

**Reteaching Activity 3****The Birth of Modern America, 1877-1900**

Rapid post-Civil War industrialization attracted large numbers of European and Asian immigrants to leave their lands in search of better lives. Unlike earlier immigrants, most newcomers settled in America's cities to work in factories. Urban populations grew so quickly that cities could not provide adequate services. Both politically minded party bosses and more sincere reformers stepped in to try to address the plight of city dwellers.

**DIRECTIONS:** Read each statement below. Select from the list the group or individual who could have spoken each statement and write the letters in the appropriate blanks.

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|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| A. European immigrant     | E. Party boss       | I. Laissez-faire adherent |
| B. Asian immigrant        | F. Social Darwinist | J. Social Gospel reformer |
| C. African American       | G. Nativist         | K. Booker T. Washington   |
| D. Middle-class gentility | H. Realist          | L. Andrew Carnegie        |

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. "I believe in the law of unregulated competition."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. "I endured the discomfort of steerage passage and the humiliation of processing at Ellis Island for the privilege of working long hours for low wages in a city factory."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. "'Survival of the fittest' applies to society as well as to biological evolution."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. "Every American should have access to libraries, so I will help make it possible."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. "I migrated North hoping to escape the oppression I experienced in the South."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. "I portray people in art and literature as they really are, not as they wish to be."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. "With the new commuter lines, I can work in the city and live in the suburbs."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. "Participating in social reform will enable me to achieve salvation."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. "While waiting to hear my fate, I wrote poetry on the walls of the detention barracks on Angel Island."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. "Believing education is the ticket to social equality, I founded the Tuskegee Institute."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. "We have to put strict limits on immigration! These European anarchists, Catholics, and Chinese laborers will ruin the country and take away our jobs!"
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. "Let me help you get what you need. Just remember to vote for me on election day!"

- 13. Critical Thinking** Select one of the following current urban problems and describe what you think are two possible solutions to that problem: crime, gang violence, substance abuse, dangerous public housing projects, decaying infrastructure (water, sewer, power lines), traffic congestion, failing public schools, and racial tension.