**The Progressive Presidents:**

**Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, Woodrow Wilson**

Excerpts from *The Presidents* (2005, History Channel)

**Theodore Roosevelt**

1. How did TR all of a sudden become president?
2. Describe TR’s personality:
3. Explain how TR attacked monopolies:
4. Did TR deserve the nickname “Trustbuster”? Explain.
5. What was the outcome of the Anthracite Coal Strike (1902)?
6. What was the “Square Deal”?
7. What did TR believe was the U.S.’s responsibility to do, in terms of foreign policy?
8. Explain TR’s actions in Panama.
9. What is “Big Stick” diplomacy?
10. Which important domestic achievements of TR do we still see the impact of today?

**William Taft**

1. Describe Taft’s personality and approach to the presidency.
2. Why did Taft and TR have a major falling-out?
3. Who were the major candidates in the famous 1912 presidential election? What was the outcome?
4. IN what sense was Taft arguably more “progressive” than TR?

**Woodrow Wilson**

1. Describe Wilson’s background:
2. Explain the importance of the Federal Reserve (1913):
3. What two great crises did Wilson face in the summer of 1914?
4. What did Wilson say about the reasons the U.S. was entering WWI in April 1917?
5. What did the Sedition and Espionage Acts (1918) do?
6. What was Wilson’s goal in going overseas to Europe in 1918?
7. What were the most essential parts of Wilson’s plan (The Fourteen Points)?
8. What was the outcome of the Senate debate over the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations?
9. Why was the above outcome problematic?