

# Unit 1—Changing America at the Turn of the Century Study Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**SS5H1 Describe how life changed in America at the turn of the century.**

- Describe the role of the cattle trails in the late 19th century; include the Black Cowboys of Texas, the Great Western Cattle Trail, and the Chisholm Trail.
- Describe the impact on American life of the Wright brothers (flight), George Washington Carver (science), Alexander Graham Bell (communication), and Thomas Edison (electricity).
- Explain how William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt expanded America's role in the world; include the Spanish-American War and the building of the Panama Canal.
- Describe the reasons people emigrated to the United States, from where they emigrated, and where they settled.

**SS5G1a Locate important places in the United States; include the Chisholm Trail; Pittsburgh, PA; Kitty Hawk, NC; Chicago, IL.**

**SS5G2 Explain the reasons for the spatial patterns of economic activities.**

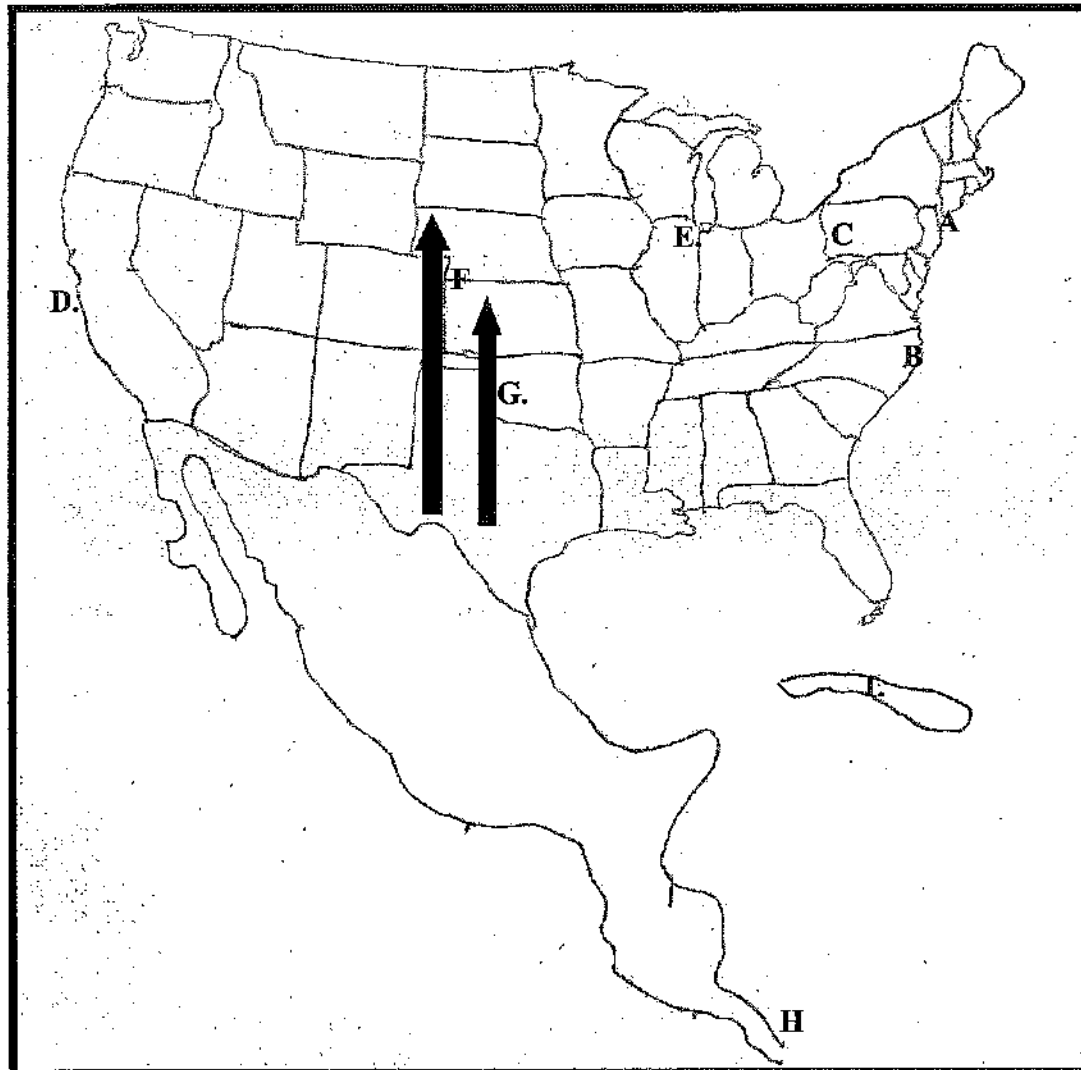
- Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations between the end of the Civil War and 1900 and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (e.g., Pittsburgh's rapid growth in the late nineteenth century).
- Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (Chicago's rapid growth at the turn of the century)

**SS5E1b Explain how price incentives affect people's behavior and choices (such as decisions to participate in cattle trails because of increased beef prices).**

**SS5E1d Describe how trade and voluntary exchange promotes economic activity (e.g., how the Panama Canal increases trade among countries).**

**SS5G1a Know why each location listed is important in American history (in relationship to what we have studied in this unit) and be able to label each on the map below.**

Chisholm Trail <u>G</u>	Great Western Trail <u>F</u>	Kitty Hawk <u>B</u>	Ellis Island <u>A</u>
Angel Island <u>D</u>	Chicago <u>E</u>	Pittsburgh <u>C</u>	Cuba <u>I</u>
Panama Canal <u>H</u>			



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<b>Vocabulary:</b>	
<p><b>Price Incentives</b>—“<i>Money Motivators.</i>” Price incentives are motivations to do something based on money. For example, cowboys could make \$40 per cow if they sold them up by the railroads in Kansas and only \$4 per cow if they sold them in Texas. Their motivation to travel hundreds of miles with their cattle based on money or price incentives.</p>	<p><b>Specialization</b>—This is when a company or city specializes in making or doing one particular thing very well. For example, Pittsburgh really specialized in steel production in the early 1900’s, and their economy boomed at the time because of their success.</p>
<p><b>Foreign Policy</b>—Foreign means overseas or in another country. Policy is the way that a person or government feels about something. Foreign policy is how a person feels about relationships with other countries overseas. For example, President McKinley became the first president to get involved in a foreign war. He believed the U.S. should get more involved in things overseas and try to expand the country.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>—How things are moved about. Big changes in transportation during this time period involved improved railroad systems, which changed how business was done. It also allowed people in far away Texas to transport cattle to people on the east coast and make a high profit.</p>
<p><b>Agriculture</b>—Involves farming and farming techniques. For example, George Washington Carver made a big impact on agriculture in the south after Reconstruction. He taught poor sharecroppers new farming techniques so they could be more successful. He also invented new products so that peanuts, sweet potatoes and other crops became more valuable, which really helped the agricultural industry in the south.</p>	<p><b>Economy</b>—Has to do with how money is used and spent. The economy in cities began to do very well with the invention of new technologies and the specialization of cities and companies. When the economy is good there are lots of jobs so people can make money.</p>
<p><b>Immigrants</b>—People who travel to a new country to make it their new home. During this time period millions of people rushed into the U.S. through Ellis Island in New York and through Angel Island in California.</p>	<p><b>Religious Freedom</b>—Religion has to do with people’s belief about God. Many immigrants came to the U.S. because they wanted religious freedom. Their old countries tried to make them believe a certain way, but the U.S. constitution allows for freedom of religion.</p>
<p><b>Communication</b>—Is the ability to share or send information from one person to another. Communication improved tremendously during this time period with better transportation and new inventions such as the telephone.</p>	<p><b>Productivity</b>—Has to do with how much is being accomplished. Major cities that specialized in making certain items were very productive because they were very good at what they were doing.</p>

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**SS5H1a Describe the role of the cattle trails in the late 19th century; include the Black Cowboys of Texas, the Great Western Cattle Trail, and the Chisholm Trail.**

*The cattle industry became very successful in the late 1800's. For example, cowboys could make \$40 per cow if they sold them up by the railroads in Kansas and only \$4 per cow if they sold them in Texas. The cowboys wanted to get the cattle north to the railroads because once they reached the railroads they could sell cows to any city in the country. Two of the most famous trails were the Chisholm Trail and the Great Western Cattle Trail. In addition to the traditional cowboys, many former slaves hit the cow trails instead of sharecropping. These former slaves became known as the Black Cowboys. (See map for location.)*

**SS5H1b Describe the impact on American life of the Wright brothers (flight), George Washington Carver (science), Alexander Graham Bell (communication), and Thomas Edison (electricity).**

*Edison—Invented the light bulb, which lengthened the day for individuals and businesses. This allowed for businesses to be much more productive. Edison felt his greatest invention was the power station, which allowed for electricity to be transported safely into whole buildings and cities.*

*Bell—Invented the telephone, which improved communication and increased productivity in business and communication.*

*Carver—Invented hundreds of products from peanuts and sweet potatoes, which made the agricultural products of the south very valuable and helped poor farmers begin to make a good profit. His inventions made peanuts & sweet potatoes more valuable because more people now wanted them, so they could make new products.*

*Wright Brothers—Were the first to successfully invent and fly an airplane. Airplanes dramatically changed transportation and national militaries over the next 100 years. (See map for location of the first flight.)*

**SS5H1c Explain how William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt expanded America's role in the world; include the Spanish-American War and the building of the Panama Canal.**

*Spanish American War—The U.S. foreign policy changed with the Spanish American War. This was the first time the U.S. had gotten involved with another country overseas. All previous wars had been fought on American soil. William McKinley decided to have the U.S. get involved to help Cuba, but he was also hoping to expand the United States, which he did by adding Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines (for a few years) as U.S territories after the war was over (See map for location of Cuba).*

*Panama Canal--The Panama Canal was a shortcut through Central America, which allowed for much quicker transportation from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. This helped businesses because they could deliver products and receive products much more quickly. It also cost considerably less to send products around the world. (See map for location of the Panama Canal.)*

*William McKinley was the president during the Spanish American War. He wanted to expand America's borders, and so for the first time the United States got involved in a war overseas.*

*Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt was a war hero during the Spanish American War and became president in 1901 when McKinley was assassinated. He is most famous for starting the Panama Canal project. Roosevelt was also a leader in trying to preserve many wild areas in the United States as national parks.*

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**SS5H1d Describe the reasons people emigrated to the United States, from where they emigrated, and where they settled.**

*Immigrants poured in from Europe. The immigrants from Europe had to come in through Ellis Island in New York, which is one of the reasons that New York grew to be such a large city. Many immigrants from Asia poured in through Angel Island in California. Some of the main reasons immigrants came to the U.S. were to:*

- *have freedoms (including religious freedom)*
- *make money because the economy was doing so well in the U.S.*
- *own their own land (which they could get if they went out west)*

*It was very tough on families, because often times they couldn't afford to bring their whole family to the U.S. at the same time, so families would be separated for long periods of time. (See map for location of Angel and Ellis Islands.)*

**SS5E1b Explain how price incentives affect people's behavior and choices (such as decisions to participate in cattle trails because of increased beef prices).**

*A price incentive is a motivation to do something based on the cost. For example, at a store you are given a price incentive when you see a "Buy One, Get One Free" sign. They are trying to convince you to buy more of that item by giving you a better deal. Many cowboys and farmers in Texas herded their cattle up to the railroads in Kansas because of price incentives. They could only sell their cows for \$4 a cow in Texas, but could make \$40 per cow if they could get them to the railroad. This price incentive existed because if they could get the cows to the railroad they could be sold in any city connected to the railroad. The price incentive made the long, difficult journey worthwhile.*

**SS5G1a Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations between the end of the Civil War and 1900 and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (e.g., Pittsburgh's rapid growth in the late nineteenth century).**

*After the Civil War the amount of railroads doubled in about ten years. This increase in transportation brought more supplies to cities. Different cities usually began to specialize based on the resources that were near their city. For example, Pittsburgh, PA specialized in Steel production because the mountains around Pittsburgh were full of iron ore, which is used to make steel. As Pittsburgh became more specialized they became known as the experts in steel production. This specialization allowed them to become very fast and good at making steel. People who wanted steel knew the best steel was coming from Pittsburgh, because that is what they specialized in. This increased the amount of money the Pittsburgh steel companies were making, which increased the standard of living of people in Pittsburgh. Many people still worked very long hours and in dangerous conditions, but the amount of money being made was increasing. Many people including immigrants moved to cities because there were more jobs available to make money (See map for location of Pittsburgh, PA.)*

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**SS5G2b Locate primary agricultural and industrial locations since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and explain how factors such as population, transportation, and resources have influenced these areas (Chicago’s rapid growth at the turn of the century)**

*Many cities such as Chicago and St. Louis grew rapidly in the early 1900’s. Improved transportation was a key factor. Chicago was located on the Great Lakes which was an important shipping route. Additionally, Chicago became a hub for railroad lines. Access to quick transportation was good for businesses, because they could now sell products to people around the country much more easily. They could also get supplies to make products much quicker and cheaper. This improvement in business meant there were more jobs available. People from all over moved into cities (including immigrants) in search of jobs. This increase in population helped businesses find more workers and increase sales even more. Population growth, improved transportation, and access to more resources helped cities such as Chicago grow quickly during the early 1900’s.*

**SS5E1d Describe how trade and voluntary exchange promotes economic activity (e.g., how the Panama Canal increases trade among countries).**

*When the Panama Canal opened, it made it much quicker and cheaper for countries around the world to “trade” products. They didn’t actually trade them like you might trade a sandwich for chips at lunch. Trade simply means that they did business with each other. Many countries were excited to be able to get new products that were previously unavailable. These countries “voluntarily exchanged” goods. This meant that they would each sell the other products and goods. Voluntary means that you choose to do something and you are not being forced. Exchange means to trade something. More products were now available and prices became cheaper because trading now took less time.*