

# SOL Review for United States History 1865 to the Present

## Physical Features/

### Climate of the Great Plains (USII.2a)

- Flatlands that rise gradually from east to west
- Land eroded by wind and water
- Low rainfall
- Frequent dust storms

Technological advances allowed people to live in more challenging environments. People saw the Great Plains not as a “treeless wasteland” but as a vast area to be settled.

### Inventions/adaptations included:

- Beef cattle raising
- Wheat farming



- Railroads
- Barbed wire
- Dry farming
- Steel plows



- Windmills
- Sod houses



### How did advances in transportation link resources, products, and markets?(USII.2b)

- Moving natural resources (e.g., copper and lead) to eastern factories
- Moving iron ore deposits to sites of steel mills (e.g., Pittsburgh)
- Transporting finished products to national markets

### What manufacturing areas were clustered near centers of population?

- Textile industry—New England
- Steel industry—Pittsburgh
- Automobile Industry—Detroit

## AN ACT

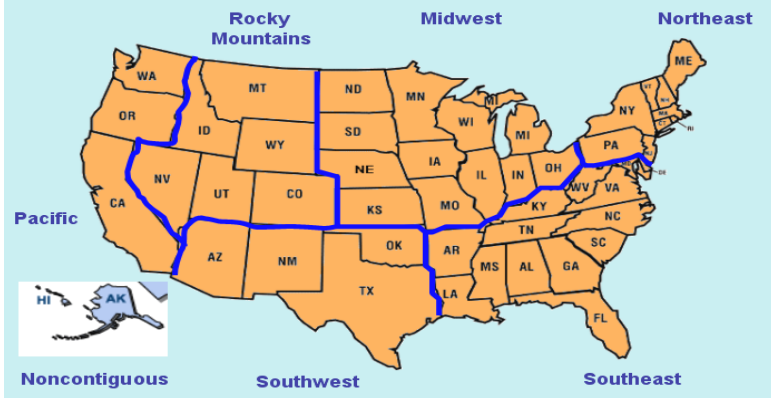
To continue in force and to amend “An act to establish a Bureau for the relief of Freedmen and Refugees,” and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-  
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,  
3 That the act to establish a Bureau for the relief of Freedmen  
4 and Refugees, approved March third, eighteen hundred and  
5 sixty-five, shall continue in force for the term of two years

- Southern military leaders could not hold office
- African Americans could hold public office
- African Americans gained equal rights as a result of the Civil Rights Act of 1866, which authorized the use of federal troops for its enforcement
- Northern soldiers supervised the South
- Freedman’s Bureau, established to aid former enslaved Americans in South
- Southerners resented northern “carpetbaggers,” who took advantage of the South during Reconstruction

**Reconstruction ended with the Election of 1876**—federal troops were removed and rights that African Americans gained were lost through Black Codes

## How can we group the United States?



States may be grouped as part of different regions, depending upon the criteria. A state is an example of a political region.

### States Significant to the Historical Development of the United States Grouped by Political Regions (USII.2c)

**Northeast:** Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

**Southeast:** Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas

**Midwest:** Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota

**Southwest:** Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona

**Rocky Mountains:** Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho

**Pacific:** Washington, Oregon, California

**Noncontiguous:** Alaska, Hawaii

**Cities that have had political, economic, and/or cultural significance to the development of the US include:** (USII.2c)

**Northeast:** New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia

**Southeast:** Washington, D.C., Atlanta, New Orleans

**Midwest:** Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit

**Southwest:** San Antonio, Santa Fe

**Western (Rocky Mountains):**

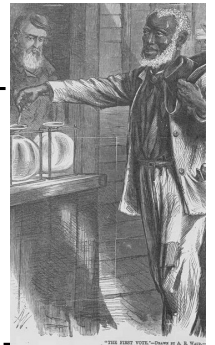
Denver, Salt Lake City

**Pacific:** San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle

**Noncontiguous:** Juneau, Honolulu

### The 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments address the issues of slavery and guarantee equal protection under the law for all citizens (USII.3a)

- 13th Amendment—Bans slavery in the United States and any of its territories
- 14th Amendment—Grants citizenship to all persons born in the U.S. and guarantees them equal protection under the law
- 15th Amendment—Ensures all citizens the right to vote regardless of race or color or previous conditions of servitude.



## Reconstruction (USII.3b)

*The Reconstruction policies were harsh and created problems in the South. Reconstruction attempted to give meaning to the freedom that the former enslaved African Americans had achieved. Reconstruction policies and problems included:*

### ABRAHAM LINCOLN (USII.3c)

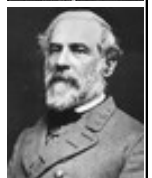
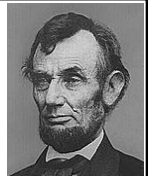
- Reconstruction plan called for reconciliation
- Preservation of the Union was more important than punishing the South

### ROBERT E. LEE

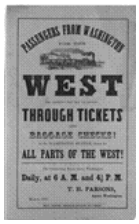
- Urged Southerners to reconcile at the end of the war and reunite as Americans when some wanted to continue to fight
- Became president of Washington College, now known as Washington and Lee University

### FREDERICK DOUGLASS

- Fought for adoption of constitutional amendments that guaranteed voting rights
- Powerful voice for human rights and civil liberties for all



## New opportunities and technological advances led to westward migration following the Civil War. (USII.4a)



### Reasons for westward expansion:

- Opportunities for land ownership
- Technological advances, including the Transcontinental Railroad
- Possibility of wealth created by the discovery of gold & silver
- Adventure
- A new beginning for former enslaved African Americans

### How did the lives of American Indians change with expansion?

- Opposition by American Indians to westward expansion (Battle of Little Bighorn, Sitting Bull, Geronimo)
- Forced relocation from traditional lands to reservations (Chief Joseph, Nez Perce)
- Reduced population through warfare and disease (Battle of Wounded Knee)
- Assimilation attempts and lifestyle changes, e.g. reduction of buffalo population
- Reduced their homeland through treaties that were broken



Chief Joseph



Sitting Bull

Population changes, growth of cities, and new inventions produced interaction and often conflict between different cultural groups and problems in urban areas. (USII.4b)

### Why did immigration increase?

- Hope for better opportunities
- Religious freedom
- Escape from oppressive governments
- Adventure



Meat Packing - Chicago History Museum



Arriving at Ellis Island

### Why did cities develop?

- Specialized industries including steel (Pittsburgh), meat packing (Chicago)
- Immigration from other countries
- Movement of Americans from rural to urban areas for job opportunities

### Inventions that contributed to great change and industrial growth

- Lighting and mechanical uses of electricity - *Thomas Edison*
- Telephone service - *Alexander Graham Bell*

Rapid industrialization and urbanization led to overcrowded immigrant neighborhoods and tenements.

### Efforts to solve immigration problems



- Settlement Houses, such as Hull House founded by *Jane Addams*, helped immigrants
- Political machines gained power by attending to the needs of new immigrants (e.g., jobs, housing) in return for votes

**Discrimination against immigrants** - Chinese and Irish  
**Challenges faced by cities**- Tenements and ghettos and political corruption (political machines)



**The effects of industrialization led to the rise of organized labor and important workplace reforms.** (USII.4e)

### Negative effects of industrialization

- Child labor
- Low wages, long hours
- Unsafe working conditions

### Rise of organized labor

- Formation of unions - Growth of American Federation of Labor
- Strikes - Aftermath of Homestead Strike



## What is racial segregation? (USII.4c)

*Discrimination against African Americans continued after Reconstruction. "Jim Crow" laws institutionalized a system of legal segregation. Racial segregation was based upon race.*

- American Indians were not considered citizens until 1924.
- Directed primarily against African Americans, but other groups also were kept segregated.

### "Jim Crow" laws:

- Made discrimination practices legal in many communities and states
- Were characterized by unequal opportunities in housing, work, education, government

### African Americans differed in their response to discrimination:

- *Booker T. Washington* - Believed equality could be achieved through vocational education; accepted social separation
- *W.E.B. Du Bois* - Believed in full political, civil, and social rights for African Americans



*Between the Civil War and World War I, the US was transformed from an agricultural to an industrial nation.*

### Reasons for rise and prosperity of big business (USII.4d)

- National markets created by transportation advances
- Captains of industry (*John D. Rockefeller* - oil; *Andrew Carnegie* - steel, and *Cornelius Vanderbilt* - shipping and railroad)
- Advertising
- Lower-cost production



### Factors resulting in growth of industry

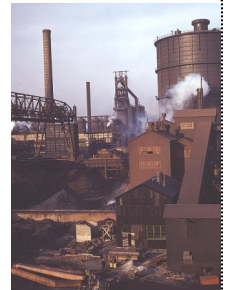
- Access to raw materials and energy
- Availability of work force due to immigration
- Inventions
- Financial resources

### Examples of big business

1. Railroads
2. Oil
3. Steel

### Postwar changes in farm and city life

- Mechanization (e.g., reaper) reduced farm labor needs and increased production.
- Industrial development in cities created increased labor needs.
- Industrialization provided access to consumer goods (mail order).



Steel Plant

## How did the reforms of the Progressive Movement change the US? (USII.4e)

### 1. Workplace reforms

- Improved safety conditions, reduced work hours, placed restrictions on child labor

### 2. Women's suffrage

- Increased educational opportunities
- Women gained the right to vote with passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States
- *Susan B. Anthony* and *Elizabeth Cady Stanton* worked for women's suffrage



### 3. Temperance Movement

- Composed of groups opposed to the making and consuming of alcohol
- Supported 18th Amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale, and transport of alcoholic beverages



**Economic interests and public opinion often influence US involvement in international affairs.** (USII.5a)

**What were the reasons for the Spanish American War?**

- Protection of American business interests in Cuba
- American support of Cuban rebels to gain independence from Spain
- Rising tensions as a result of the sinking of the *U.S.S. Maine* in Havana Harbor
- Exaggerated news reports of events (Yellow Journalism)



**What were the results of the Spanish American War?**

- The United States emerged as a world power as a result of victory over Spain in the Spanish American War
- Cuba gained independence from Spain
- The United States gained possession of the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico

**Technology extended progress into all areas of American life, including neglected rural areas.** (USII.6a)

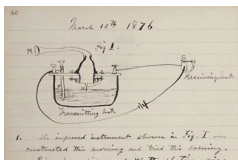
How was social and economic life in the early twentieth century different from that of the late nineteenth century?

**Results of improved transportation brought by affordable automobiles**

- Greater mobility
- Creation of jobs
- Movement to suburban areas
- Growth of transportation-related industries (road construction, oil, steel, automobile)



**Communication changes**



Bell's Telephone Drawing

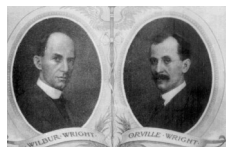
- Increased availability of telephones
- Development of the radio
- Broadcast industry
- Development of movies

**Ways electrification changed American life**

- Labor-saving products (e.g. washing machines, electric stove)
- Electric lighting
- Entertainment (e.g., radio)
- Improved communications



Use of the assembly line and rise of mechanization —  
*Henry Ford (automobile)*



Invention of the airplane —  
*The Wright brothers*

**What were Theodore Roosevelt's foreign policies, and what were their impacts on the United States?** (USII.5b)

Roosevelt expanded the Monroe Doctrine as a way to prevent European involvement in the affairs of Caribbean and South American countries

**The Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine**

- Asserted the United States' right to interfere in economic matters of nations in the Americas
- Claimed the United States' right to exercise international police power
- Advocated Big Stick Diplomacy



**Roosevelt built Panama Canal**

"I took the isthmus, started the canal, and then left Congress -- not to debate the canal, but to debate me. . . . While the debate goes on, the canal does too; and they are welcome to debate me as long as they wish, provided that we can go on with the canal." Theodore Roosevelt

**World War I (USII.5c)**

Major Allied Powers	Central Powers
Great Britain France Russia Serbia Belgium	Germany Austria-Hungary Bulgaria Ottoman Empire

The United States involvement in World War I ended a long tradition of avoiding involvement in European conflicts and set the stage for the United States to emerge as a global superpower later in the 20th century.

**Reasons for US involvement in war**

- U. S. was unable to remain neutral
- German submarine warfare - sinking of Lusitania
- The Zimmerman Telegram
- U.S. economic and political ties to Great Britain



**How did the U.S. provide leadership as the war ended?**

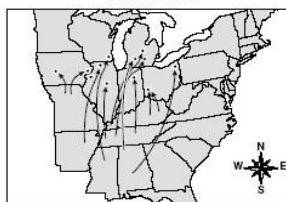
- At the end of World War I, *President Woodrow Wilson* prepared a peace plan, known as the Fourteen Points, that called for the formation of the League of Nations, a peacekeeping organization
- The United States decided not to join the League of Nations because the United States Senate failed to ratify the treaty.

**Great Migration North and West (USII.6b)**

**Why did African Americans migrate to northern cities?**

**What were the economic changes during the early twentieth century?**

**African-American Migration  
1915-1925**



- Jobs for African Americans in the South were scarce and low paying
- African Americans faced discrimination and violence in the South
- African Americans moved to cities in the North and Midwest in search of better employment opportunities

- African Americans also faced discrimination and violence in the North and Midwest

**What was Prohibition, and how effective was it?** (USII.6b)

Reforms in the early twentieth century could not legislate how people behaved. Prohibition was imposed by a constitutional amendment that made it illegal to manufacture, transport, and sell alcoholic beverages

**Results of Prohibition**

- Speakeasies were created as places for people to drink alcoholic beverages
- Bootleggers smuggled illegal alcohol and promoted organized crime
- Repealed by the 21st Amendment



End of World War I	Harlem Renaissance	Stock Market Crash	Great Depression	World War II Begins	United Nations Begins
					

### Cultural climate of the 1920s and 1930s (USII.6c)

The 1920s and 1930s were important decades for American art, literature, and music

- **Art** - **Georgia O'Keeffe**, artist known for urban scenes and, later, paintings of the Southwest
- **Literature** - **F. Scott Fitzgerald**, a novelist who wrote about the Jazz Age of the 1920s; **John Steinbeck**, a novelist who portrayed strength of poor migrant workers during 1930s
- **Music** - **Aaron Copland & George Gershwin**, composers who wrote uniquely American music

### Harlem Renaissance

The leaders of the Harlem Renaissance drew upon the heritage of black culture to establish themselves as powerful forces for cultural change. African American artists, writers, and musicians based in Harlem revealed the freshness and variety of African American culture.



Painting by Jacob Lawrence

- **Art** - **Jacob Lawrence**, painter who chronicled the experiences of the Great Migration north through art
- **Literature** - **Langston Hughes**, poet who combined the experiences of African and American cultural roots
- **Music** - **Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong**, jazz composers; **Bessie Smith**, blues singer

Popularity of these artists spread to the rest of society.

*The optimism of the 1920s concealed problems in the American economic system and attitudes about the role of government in controlling the economy. The Great Depression had a widespread and severe impact on American life. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal used government programs to help the nation recover from the Depression.* (USII.6d)

### What were the causes of the Great Depression?

- People over-specified on stocks, using borrowed money that they could not repay when stock prices crashed
- The Federal Reserve failed to prevent the collapse of the banking system
- High tariffs discouraged international trade

### How were the lives of Americans affected by the Great Depression?

- A large numbers of banks and businesses failed
- One-fourth of workers were without jobs
- Large numbers of people were hungry and homeless
- Farmers' incomes fell to low levels

### What were the major features of the New Deal?

- Social Security
- Federal work programs
- Environmental improvement programs
- Farm assistance programs
- Increased rights for labor

### Causes of World War II (USII.7a)

*Political and economic conditions in Europe following World War I led to the rise of fascism and to World War II. The rise of fascism threatened peace in Europe and Asia. As conflict grew in Europe and Asia, American foreign policy evolved from neutrality to direct involvement.*

### How did post-World War I set the stage for World War II?

- **Political instability and economic devastation in Europe resulting from World War I**
  - ⇒ Worldwide depression
  - ⇒ High war debt owed by Germany
  - ⇒ High inflation
  - ⇒ Massive unemployment
- **How did the rise of fascism affect world events following World War I?**
  - ⇒ Fascism - political philosophy in which total power is given to dictator and individual freedoms are denied
  - ⇒ Fascist dictators included *Adolf Hitler* (Germany), *Benito Mussolini* (Italy), and *Hideki Tojo* (Japan)
  - ⇒ These dictators led the countries that became known as the Axis Powers

### As conflict grew in Europe and Asia, American foreign policy evolved from neutrality to direct conflict. (USII.7a)

**Allies:** democratic nations of the United States, *Great Britain*, and *Canada*. The *Soviet Union* joined the Allies after being invaded by Germany.

**Allied leaders:** *Franklin D. Roosevelt* and later *Harry S. Truman* (United States) *Winston Churchill* (Great Britain) and *Joseph Stalin* (Soviet Union).

### How did American policy toward events in Europe and Asia change over time?

There was a gradual change in American policy from neutrality to involvement -

1. Isolationism (Great Depression, legacy of World War I)
2. Economic aid to Allies
3. Direct involvement in the war



### War in the Pacific

1. Rising tension developed between United States and Japan because of Japanese aggression in East Asia
2. On December 7, 1941, Japan attacked United States at Pearl Harbor without warning
3. The United States declared war on Japan
4. Germany declared war on the United States

### The Holocaust is an example of prejudice and discrimination taken to the extreme. (USII.7b)

#### Tactics used:

- Boycott of Jewish stores
- Threats
- Segregation
- Imprisonment and killing of Jews and others in concentration and death camps

Anti-Semitism

Aryan  
supremacy

Systematic attempt to rid  
Europe of all Jews



**Major events of World War II** (USII.7b)

*Despite initial Axis success in both Europe and the Pacific, the Allies preserved and ultimately defeated Germany and Japan.*

- Germany invaded *Poland*, setting off war in Europe. Soviet Union also invaded Poland and the Baltic nations.
- Germany invaded France, capturing Paris.
- Germany bombed London and the *Battle of Britain* began.
- United States gave Britain war supplies and old naval war ships in return for military bases in Bermuda and Caribbean. (*Lend Lease*)
- Japan bombed *Pearl Harbor*.
- After Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, Germany declared war on United States.
- The United States declared war on Japan and Germany.

**Turning Points**

1. The United States was victorious over Japan in the *Battle of Midway*. This was the turning point of the war in the Pacific.
2. Germany invaded the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union defeated Germany at *Stalingrad*, marking the turning point of the war in Eastern Europe.
3. American and Allied troops landed in Normandy, France, on *D-Day* to begin the liberation of Western Europe.

**War Ends**

United States dropped two atomic bombs on Japan. (*Hiroshima and Nagasaki*) in 1945, forcing Japan to surrender and ending World War II.

**Rebuilding after World War II** (USII.8a)

Learning from the mistakes of the past, the United States accepted its role as a world super power, helping to rebuild Europe and Japan and taking the leading role in establishing the United Nations.

*Much of Europe was in ruins following World War II. Soviet forces occupied most of Eastern and Central Europe and the eastern portion of Germany. The United States felt it was in its best interest to rebuild Europe and prevent political and economic instability.*

- The United States instituted George C. Marshall's plan to rebuild Europe (the Marshall Plan), which provided massive financial aid to rebuild European economies and prevent the spread of communism.



- Germany was partitioned into East and West Germany. West Germany became democratic and resumed self-government after a few years of American, British, and French occupation. East Germany remained under the domination of the Soviet Union and did not adopt democratic institutions.

- Following its defeat, Japan was occupied by American forces. It soon adopted a democratic form of government, resumed self-government, and became a strong ally of the United States.

**Establishment of the United Nations**

- The United Nations was formed near the end of World War II to create a body for the nations of the world to try to prevent future global wars

**Homefront** (USII.7c)

*World War II affected every aspect of American life. Americans were asked to make sacrifices in support of the war effort and the ideas for which we fought.*

- American involvement in World War II brought an end to Great Depression. Factories and workers were needed to produce goods to win war.
- Thousands of American women took jobs in defense plants during the war (e.g., Rosie the Riveter).
- Americans at home supported war by conserving and rationing resources.
- Need for workers temporarily broke down racial barriers (e.g., hiring in defense plants) yet, discrimination against African Americans



- While many Japanese Americans served in armed forces, others were treated with distrust/prejudice-many were forced into internment camps.

**Following World War II, Americans prospered due to an expanding economy stimulated by America's involvement in the war.** (USII.8b)

**What contributed to the prosperity of Americans?**

- With rationing of consumer goods over, business converted from production of war materials to consumer goods
- Americans purchased goods on credit
- The workforce shifted back to men, and most women returned to family responsibilities
- Labor unions merged and became more powerful; workers gained new benefits and higher salaries
- As economic prosperity continued and technology boomed, the next generation of women re-entered the labor force in large numbers

**Origins of the Cold War** (USII.8c)

**The United States and the Soviet Union emerged from World War II world powers, triggering a rivalry over ideology and national security. Since World War**

**Cold War:** State of tension between United States/Soviet Union without actual fighting that divided world into two camps

**Origins of the Cold War**

- Differences in goals and ideologies between the United States and the Soviet Union (two superpowers) - The United States was democratic and capitalist; the Soviet Union was dictatorial and communist.
- The Soviet Union's domination over Eastern European countries
- American policy of containment (to stop the spread of communism)
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) versus Warsaw Pact

**Major conflicts in post-World War II**

- South Korea and the United States resisted Chinese and North Korean aggression. The conflict ended in a stalemate.
- The Cuban Missile Crisis occurred when the Soviet Union placed missiles in Cuba. The Soviets removed the missiles in response to a U.S. blockade.
- United States intervened to stop the spread of communism into South Vietnam (Domino Theory). Americans were divided over whether the United States should be involved militarily in Vietnam. The conflict ended in a cease-fire agreement in which U.S. troops withdrew.

**Collapse of Communism in Europe**

- Breakup of the Soviet Union into independent countries
- Destruction of Berlin Wall

**New challenges**

- Role of U.S. military intervention
- Environmental challenges
- Global issues, including trade, jobs, diseases, energy

**Factors leading to changing patterns in society** (USH.8d)

*Changing patterns in American society at the end of World War II changed the way most Americans lived and worked.*

- Strong economy (healthy job market, increased productivity, increased demand for American products)
- Greater investment in education
- “The Baby Boom,” which led to changing demographics
- Interstate highway system
- Evolving role of women (expected to play supporting role in the family, but increasingly working outside the home)
- Role of Eleanor Roosevelt in expanding human rights
- African Americans’ aspirations for equal opportunities



Eleanor Roosevelt

**Policies and programs expanding educational and employment opportunities**

- G.I. Bill of Rights gave educational, housing, and employment benefits to veterans
- Truman desegregated the armed forces
- Civil Rights legislation led to increased educational, economic, and political opportunities for women and minorities

**The Civil rights Movement resulted in legislation that ensured constitutional rights to all citizens regardless of race.** (USH.9a)**Some effects of segregation**

- Separate educational facilities and resources for white and African American students
- Separate public facilities (e.g., restrooms, drinking fountains, restaurants)
- Social isolation of races

**Civil Rights Movement**

- Opposition to *Plessy v. Ferguson* - “Separate but equal”
- Formation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- *Brown v. Board of Education*, desegregation of schools
- Rosa Parks - Montgomery bus boycott
- Organized protests, Freedom Riders, sit-ins, marches
- Martin Luther King, Jr. - Passive resistance against segregated facilities; “I have a dream...” speech
- Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Voting Rights Act of 1965

**Changing role of women**

**Women activists were inspired by the achievements of the Civil Rights Movement and took action to gain equality for themselves, particularly in the workplace.**



- Workplace disadvantages
  - Discrimination in hiring practices against women
  - Lower wages for women than for men doing same job
- Improved conditions
  - *National Organization for Women (NOW)*
  - Federal legislation to force colleges to give women equal athletic opportunities
  - *Equal Rights Amendment*, despite its failure and a focus on equal opportunity employment, created a wider range of options and advancement for women in business and public service.

**Industries Benefiting From New Technologies** (USH.9b)

- Airline Industry—Jet engines
- Automobile industry and interstate highway system
- Entertainment and news media industry
- Exploration of space
- Computer industry
- Satellite system—Telecommunications (pagers, cell phones, television)
- Internet

**Impact of New Technologies on American Life**

- Increased domestic and international travel for business and pleasure
- Greater access to news and other information
- Cheaper and more convenient means of communication
- Greater access to heating and air conditioning improved the quality of life and encouraged population growth in certain areas of country
- Decreased regional variation, resulting from nationwide access to entertainment and information provided by national television and radio programming, Internet services, computer games

**(USH.9c) Individual citizens have influenced America scientifically, culturally, academically, and economically.****Science:**

- *Charles Drew* (plasma)
- *J. Robert Oppenheimer* (Manhattan Project team—physics)

**Culture:**

- *Frank Lloyd Wright* (architecture)
- *Martha Graham* (dance)

**Academic:**

- *Henry Louis Gates* (historian)
- *Maya Angelou* (literature)

**Economics:**

- *Bill Gates* (computer technology)
- *Ray Kroc* (franchising)



*How have American foreign policy, immigration policies, energy policies, environmental policies affected both people in the United States and in other countries?* (USH.9d)

**Foreign Policy**

- Increase in terrorist activities
- Conflicts in the Middle East
- Changing relationships with nations

**Immigration**

- Changing immigration patterns, e.g. Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans
- More people want to immigrate to the United States than are allowed by law

**Global Environment**

- Policies to protect the environment
- Global climate change
- Conservation of water and other natural resources

**Other Issues**

- World health issues (global pandemics)