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Module 22: The Progressive Spirit of Reform Essays

Essential Question Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

In this module, you've learned about the reform movements in the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Now it's your turn to demonstrate your understanding of the module content by writing an essay.

Task

Write a persuasive essay that answers this question:

How progressive were the Progressives?

1. Your essay should include key people, events, and turning points that resulted in the progressive ideas and initiatives that swept across the nation.
2. Cite evidence to support your position.
3. Organize your essay into an introduction, body, and conclusion.

Name _____

Document-Based Investigation Writing Activity

PROMPT

Historical Context

Inequality and corruption were facts of life during the Gilded Age. The Progressive movement was the result of reform-minded individuals joining together to expand rights, improve working conditions, uncover corruption, fight discrimination, and reform the political system.

Task

The Gilded Age was a time of great injustice in American society. Write an essay that explains at least three of the major societal issues in need of reform.

Complete the following steps as you plan and compose your essay.

1. Review your notes and sources before you start writing.
2. Use at least three of the sources in Part 1, and develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen text or visual evidence from the documents.
3. Cite specific text or visual evidence from each of the sources in your response.
4. Plan your essay so that it includes an introduction, several body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph.
5. Organize your essay in a clear and logical way that highlights comparisons and contrasts.