

Unit 3: Progress

Unit Project: Do We Need a New Progressive Era?

America is an incredible country that faces a lot of problems. Poverty, pollution, war, discrimination – the issues are endless. Your first task in this project is to research a modern issue that you think America should be focused on solving.

Thankfully, American history is filled with people who have faced challenging issues and have taken action to confront and correct problems in American society. Therefore, your second task in this project is to identify someone from the past (specifically, the Progressive Era) who has provided an example we can follow to fix a problem in the present.

Finally, you need to use that person's example to develop an action plan for confronting the modern issue you chose to focus on.

In total, this project will consist of three parts:

1. **Identify the Problem** – select a modern issue that you think America needs to focus on.
2. **Identify an Example to Follow** – Select a Progressive Era reformer who successfully confronted a difficult issue and explain how their actions corrected a problem in society.
3. **Create an Action Plan** – Explain how you would use the strategy from the Progressive Era example to confront the modern issue that you chose to focus on.

You have complete freedom to complete this project in whatever form you wish. You can create a website or a blog, you can create a portfolio of artwork, you can make a video or a PowerPoint presentation – the possibilities are limitless. As long as you address all three parts of the project and provide enough writing and detail to adequately explain each part of your project, your project can literally take any form that you can dream up.

Note on Writing: If, for example, you create a portfolio of artwork or something similar, you need to provide a short written description for each piece to explain how your artwork addresses the various parts of the project.

What you will need to turn in:

1. **Project** – Your final project is due on **Monday, February 4**. You will need to turn in the project itself as well as any supporting pieces of writing.
2. **Bibliography of sources used during research** – Write down citation information for each source you use during your research, whether it is a website, a book, a video, or some other source. Remember to use reputable websites in your research. Wikipedia can be a place to find sources, but it should not be a source itself. If you have questions about a website, please ask me.

Project Rubric				
	1	2	3	4
Modern Issue	Project identifies a modern issue, but provides little or no information about the issue.	Project displays some information about a modern issue, but the information is weak or limited.	Project displays a significant amount of information about a modern issue, providing a number of supporting details.	Project displays an incredible amount of information about a modern issue and provides a significant amount of supporting details.
Historical Example	Project identifies a historical example, but provides little or no information about the example.	Project displays some information about a historical example, but the information is weak or limited.	Project displays a significant amount of information about a historical example, providing a number of supporting details.	Project displays an incredible amount of information about a historical example and provides a significant amount of supporting details.
Action Plan	Action plan is included, but no explanation or details are given	Action plan is included, but explanation and details are limited	Action plan is included and sufficient explanation and details are provided.	Action plan is included, thoroughly explained, and supported with numerous details.
Overall Effort	Project displays minimal effort, is underdeveloped, and contains many mistakes or inaccuracies.	Some effort is evident, but the project is underdeveloped and contains some mistakes or inaccuracies.	Effort is clearly evident. The project is well developed and contains few mistakes or inaccuracies.	Substantial effort is evident. The project is thoroughly developed, and contains almost no mistakes or inaccuracies.

Possible Project Ideas

Progressive Era Reformers to Consider

- Jacob Riis
- Upton Sinclair
- Alice Paul
- Ida B. Wells
- Mary Harris “Mother” Jones
- Eugene Debs
- Theodore Roosevelt
- Ida Tarbell
- And many more...

Modern Issues to Consider

- Poverty
- Pollution
- Global Warming
- Industrialized Food
- Healthcare
- American Prison System
- War
- Modern Slavery
- And many more...