon/SuperStock

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Chapter 5, Card 1

Portrait of Ida B. Wells Barnett, c.1893 (sepia photo), American School, (19th century) / Private Collection / Prismatic Pictures / Bridgeman Images

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Roof Construction by Students at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, 1902 (b/w photo), Johnson, Frances Benjamin (fl.c.1900-1925) / Circa Images / Bridgeman Images

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Booker T. Washington, Seated Portrait, Washington DC, USA, Harris & Ewing, 1900 / National Geographic Creative / Bridgeman Images

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Teddy Roosevelt and John Muir (b/w photo) / Underwood Archives/UIG / Photo © Ken Welsh / Bridgeman Images

Chapter 5, Card 1

Portrait of John D. Rockefeller aged 18, 1857 (b/w photo), American Photographer, (19th century)/Private Collection/Prismatic Pictures/Bridgeman Images

Chapter 5, Card 2

System of architecture in New York City, ENGLAND / Private Collection / © Look and Learn / Bridgeman Images

Chapter 4, Card 2

A lady typist at work (b/w photo), English photographer, (20th century) / Private Collection / © Look and Learn / Bridgeman Images

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Broad Street and Curb Brokers, New York City, USA, c.1910 (b/w photo)/Circa Images/Bridgeman Images

Chapter 9, Card 2

Rush Hour Traffic in Washington, DC packs trolley cars 1919 (photo)/Universal History Archive/UIG / Bridgeman Images

Chapter 9, Card 2

Shoppers and Elevated Train Along Sixth Avenue, New York City, USA, c.1903 (b/w photo)/Circa Images/Bridgeman Images

Chapter 10, Card 1

Eugene Victor “Gene” Debs / Universal History Archive/UIG / Bridgeman Images

Chapter 10, Card 2

Essex County, NJ / Universal History Archive/UIG / Bridgeman Images

Chapter 10, Card 3

Cartoon featuring William Marcy ‘Boss’ Tweed (1823-78) from ‘Harper’s Weekly’ , 6th January 1872 (coloured engraving), Nast, Thomas (1840-1902)/Private Collection/Peter Newark American Pictures/Bridgeman Images