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

Background: **The Progressive Era** (1870s-1920s) was a time of widespread activism. **The goal of the era was to address and attempt to resolve the economic, social, and political problems of the Gilded Age that stifled communal progress**. Central in pushing for change were reform-minded journalists, known as **muckrakers**, who exposed the corruption of established leaders and institutions. The era was also characterized by more active and independent political leadership. Oftentimes, these leaders spearheaded change at the local/state level, which then propelled eventual reform at the national level. We will be using this chart to take notes on the major reforms and reformers of the time period.

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| **Problems of the Gilded Age (1870-1900)** | **Major muckrakers, reformers, organizations who led the charge for change** | **Solutions/Reforms** |
| Political Corruption:  City, state, and federal governments were seen as corrupt, serving the interests of the monopolists at the expense of the common man  **Political Machines:**  **Boss Tweed and Tammany Hall:**  **Patronage:** | **Thomas Nast:**  **Robert La Follette:**  Progressive Wisconsin governor who championed political reforms such as direct primaries, state income tax, gov. regulation of railroads and utilities, women’s suffrage, etc. | **Initiative:**  **Referendum:**  **Recall:**  **17th Amendment:**  **Pendleton Act:** |
| Trusts/Monopolies:  Giant corporations (**trusts**) developed all powerful monopolies by ruthlessly eliminating competition and exploiting their workers | **Ida Tarbell:**  **Theodore Roosevelt:** | **Sherman Anti-Trust Act (1890):**  **Clayton Anti-Trust Act (1914):** |
| Health of the American consumer:  With no government oversight, unsanitary conditions, use of hazardous ingredients, and false claims were commonplace in the food and drug industries, placing unknowing consumers’ health at stake | **Upton Sinclair:**  **Teddy Roosevelt:** | **Pure Food and Drug Act:**  **Meat Inspection Act:** |
| Environmental Waste:  During the Gilded Age, corporations cleared forests and exhausted America’s natural resources for profit | **John Muir:**  **Teddy Roosevelt:** | **Conservation:** |
| Tenements and Urban Poverty:  In cities, immigrant laborers were paid extremely low wages, resulting in widespread poverty and child labor  Laborers were forced into slum apartments that were poorly constructed, overcrowded, unsanitary, poorly ventilated, poorly lit, etc. | **Jacob Riis:**  **Jane Addams:** | **Settlement House movement:**  **Tenement House Law**: Mandated improved sanitary conditions, ventilation, lighting, fire escapes, etc. in city apartments |
| Alcohol Abuse:  Many Progressive Era reformers saw alcohol abuse as a source of serious social issues such as poverty, crime, disease, and domestic abuse | **Woman’s Christian Temperance Union:**  **Frances Willard:**  **Carrie Nation:** | **Temperance vs. Prohibition:**  **18th Amendment:** |
| African-American Rights:  After the end of Reconstruction, African-Americans in the south were trapped by sharecropping, blocked from voting by poll taxes and literacy tests, and subjected to terror, violence, and lynchings  **Jim Crow Laws:**  ***Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)*** | **Booker T. Washington/Atlanta Compromise:**  **W.E.B. DuBois:** | **Niagara Movement:**  **NAACP:** |
| Women’s Rights:  During the Gilded Age, women could not vote, could not initiate divorces or own property, were paid less than men, and were expected to care for the home as wives and mothers | **National American Women’s Suffrage Association (NAWSA):** | **19th Amendment:** |

**Presidents of the Progressive Era**

Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909):

William H. Taft (1909-1913):

Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921):