

US History II Honors Summer Assignment

The American Civil War forced drastic changes in American society, causing many groups to reevaluate their places in the new social order. Some groups benefited immensely from the opportunities available, while others struggled to create places for themselves.

The essential question you should keep in mind: do the benefits achieved at the turn of the 20th century outweigh the costs incurred?

Over the course of the summer, you will be reading a series of excerpts from the Lumen Learning open source textbook “Boundless US History”. The reading can be found at this link:

<https://www.collegesidekick.com/study-guides/boundless-ushistory/the-gilded-age>

You should read the following sections under the heading “The Gilded Age.”

- The Gilded Age
- The Second Industrial Revolution
- Rise of Immigration
- Labor and Domestic Tensions
- Transformation of the West
- The Agrarian and Populist Movements

Use the information in the reading to complete the chart below. The chart should be in a Google Doc, which you will be referring to in the first days of class.

Gains and Losses in the Post Reconstruction Period (1877-1900)

| | <i>Gains</i> | <i>Losses</i> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Captains of Industry | | |
| Immigrants | | |
| Organized Labor | | |
| Women | | |
| Native Americans | | |
| African Americans | | |
| Homesteaders/ Western Farmers | | |

Your reading notes should include specific examples of positive and negative developments that each group faced during this period of history.

While your research notes will not be graded, they will be an essential component of your first in class assignment. You will be using them in class for a graded assignment evaluating how well you have absorbed the material. The better organized and more specific your notes are, the better your chances of finding success on that assignment.

Your notes must be accessible, in either hard copy or digital copy, for the first day of class.