

The Century: Peter Jennings
Seeds of Change: Early 1900s

1. What was central and southern Europe like in 1900?

These parts of Europe were poverty stricken and thousands of people were often starving to death or being sold into slavery in the Middle East.

2. What was the difference between America and the rest of the world at the turn of the century?
America was supposed to be a land of freedom where anyone could live a rich and joyful life.

3. Why was the U.S. the most creative in the world? Give examples of our inventions.
Americans believed in change so it was in our nature to create new invention that we have only dreamed of. Some of these inventions include the lightbulb, the phone, and the airplane.

4. Why are Henry Ford and the Model T so important?
Henry Ford believed the automobile would change the world forever but he wanted to make it so that cars were easier to purchase for even the poor people in America. This car was the Model T and since it only cost about \$825 now almost everyone in America could enjoy this new form of travel.

5. What did America represent to immigrants?
It represented freedom and a new start for all these immigrants that were leaving their difficult lives in Europe.

6. Describe the nature of industrial labor. Who worked these jobs? How much did they make?
Industrial labor was basically people working extremely hard in a factory or a mine with very few breaks and practically no safety precautions. Many of the workers were poor whites and blacks from the far South. The daily pay was barely \$2 not enough to compensate for the danger of injury and death.

7. Define Progressivism. Why did it catch on? Who led the movement?
Progressivism was the belief that we could have all the basic consumer goods we want but to make it so that the workers have better conditions with more just and fair rules. This caught on when people were getting tired of the constant death that resulted from working in these factories. There was never really basic leader of the movement but important people such as Teddy Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and Woodrow Wilson.

8. What were women fighting for? What inspired them?
Women were fighting for their own rights since almost every part of their lives was ruled by someone else. The women the led this movement were inspired by the death of a British women named Emily Davison who jumped in front of the Kings horse during a race and was killed instantly with the the words, "vote for women", sown into her jacket.

9. How did whites deny blacks their part of the American dream?
Whites believed that even though they were no longer slaves blacks still did not have any rights and that they were inferior.

10. What were the ideological differences between Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. DuBois?

Booker T. Washington wanted blacks to help themselves build better lives to move toward equality. W.E.B. DuBois wanted blacks to protest in hopes of gaining support from whites

11. Where did the majority of Americans live in the 1900? How did they travel? How did they light their houses?

Most Americans began to move to the cities in hopes of building a new and prosperous life. With the invention of trolleys, trains, and cars people could now get around faster than ever. People were now using electric lightbulbs instead of oil lamps to light their homes.

12. Describe the growth of cities. What were some of the things being built?

During this period America entered a period of prosperity and wealth and since most people thought that the only way to live was in the cities so more buildings were constructed to house the thousands of people coming every day. We also had parks, amusement parks, and baseball stadiums constructed to give the people something to do in their spare time.

13. Describe living conditions for immigrants.

Immigrants often had to live in small cramped apartments with the only bathroom in the hallway but despite the conditions they thought it was much better than what they used to have.

14. Why did America finally declare war on Spain?

After an American cruiser, the USS Maine, was sunk in Savannah harbor people such as Teddy Roosevelt called for war.

15. What did the U.S. get from the Spanish-American War? What does it make us?

After the U.S. defeated the Spanish we were given the Spanish colonies of Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines. The U.S. was now an empire.

16. Why is the Panama Canal so important? How and why did we help Panama gain its independence?

The canal was meant to link the Atlantic to the Pacific making travel much easier instead of simply going all the way around South America. Teddy Roosevelt wanted the canal to help the U.S. secure our grip on our new territories and any territories we gain in the future.

17. What is the Dreadnaught and why was it significant?

The first Dreadnaught was created by the British to rival Germany and it was so important because it was the first warship to be designed and engineered with the modern technology of the time.

18. What sparks WWI?

WW1 was sparked when Austro Hungarian Archduke Ferdinand was assassinated by a Serbian terrorist.

19. Why was WWI so devastating?

It was during this war that the modern technology of the time was used for the killing of millions.