**Unit 1 Gilded Age, Vocab – Part B. The Cities/Progressivism**

1. Anti-trust: the break-up of big business monopolies. Early legislation was weak and had little power to break up trusts until Progressive presidents Roosevelt (Rep) and Wilson (Dem).
2. Graft: the illegal use of political influence for personal gain. Such an example is political kickback. “If you give me your support in the political race, I’ll pass legislation that helps your business interests.”
3. Nativism: Favoring the interests of native born people over foreign-born people. This led to restrictions on immigration in the United States during the time period, such as with the Chinese.
4. Patronage: an officeholder’s power to appoint people (usually those who have helped him or her get elected) to positions in government. This “spoils system” was eventually replaced with the merit-based civil service system.
5. Progressivism: a reform movement that wanted to return control of the government to the people, restore economic opportunities, and correct injustices in American life. This would lead to many reforms in the 20th century such as direct election of senators, trustbusting, and child labor laws.
6. Prohibition:  banning of the manufacture, sale, and possession of alcohol. Progressives helped give the temperance movement success with the passing of the 18th Amendment in the early 1900s.
7. Social Darwinism: economic and social philosophy that values a system of unrestrained competition that ensures survival of the fittest. This belief, when applied to business, supports the use of “laissez faire” economic policies with little to no government interference or regulation.
8. Suffrage: the right to vote. A woman working to gain the right to vote was called a “suffragette.”
9. Tenement: multifamily urban dwelling, which was usually crowded and unsanitary. Horrible conditions were later exposed by muckrakers who published photos and articles revealing the conditions.
10. Union: a group of workers that band together to improve their work conditions through negotiating contracts with employers. Workers could threaten to organize a strike or boycott if not given some of their demands. During this time period, workers who joined unions or went on strike could be fired, so almost few gains were made until unions gained legal protections in the 1930s.

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