

## Book 1, Lesson 1 Test

Choose the *BEST* way to complete each sentence or answer each question. Circle the letter of your answer.

1. A trek is a long, difficult
  - a journey.
  - b discussion.
  - c test.
  - d project.
  
2. When rain abates, it
  - a freezes.
  - b begins to stop.
  - c causes floods.
  - d pours down steadily.
  
3. An agent is someone who
  - a works in a restaurant.
  - b acts in movies.
  - c does business for others.
  - d has very good manners.
  
4. The authorities include
  - a all citizens.
  - b police officers.
  - c pet owners.
  - d store owners.
  
5. An epidemic disease
  - a has no cure.
  - b is limited to children.
  - c is not serious.
  - d spreads rapidly.

## **Book 4, Midterm Test 1 (Lessons 1–10)**

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Read the passage. Choose the *BEST* answer for each sentence or question about an underlined word. Circle the letter of your answer.

### **THE GILDED AGE, PART 1**

The United States changed dramatically after the Civil War. The war-torn nation became one of the world's economic superpowers. Starting in the late 1800s, fewer and fewer people earned their living by farming and more and more people worked in industry. At the same time, enormous wealth ended up in the hands of a few powerful people. Mark Twain called this era the "Gilded Age." Between 1870 and 1910, millionaires like John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and J. Pierpont Morgan acquired control of many industries. To the consternation of other citizens, these men exerted great influence over the U.S. government. These wealthy men wanted to have free access to public land, have their businesses protected from foreign competition, and be free from government regulation.

These powerful men had many ways of achieving their goals. One thing they did was use their wealth and influence to form monopolies and trusts. A *monopoly* forms when one company controls a certain industry. A *trust* forms when several different corporations have a secret agreement to work together. Companies involved in trusts have devious plans to ruin other companies in the same industry. During the Gilded Age, monopolies and trusts controlled the steel and oil industries. They also controlled the railroads. Ruthless industrialists ran their businesses any way they liked. They did not care who got hurt. The trusts provided the men who controlled them with huge fortunes and lavish lifestyles. This contrasted sharply with the plight of many average Americans.

Bribery was another method of control that was often used during the Gilded Age. In 1872, the Union Pacific Railroad trust made a blatant attempt to bribe the government. The trust sold company stock to several lawmakers for much less than it was actually worth. This bribe was meant to stop the government from taking a close look at negligent building methods. Also in the 1870s, the Southern Pacific Railroad used bribery to maintain a firm grip on California. Senators, judges, and other politicians capitulated to the railroad's power. Southern Pacific held this control until 1911. Another way that businesses worked to get what they wanted was by having their salesmen work for political parties.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Book 4, Midterm Test 2 (Lessons 1–10)

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Read the passage. Choose the *BEST* answer for each sentence or question about an underlined word. Circle the letter of your answer.

### THE GILDED AGE, PART 2

During the Gilded Age, many politicians refused to monitor businesses. They preferred to be as lax as possible in regulating the free market. They averted their attention from unfairness. Other lawmakers, however, were aghast. Many saw predatory business practices as un-American. They vowed to make laws that would limit the power of big business, monopolies, and trusts.

One early remedy was the Interstate Commerce Commission. Created in 1887, this group’s job was to regulate the railroads. Until then, railroads could charge unfair rates with impunity. Many smaller companies depended on railroads to carry freight. Since the railroads could raise rates whenever they pleased, they had all the power. The ICC forced railroads to charge “reasonable and just” rates. The Commission managed to restore order to the competitive railroad industry. For the most part, the railroads did not complain about this regulation.

A more important step was the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890. This act declared all trusts illegal. Unfortunately, it wasn’t strict enough and the punishments given to trusts were not very severe. As a result, the act did little to impede the trusts. When Theodore Roosevelt was president in the early 1900s, the antitrust movement intensified. Roosevelt was a strong believer in *progressivism*. Progressives wanted politics to become more open and honest, and they wanted more government regulation. One step that Roosevelt’s government took was to create the Food and Drug Administration. Part of this agency’s job was to clean up the meatpacking industry. Before regulation, many meatpackers were indifferent to cleanliness standards. Rotten meat, doctored with dye and preservatives, often reached the public, spreading disease. The FDA enforced stringent standards. This caused meatpackers to vastly improve their methods. The government was less successful in regulating the drug industry. Many poorly labeled, harmful products continued to be sold.

In 1911 the government took another important “trust-busting” step. It split Standard Oil into 32 separate companies. At first, however, this action failed to disrupt Standard Oil’s control of the industry. Separate or not, the 32 companies

## **Book 4, Final Test 3 (Lessons 1–20)**

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Read the passage. Choose the *BEST* answer for each sentence or question about an underlined word. Circle the letter of your answer.

### **JANE GOODALL, PART 1**

Jane Goodall is one of the world's most acclaimed wildlife scientists. Her pioneering work with African chimpanzees changed the way we look at animals and ourselves. In 1995, the National Geographic Society awarded her its covered Hubbard Medal "for tirelessly defending the natural world we share." Today Goodall continues to enlighten people about our earth's fragile environment. Goodall shares a message of hope and urges others to participate in environmental protection.

Jane Goodall was born in London, England, on April 3, 1934. She grew up in Bournemouth, England, which is on the southern coast. For her second birthday, she received a lifelike toy chimpanzee. The chimp was named Jubilee after a baby chimp that had been born at the London Zoo. Family friends thought that the toy would scare such a young child, but Jane fell in love with it and still has it in her home today. Maybe it was this beloved toy that first piqued Jane's interest in chimps. As a young girl, her favorite books and stories were about animals. By age eleven, she dreamed of going to Africa to study wildlife. In those days, most parents would not have been receptive to such an idea. At that time, young girls were supposed to dream of marriage, not scientific studies. Jane's mother was different. She encouraged Jane to realize her goal through hard work.

Jane was not afraid of hard work. She first went to secretarial school and then worked for a documentary film company. Eventually, a friend invited her to Kenya. To save money for the fare, Jane worked as a waitress and by the age of 23 had saved enough to make the journey to Africa by boat. When she arrived in Africa, she contacted famous anthropologist Louis Leakey. Leakey was so impressed with Jane's knowledge about Africa and animals that he hired her to be his assistant. Jane worked with Leakey and his wife Mary at Olduvai Gorge in Kenya, where they studied fossils.

Jane enjoyed her work at Olduvai Gorge, but she wanted to study live animals. Dr. Leakey approached her about studying wild chimpanzees on the shores of Lake Tanganyika. Jane was thrilled at the idea. At first the local authorities at