1890 – 1920

Progressive Era Quiz

Name _____ Date _____

Fill in the circle beside the best answer.

1. What were 'muckrakers'?

- (A) Journalists who exposed corruption and unsafe conditions in popular magazines
- (B) Union leaders who organized strikes against unsafe conditions in steel mills
- (C) Politicians who exposed corrupt judges and dishonest officials in public speeches
- (D) Inspectors who checked meat and medicine for the federal government in factories

2. Why is Theodore Roosevelt considered a Progressive president?

- (A) He used the presidency to pass Prohibition and give women the right to vote
- (B) He used the presidency to cut taxes on big companies and end rules on railroads
- (C) He used the presidency to break up trusts, protect consumers, and conserve nature
- (D) He used the presidency to create the income tax and the Federal Reserve system

3. Which two laws did Congress pass in 1906 after Upton Sinclair's book The Jungle shocked the public?

- (A) The Clayton Antitrust Act and the Federal Trade Commission Act
- (B) The Federal Reserve Act and the Sixteenth Amendment
- (C) The Sherman Antitrust Act and the Interstate Commerce Act
- (D) The Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act

4. Why was the NAACP founded in 1909?

- (A) To fight racial discrimination, lynching, and the denial of voting rights
- (B) To start colleges and trade schools for Black students across the South
- (C) To help Black families move from the South to jobs in northern cities
- (D) To organize labor unions for Black factory workers in northern cities

5. What did the 16th Amendment establish?

- (A) The direct election of US Senators
- (B) A federal tax on personal income
- (C) The right of women to vote nationwide
- (D) A national ban on the sale of alcohol

6. What was the main result of Prohibition?

- (A) It ended nearly all drinking and led to a sharp drop in crime in large cities
- (B) It reduced drinking but created a large criminal underground and organized crime
- (C) It reduced drinking and was so popular that it stayed in the Constitution for good
- (D) It raised drinking to record levels and was repealed by Congress within one year

7. What did the 19th Amendment accomplish?

- (A) It let voters elect US Senators directly instead of leaving it to state legislatures
- (B) It banned the making and sale of alcohol nationwide after decades of campaigning
- (C) It guaranteed women the right to vote nationwide after 70 years of campaigning
- (D) It created a federal income tax after years of debate about funding the government

8. What was the central contradiction of the Progressive Era?

- (A) Reformers who wanted to limit big business also fought against the income tax
- (B) Reformers who wanted cleaner government also fought to end direct elections of senators
- (C) Reformers who wanted safer food also fought against all federal inspection laws
- (D) Reformers who fought for workers and consumers often left racial injustice untouched

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Progressive Era Quiz: Answer Key

1. **A** Journalists who exposed corruption and unsafe conditions in popular magazines

2. **C** He used the presidency to break up trusts, protect consumers, and conserve nature

3. **D** The Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act

4. **A** To fight racial discrimination, lynching, and the denial of voting rights

5. **B** A federal tax on personal income

6. **B** It reduced drinking but created a large criminal underground and organized crime

7. **C** It guaranteed women the right to vote nationwide after 70 years of campaigning

8. **D** Reformers who fought for workers and consumers often left racial injustice untouched