



The Impact of the Gilded Age

Activity Instructions

The image and questions below can be used to engage students in critical thinking and in-class discussion around a key concept that will be tested during the AP exam. To help get you started, we have provided several suggestions on how to use this activity.

- Present the image on-screen to the class or print copies to give to each student or pairs/groups of students.
- Discuss the image and brainstorm the impact of the Gilded Age.
- Pose the following questions to your students. Have students either work together to formulate their answers or have students respond individually.
- Have students share their answers with the class and discuss.
- After the activity, print the image as a poster to hang in your classroom to reinforce the lesson.

Activity Prompts

1. How did the Gilded Age produce social reforms and new intellectual movements?
2. Do characteristics of the Gilded Age exist today, and if so, in what ways are they similar?
3. How did debates over labor and capital in the Gilded Age lead to policy reforms?



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