

The Turn of the Century Rubric

Name: _____

U.S. History

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Score: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all of the following. You may answer them separately or as one big essay.

1. Compare and contrast the lifestyles of people living in the East with those living in the West at the turn of the century.

West

-People

Indians-Lived off the land, Conflict with settlers and government, Loss of life and culture

Others in the West-Miners, Fur traders, Cowboys, Settlers, Farmers, Military, Railroad workers

-Good Things

Adventure, Opportunity, Environment, Freedom

-Bad Things

Hard life, Hard work, Lack of culture, Lack of technological advances, Various dangers, Problems between farmers and railroads, Conquest of Indians

East

-People

Immigrants, Factory workers, Businessmen and professional people

-Good Things

Exposure to culture, Sources of information, Educational opportunities, Leisure activities, Environment, Exposure to technological advances

-Bad Things

Poor working and living conditions, Crime, Loss of freedom and identity

South

-People

Wealthy white landowners, Poor and middle class whites, Former slaves, Few immigrants

-Good Things

Tradition, Rural landscape unspoiled by cities, Lack of problems associated with cities

-Bad Things

Institutionalized racism-Jim Crow and loss of black vote, Social hierarchy with white landowners at the top, Stagnant economy-Few options for poor whites and former slaves except sharecropping

Conclusions

2. Discuss the effects of the rise of big business and technological innovation on the lifestyles of Americans around the turn of the century.

Big Business

- Robber Barons
- Trusts
- Social Darwinism
- Railroads and Farmers
- Financed Technological Advances
- Changes in Retail
- Big City Newspapers

Technological Advances

- Light Bulbs
- Telephone
- Typewriter
- Electric Motor
- Trolley Cars
- Automobiles
- Railroads
- Farm Equipment
- Skyscrapers

3. Discuss the pros and cons of city life at the turn of the century.

Pros

- Exposure to culture
- Sources of information
- Educational opportunities
- Leisure activities
- Environment
- Exposure to technological advances

Cons

- Loss of freedom
- Loss of identity
- Long hours and low wages
- Dangerous working conditions
- Child labor
- Poor housing
- Crowded
- Pollution and sanitation
- Crime
- Fires
- De facto segregation