CHAPTER 25

America Moves to the City, 1865–1900

PART II: Checking Your Progress

## A. True-False

Where the statement is true, circle **T**; where it is false, circle **F**.

1. T F Rapid and uncontrolled growth made American cities places of both exciting opportunity and severe social problems.

2. T F The United States was unique in the rapidity and scale of growth in its large cities.

3. T F The largest root cause of the New Immigration was the inability of the European economy to support millions of peasants who were driven off the land.

4. T F Female social workers established settlement houses to aid struggling immigrants and promote social reform, while also advancing women’s opportunities.

5. T F American Protestantism was dominated by liberal denominations that adapted religious ideas to modern culture and promoted a social gospel rather than biblical literalism.

6. T F Catholic, Jewish, and Orthodox immigrants often initially clustered in their own neighborhoods, places of worship, and schools.

7. T F Almost all American Protestants eventually accepted Charles Darwin’s evolutionary theories as well as nonliteral interpretations of the Bible.

8. T F In the late nineteenth century, secondary (high school) education was increasingly carried on by private schools.

9. T F Booker T. Washington believed that the most talented blacks should be educated for political leadership in academically rigorous black colleges.

10. T F American higher education depended on both public land-grant funding and private donations for its financial support.

11. T F Urban newspapers often promoted a sensational yellow journalism that emphasized sex and scandal rather that politics or social reform.

12. T F Post–Civil War writers like Mark Twain and William Dean Howells turned from social realism toward fantasy and science fiction in their novels.

13. T F There was growing tension in the late nineteenth century between women’s traditionally defined sphere of family and home, and the social and cultural changes of the era.

14. T F The new urban environment generally weakened the family but offered new opportunities for women to achieve social and economic independence.

15. T F American urban planners focused on preserving greenbelt suburbs rather than the grand schemes for urban beautification developed in Paris and other European cities.

## B. Multiple Choice

Select the best answer and circle the corresponding letter.

1. The new cities’ glittering consumer economy was symbolized especially by the rise of

a. separate districts for retail merchants.

b. fine restaurants and grocery stories.

c. large, elegant department stores.

d. large, carefully constructed urban parks.

e. large arenas for sports and other forms of urban entertainment.

2. One of the most difficult new problems generated by the rise of cities and the urban American life-style was

a. dealing with horses and other animals in crowded urban settings.

b. developing means of communication in densely populated city centers.

c. disposing of large quantities of consumer-generated waste material.

d. finding effective methods of high-rise construction for limited urban space.

e. developing methods for accurately recording urban population growth and movement.

3. Two new technological developments of the late nineteenth century that especially contributed to the spectacular growth of cities in America and elsewhere around the world were the

a. telegraph and the railroad.

b. steam drill and the internal combustion engine.

c. phonograph and the motion picture.

d. oil furnace and the air conditioner.

e. electric trolley and the skyscraper.

4. Among the primary countries from which many of the New Immigrants came were

a. Sweden and Great Britain.

b. Germany and Ireland.

c. Poland and Italy.

d. China and Japan.

e. Mexico and Cuba.

5. Among the factors driving tens of millions of European peasants from their homeland to America and elsewhere in the late nineteenth century were the

a. rapid rise of population and cheap American food imports.

b. rise of European nation-states and the decline of the Catholic Church.

c. rise of tyrannical communist and fascist regimes.

d. major international wars among the European great powers.

e. attempt to impose compulsory state education on tradition-minded parents.

6. Besides providing direct services to immigrants, the reformers of Hull House worked to implement social reforms such as

a. the secret ballot and direct election of senators.

b. antisweatshop and child labor laws to protect women and child laborers.

c. social security and unemployment compensation.

d. conservation and federal aid to municipal governments.

e. public ownership of municipal transportation systems.

7. The one immigrant group that was totally banned from America after 1882, as a result of fierce nativist agitation, was the

a. Irish.

b. Greeks.

c. Africans.

d. Chinese.

e. Jews.

8. The religious groups that grew most dramatically because of the New Immigration were

a. Methodists, Baptists, and Disciples of Christ.

b. Christian Scientists, the Salvation Army, and Buddhists.

c. Episcopalians, Unitarians, and Congregationalists.

d. Jews, Roman Catholics, and Orthodox.

e. Lutherans, Christian Reformed, and Assemblies of God.

9. The phrase “social Gospel” refers to the

a. evangelical movement that urged people to turn to God as the solution to social problems and class conflict.

b. theories that Protestant liberals developed to reconcile Darwinian theories with the biblical views of human origins and the special creation of species.

c. new theories of Biblical interpretation that emphasized the social contexts of ancient religious texts.

d. conflict between socialists and traditional religious believers.

e. efforts of Christian reformers like Walter Rauschenbusch to apply their religious beliefs to new social problems.

10. Traditional American Protestant religion received a substantial blow from the

a. psychological ideas of William James.

b. theological ideas of the Fundamentalists.

c. chemical theories of Charles Eliot.

d. biological ideas of Charles Darwin.

e. the sermons of Dwight Moody.

11. Unlike Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois advocated

a. economic opportunity for blacks.

b. turning to wealthy white philanthropist for funds to support black causes.

c. practical as well as theoretical education for blacks.

d. that blacks remain in the South rather than move north.

e. advanced education and complete political and social equality for blacks.

12. In the late nineteenth century, American colleges and universities benefited especially from

a. federal and state land-grant assistance and the private philanthropy of wealthy donors.

b. the growing involvement of the churches in higher education.

c. the fact that a college degree was becoming a prerequisite for employment in industry.

d. the growth of federal grants and loans to college students.

e. the growing belief that classical learning and the liberal arts were essential to a well-rounded life.

13. The widely popular American social reformers Henry George and Edward Bellamy advocated

a. utopian reforms to end poverty and eliminate class conflict.

b. an end to racial prejudice and segregation.

c. the resettlement of the urban poor on free western homesteads.

d. a transformation of the traditional family through communal living arrangements.

e. detailed urban planning and low-cost housing as keys to ending inequality.

14. Authors like Mark Twain, Stephen Crane, and Jack London turned American literature toward a greater concern with

a. close observation and contemplation of nature.

b. postmodernism and deconstruction of traditional narratives.

c. fantasy and romance.

d. social realism and contemporary problems.

e. history and religion.

15. Drawing on European models, American urban planners like Daniel Burnham believed that

a. public buildings like libraries and museums should be subordinated to planned commercial development.

b. suburban sprawl should be controlled through strict land use and zoning regulations.

c. grand urban buildings and public spaces would stimulate progress and inspire civic virtue and loyalty in the city’s residents.

d. a dense concentration of urban skyscrapers and apartments was the best way to inspire civic pride and eliminate slums.

e. the key to urban planning was a cheap, efficient mass transportation system.

## C. Identification

Supply the correct identification for each numbered description.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ High-rise urban buildings that provided barracks-like housing for urban slum dwellers

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Term for the post-1880 newcomers who came to America primarily from southern and eastern Europe

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Term for the passion for migration to the New World that swept across Europe in the late nineteenth century

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The religious doctrines preached by those who believed that churches should directly address and work to reform economic and social problems

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Settlement house in the Chicago slums that became a model for women’s involvement in urban social reform

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Profession established by Jane Addams and others that opened new opportunities for women while engaging urban problems

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nativist organization that attacked New Immigrants and Roman Catholicism in the 1880s and 1890s

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Protestant believers who strongly resisted liberal Protestantism’s attempts to adapt doctrines to Darwinian evolution and biblical criticism

9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Black educational institution founded by Booker T. Washington to provide training in agriculture and crafts

10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Organization founded by W. E. B. Du Bois and others to advance black social and economic equality

11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Henry George’s best-selling book that advocated social reform through the imposition of a single tax on land

12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Federal law promoted by a self-appointed morality crusader and used to prosecute moral and sexual dissidents

13. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The American philosophical theory, especially advanced by William James, that the test of the truth of an idea was its practical consequences

14. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Urban planning movement, begun in Paris and carried on in Chicago and other American cities, that emphasized harmony, order, and monumental public buildings

15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Women’s organization founded by reformer Frances Willard and others to oppose alcohol consumption

## D. Matching People, Places, and Events

Match the person, place, or event in the left column with the proper description in the right column by inserting the correct letter on the blank line.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. \_\_\_ Louis Sullivan  2. \_\_\_ Walter Rauschenbusch  3. \_\_\_ Jane Addams  4. \_\_\_ Charles Darwin  5. \_\_\_ Horatio Alger  6. \_\_\_ Booker T. Washington  7. \_\_\_ W. E. B. Du Bois  8. \_\_\_ William James  9. \_\_\_ Henry George  10. \_\_\_ Emily Dickinson  11. \_\_\_ Mark Twain  12. \_\_\_ Victoria Woodhull  13. \_\_\_ Daniel Burnham  14. \_\_\_ Charlotte Perkins Gilman  15. \_\_\_ Henry Adams | a. Controversial reformer whose book, *Progress and Poverty*,advocated solving problems of economic inequality by a tax on land  b. Midwestern-born writer and lecturer who created a new style of American literature based on social realism and humor  c. Well-connected and socially prominent historian who feared modern trends and sought relief in the beauty and culture of the past  d. Popular novelist whose tales of young people rising from poverty to wealth through hard work and good fortune enhanced Americans’ belief in individual opportunity  e. Leading Protestant advocate of the social gospel who tried to make Christianity relevant to urban and industrial problems  f. Former slave who promoted industrial education and economic opportunity but not social equality for blacks  g. Harvard scholar who made original contributions to modern psychology and philosophy  h. Radical feminist propagandist whose eloquent attacks on conventional social morality shocked many Americans in the 1870s  i. Brilliant feminist writer who advocated cooperative cooking and child-care arrangements to promote women’s economic independence and equality  j. Leading social reformer who lived with the poor in the slums and pioneered new forms of activism for women  k. American architect and planner who helped bring French Baron Haussman’s City Beautiful movement to the United States.  l. Harvard-educated scholar and advocate of full black social and economic equality through the leadership of a talented tenth  m. Chicago-based architect whose high-rise innovation allowed more people to crowd into limited urban space  n. British biologist whose theories of human and animal evolution by means of natural selection created religious and intellectual controversy  o. Gifted but isolated New England poet, the bulk of whose works were not published until after her death |

## E. Putting Things in Order

Put the following events in correct order by numbering them from 1 to 5.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Well-educated young midwesterner moves to Chicago slums and creates a vital center of social reform and activism.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Introduction of a new form of high-rise slum housing drastically increases the overcrowding of the urban poor.

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Nativist organization is formed to limit the New Immigration and attack Roman Catholicism.

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The formation of a new national organization signals growing strength for the women’s suffrage movement.

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ A western territory becomes the first U.S. government to grant full voting rights to women.

## F. Matching Cause and Effect

Match the historical cause in the left column with the proper effect in the right column by writing the correct letter on the blank line.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cause | Effect |
| 1. \_\_\_ New industrial jobs and urban excitement  2. \_\_\_ Uncontrolled rapid growth and the New Immigration from Europe  3. \_\_\_ Cheap American grain exports to Europe  4. \_\_\_ The cultural strangeness and poverty of southern and eastern European immigrants  5. \_\_\_ Social gospel ministers and settlement-house workers  6. \_\_\_ Darwinian science and growing urban materialism  7. \_\_\_ Government land grants and private philanthropy  8. \_\_\_ Popular newspapers and yellow journalism  9. \_\_\_ Changes in moral and sexual attitudes  10. \_\_\_ The difficulties of family life in the industrial city | a. Encouraged the mass urban public’s taste for scandal and sensation  b. Created intense poverty and other problems in the crowded urban slums  c. Weakened the religious influence in American society and created divisions within the churches  d. Led women and men to delay marriage and have fewer children  e. Helped uproot European peasants from their ancestral lands and sent them seeking new opportunities in America and elsewhere  f. Supported the substantial improvements in American undergraduate and graduate education in the late nineteenth century  g. Lured millions of rural Americans off the farms and into the cities  h. Assisted immigrants and other slum dwellers and pricked middle-class consciences about urban problems  i. Provoked sharp hostility from some native-born Americans and organized labor groups  j. Created sharp divisions about the new morality and issues such as divorce |

# PART III: Applying What You Have Learned

1. What new opportunities and social problems did the cities create for Americans?

2. In what ways was American urbanization simply part of a worldwide trend, and in what ways did it reflect particular American circumstances? How did the influx of millions of mostly European immigrants create a special dimension to America’s urban problems?

3. How did the New Immigration differ from the Old Immigration, and how did Americans respond to it?

4. How was American religion affected by the urban transformation, the New Immigration, and cultural and intellectual changes?

5. Why was Darwinian evolution such a controversial challenge for American religious thinkers? Why were religious liberals able to dominate Americans’ cultural response to evolution? How did a minority resistance to evolution lay the basis for the later rise of fundamentalism?

6. How did American social criticism, fiction writing, and art all reflect and address the urban industrial changes of the late nineteenth century? Which social critics and novelists were most influential, and why?

7. How and why did women assume a larger place in American society at this time? (Compare their status in this period with that of the pre–Civil War period described in Chapter 16.) How were changes in their condition related to changes in both the family and the larger social order?

8. What was the greatest single cultural transformation of the Gilded Age?

9. In what ways did Americans positively and enthusiastically embrace the new possibilities of urban life, and in what ways did their outlooks and actions reflect worries about the threats that cities presented to traditional American democracy and social ideals?