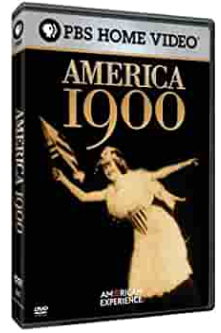


Name: _____ Period: _____

American Experience: America 1900

America 1900 presents a comprehensive picture of what life was like in the United States at the turn of the century. Both the program and the Web site offer compelling images, information, and documents about American life. Students will be able to grasp historical concepts and issues through the stories of ordinary people across the country. Diverse voices and faces will help expand students' knowledge and understanding of the time period and how it relates to our lives today. The program also explores key themes such as the impact of technology, the rise of racism, immigration and the search for a national identity, and the rise of America as a world power.



H2: Analyze, recognize and evaluate patterns of continuity and change.	3: Meeting	2: Approaching	1: Attempting
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At the turn of the century, technological advances challenge the way Americans work and live.

Which technologies changed the lives of Americans in 1900?

What did the inventions change in people's lives?

How did these changes alter America as a country?

The arrival of immigrants changes ideas about American identity and national unity.

In what specific ways did the influx of immigrants affect and challenge ideas of national unity and American identity?

Why did people come to America around the turn of the century from Europe and Asia?

What kind of life did they find when in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, or other cities?

Racism grips the country.

What factors present in American society in 1900 added to the racism that already existed?

How do modern images of African Americans in popular culture compare to the images from America 1900? Has there been an improvement in the way they are depicted? Why or why not?

Women's roles in society begin to diversify, yet women lack basic rights, including the right to own property or vote.

What types of jobs did women hold in 1900?

What roles did women have at home, at work, and in society in 1900?

What groups in society benefited from denying women the right to own property, belong to a union, or vote?

What surprised you the most about the status of women in 1900?

America emerges as a superpower and fights an unpopular war in the Philippines. (Imperialism)

Why does the U.S. annex the Philippines?

What arguments does President McKinley use to justify the military action?

Do you feel these justifications set a precedent for other foreign wars later in American history? Why or why not?

Do you feel that the economic health of America is justification for annexing another country? How did the film affect your opinion?