Muckrakers and the Roosevelt Administration

Unit 3
Standard:

**US 14**   Explain the roles played by muckrakers and progressive idealists, including: Robert M. La Follette, Sr., Lincoln Steffens, Theodore Roosevelt, Upton Sinclair, Ida Tarbell

**US 16**   Analyze the significant progressive achievements during President Theodore Roosevelt’s administration, including:
- Square Deal
- Meat Inspection Act
- “Trust-busting”
- Support for conservation
Muckrakers: Crusading journalists who investigated social conditions and political corruption
Robert M. La Follette, Sr.

- Led Wisconsin in a model of political reform
- Introduced multiple concepts, including recall, which allowed voters to demand special elections to remove officeholders before term expiration
Lincoln Steffens

- Reported on vote stealing and other corrupt political practices of political machines
Upton Sinclair

- Published *The Jungle* based on his close observations of the slaughterhouses in Chicago. He described the appalling conditions of the meatpacking industry and it enraged consumers.
Ida Tarbell

- Muckraker who concentrated on exposing the unfair practices of corporations
Theodore Roosevelt

- Disapproved of journalists whom he considered to be so overly focused on the bad that they failed to notice and report on the good
- Wanted journalists to be even-handed and objective in their reporting
The Roosevelt Administration
The Square Deal

- Was Theodore Roosevelt's domestic policy based on three basic ideas:
  - Protection of the consumer
  - Control of large corporations
  - Conservation of natural resources

“We must treat each man on his worth and merits as a man. We must see that each is given a square deal, because he is entitled to no more and should receive no less.”

-Speech on the Square Deal in Dallas, Texas on April 5, 1905
Trust Busting

- Roosevelt thought some trusts were good but also felt monopoly power of some trusts hurt the public interest
- Took on JP Morgan’s Railroad company
- Northern Securities had a monopoly of the Northwest. Roosevelt will sue the company and win
- Hailed as a “Trust-Buster”
Pure Food and Drug Act

- Prohibited misbranded and adulterated foods, drinks, and drugs in interstate commerce
- Led to the creation of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Meat Inspection Act

- Mandated that federal agents inspect meat and meat-processing plants involved in interstate commerce
- Inspired by Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle*
- Signed on the same day as the Pure Food and Drug Act
Exit Ticket:

Match each Muckraker with their accomplishment

1. Robert M. La Follette, Sr.
2. Lincoln Steffens
3. Theodore Roosevelt
4. Upton Sinclair
5. Ida Tarbell

a. Wanted journalists to be even-handed and objective in their reporting
b. Led Wisconsin in a model of political reform and introduced recall
c. Published *The Jungle*
d. Muckraker who concentrated on exposing the unfair practices of corporations
e. Reported on vote stealing and other corrupt political practices of political machines
Exit Ticket:
The list below summarizes President Theodore Roosevelt’s domestic program.

- consumer protection
- control of corporations
- conservation of natural resources

Based on this summary, which belief was the foundation of this program?

a. At times, the government needs to fund private industry to stimulate the creation of jobs.
b. At times, the government needs to regulate private industry to protect the common good.
c. At times, the government needs to regulate public works projects to protect the property of citizens.
d. At times, the federal government needs to fund public works projects to expand the national infrastructure.