



Name: _____

Date: _____

Progressive Era , Worksheet - 1

The Reform Impulse The presidential election of 1900 gave the American people a chance to pass judgment on the Republican administration of President McKinley, especially its foreign policy. Meeting at Philadelphia, the Republicans expressed jubilation over the successful outcome of the war with Spain, the restoration of prosperity, and the effort to obtain new markets through the Open Door policy. McKinley easily defeated his opponent, once again William Jennings Bryan. But the president did not live to enjoy his victory. In September 1901, while attending an exposition in Buffalo, New York, he was shot down by an assassin, the third president to be assassinated since the Civil War. 1. On the map of the United States below, identify the state where William McKinley was assassinated. Theodore Roosevelt, McKinley's vice president, assumed the presidency. Roosevelt's accession coincided with a new epoch in American political life and international relations. The continent was peopled; the frontier was disappearing. A small, formerly struggling republic had become a world power.

The country's political foundations had endured the vicissitudes of foreign and civil war, the tides of prosperity and depression. Immense strides had been made in agriculture and industry. Free public education had been largely realized and a free press maintained. The ideal of religious freedom had been sustained. The influence of big business was now more firmly entrenched than ever, however, and local and municipal government often was in the hands of corrupt politicians.

In response to the excesses of 19th century capitalism and political corruption, a reform movement arose called "progressivism," which gave American politics and thought its special character from approximately 1890 until the American entry into World War I in 1917. The progressives had diverse objectives. In general, however, they saw themselves as engaged in a democratic crusade against the abuses of urban political bosses and the corrupt "robber barons" of big business. Their goals were greater democracy and social justice, honest government, more effective regulation of business, and a revived commitment to public service. They believed that expanding the scope of government would ensure the progress of U.S. society and the welfare of its citizens.



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Answer the questions below -

1. Who became president of the United States following the assassination of William McKinley in 1901?
 - a. Theodore Dreiser
 - b. Theodore Roosevelt
 - c. William Howard Taft
 - d. William Jennings Bryan

2. Which of the following was not a goal of progressives?
 - a. End to government regulation of business
 - b. Greater democracy and social justice
 - c. Honest government
 - d. Revived commitment to public service



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Progressive Era , Worksheet - 2

Answer the question below -

(A) Imagine that you live in the United States in 1900. Would you support the progressives? Why or why not? Explain your answer.

(B) Match each progressive to her or his description.

4. _____ Frank Norris
5. _____ Ida M. Tarbell
6. _____ Jane Addams
7. _____ Lincoln Steffens
8. _____ Theodore Dreiser
9. _____ Upton Sinclair

- a. Author of *The Financier* and *The Titan*
- b. Author of *The Jungle*
- c. Author of *The Octopus* and *The Pit*
- d. Author of *The Shame of the Cities*
- e. Co-founder of Hull House in Chicago
- f. Crusaded against the Standard Oil Trust