

Lesson Resources - Glossary Terms from "Industrial Growth"

[Resources](#) > **Glossary Terms**

Glossary Terms from:

Show As List

Show As Flash Cards

American Federation of Labor

a group of unions representing only skilled workers, started as a conservative counter to the Knights of Labor

Americanization

to cause something or someone to have characteristics of American culture

Angel Island

location in San Francisco Bay that served as the port of entry for most immigrants arriving in the United States from Asia

barbed wire

sharp-pointed wire used for fences

Battle of Little Bighorn

Lakota victory over United States soldiers on June 25, 1876.

Benjamin "Pap" Singleton

African American leader who helped and encouraged thousands of Exodusters to move to the West between 1877-1879

Bessemer Process

a method of making steel quickly and cheaply that spurred the industrial growth of the late 1800s

bonanza farms

large farms owned by investors who hired laborers to work the land

Buffalo Soldiers

members of the all-African American units of the United States Army that were formed in the late 1800s

California gold rush

the rush to find gold that brought thousands of new residents to California and produced millions of dollars in new wealth for the region and the United States

Chinese Exclusion Act

a law passed by the U.S. Congress in 1882 that prohibited the immigration of Chinese laborers to the United States

corporation

a business owned by many investors who buy shares of stock and risk only the amount of their investment

Dawes Act

an 1887 law terminating tribal ownership of most reservation land and allocating some parcels to individual Indians while the remainder was opened for white settlement

entrepreneur

a person who organizes, manages, and takes on the risks of starting a business

Eugene V. Debs

leader of the American Railway Union that called for the Pullman Strike

Exodusters

African American settlers who moved west to set up their own farms and escape oppression in the post-Reconstruction South

First Transcontinental Railroad

the stretch of railroad that linked the network of track in the eastern United States with the network in the West

Ghost Dance

part of a religious awakening among the Lakota Sioux in 1890 in which they believed that if they returned to their traditional ways and ceremonies, the whites would be driven from their land

Haymarket Affair

a peaceful 1886 labor demonstration in Chicago that ended with a bomb that killed a police officer and resulted in public disapproval of labor unions

Homestead Act

law passed by Congress in 1862 providing 160 acres of land free to anyone who would live on the plot and farm it for five years

Homestead Strike

an 1892 steelworkers' strike in Pennsylvania that resulted in several deaths on both sides and nothing gained for the workers

horizontal integration

the combining of competing firms into one corporation

hydraulic mining

a form of mining that uses high-pressure jets of water to dislodge rock material or move sediment

Interstate Commerce Act

Federal act passed in 1887 that addressed the problem of railroad monopolies by setting guidelines for how the railroads could do business

Knights of Labor

a very inclusive union that wanted a society focused on production and worker-owned factories

laissez-faire

a policy that allows businesses to operate with very little interference from the government

Manifest Destiny

the idea that westward expansion of the United States to the Pacific Ocean was inevitable and unstoppable

monopoly

a situation in which one company has total control over a service or a product, and faces no competition from other providers

open range

a large area of grazing land without fences or other barriers

Pacific Railway Act

a federal action that provided railroad companies with ownership of all public lands within 200 feet on both sides of a railroad track

philanthropist

one who gives money or other help to improve the quality of human life

protective tariff

a tax on imported goods that is meant to protect U.S. businesses from foreign competition

Pullman Strike

a nationwide rail workers' strike in 1894 that turned violent, gained nothing for the workers, and turned public opinion against labor unions

reservation

an area of land granted, often by force, to a Native American tribe, usually in exchange for their own homeland

Sand Creek Massacre

an 1864 military raid on a peaceful Cheyenne camp that resulted in the murder of approximately 200 Native American men, women, and children

scrip

company-specific currency paid to a worker, instead of cash, that could only be used at company-owned stores

Sherman Anti-Trust Act

Federal act passed in 1890 to try to break up trusts and restore competition

Sitting Bull

Lakota Sioux chief who led his people to victory in the Battle of Little Bighorn

skilled labor

a job that requires a certain level of training and skill that could take years to acquire

Social Darwinism

application of Charles Darwin's theory of biological evolution to society, holding that the fittest and the wealthiest should thrive and lead, the weak and the poor "deserve" their fate, and government action is unable to alter this "natural" process

sodbusters

settlers that constructed cheap frontier homes of dirt and prairie grass due to lack of construction materials

sweatshop

a factory where workers are employed for low wages under very poor and very hot conditions

Terence V. Powderly

leader of the Knights of Labor labor union

Thomas Edison

famous inventor who is credited with creating things such as the phonograph and the light bulb

topography

physical features of the land

trust

a group of companies that works together to control an industry and drive other companies out of business

unskilled labor

a job that most able-bodied people can perform with a small amount of training

vertical integration

practice in which a single manufacturer controls all of the steps used to change raw materials into finished products

Wounded Knee Massacre

an 1890 military action in which 300 surrendering Lakota Sioux were killed after a rifle accidentally discharged; also referred to as the Battle of Wounded Knee