signals that stood for letters of the alphabet

Biography

C. F. Dowd

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. confusion about differences in time from one place to another
2. An agricultural society is based on farming, so it makes sense that the system of time would be based on the sun to optimize daylight. Daylight is less of an issue in an industrialized society.

ACTIVITY

Answers will vary. Students should conduct research and write essays based on the concept of time in ancient civilizations. They should reflect on the relationship between the celestial bodies, time, religion, and culture in the ancient world.

Richard Warren Sears

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. Sears offered a wide range of products at low prices. His advertising spoke the language of midwesterners and farmers. And he offered product guarantees and exceptional customer service.
2. The Sears catalog offered thousands of products and Sears would assist customers in ordering, or try to find products they wanted that weren't in the catalog. Money-back guarantees made people confident in buying from Sears. Because Sears bought directly from manufacturers he was able to offer products at lower prices.

ACTIVITY

Answers will vary. Students should compare and contrast early Sears' catalogs with current catalogs available in print form and online. They should prepare a chart with examples illustrating how the catalogs have changed over the years. They should also cite examples of how current catalogs still reflect the original values of Sears.

Harriet Hanson Robinson

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. They worked as bobbin doffers, changing bobbins on the factory's machines.
2. A paycheck gave her freedom as a woman. She did not have to be dependent on a husband or family members.

ACTIVITY

Speeches will vary. Students should identify a law or rule in the school or community that should be changed. They should conduct research on the issue and identify evidence to support the changes they propose. Students should write a persuasive speech presenting their proposed solution to the class.

Elijah McCoy

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. Trains had to be pulled out of service so they could be oiled.
2. McCoy's invention made it possible for railroads and factories to run machinery continuously, saving time and money.

ACTIVITY

Answers will vary. Students should write a brief paragraph describing one of McCoy's inventions. Paragraphs should explain the use and function of the invention, as well as its benefits.

Literature

Leaves of Grass

ANALYZING LITERATURE

1. Walt Whitman's repeated use of the word *singing* suggests celebration and joy in the work people do. His respect for workers is shown in the lines, "O you robust, sacred!/I cannot tell you how I love you;/All I love America for, is contained in men and women like you." This appears to say that it is the workers of America that make the country what it is.
2. All the occupations mentioned in the poems require physical labor, as evidenced by the occupation descriptions (e.g.,

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blacksmithing, tin-roofing, stone-cutting) or the tools used in such occupations (e.g., the mallet, the ice-saw, the blast-furnace).

ACTIVITY

Students should list occupations that have arisen since 1900, when Walt Whitman wrote these poems.

Primary Source

Standard Oil Cartoon

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. An octopus, with its eight arms, can grab and squeeze several different victims at once. The cartoonist believed that Standard Oil was like a giant octopus in its effort to control the oil industry.
2. The octopus is grabbing the statehouse and the Capitol building, and reaching for the White House. The cartoonist is trying to alert readers of Rockefeller's attempts to influence the U.S. government.
3. The artist wanted people to be aware of how large and powerful, and potentially dangerous, Standard Oil had become as it crushed its competition. The artist likely wanted the government to stop Standard Oil from monopolizing the oil industry.

Perspectives of Andrew Carnegie and Samuel Gompers

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

Passage 1

1. Benefits include material development, luxuries, improved conditions, progress and the good of the human race from the accumulation of wealth.

Passage 2

1. Gompers wants a reduction in the hours that workers are forced to work each day.

MAKE A COMPARISON

1. Carnegie states that, under capitalism, the ablest people accumulate wealth and prosper. Gompers contradicts this by pointing out that workers who are forced to work for long hours each day do not have the opportunity to better themselves and gain more wealth.
2. Carnegie was a successful business leader and thus embraced an idea that gave a positive explanation for how the rich acquired their wealth. Gompers, as a labor spokesman, focused his attention on the plight of the workers. He promoted wage increases and shorter work weeks to improve the lives of the workers.

History and Geography

Reading a Time Zone Map

MAP ACTIVITY

1. Students should use a colored pen or highlighter to shade the time zone that is farthest east. In the key that students create, they should use the same color to indicate the Eastern Time Zone.
2. Students should use a different color to shade the time zone immediately west of the Eastern Time Zone and use the same color in the key to indicate the Central Time Zone.
3. Students should use a different color to shade the time zone immediately west of the Central Time Zone and use the same color in the key to indicate the Mountain Time Zone.
4. Students should use a different color to shade the time zone immediately west of the Mountain Time Zone and use the same color in the key to indicate the Pacific Time Zone.

ANALYZING MAPS

1. Pacific
2. Central
3. Eastern
4. 4:00 p.m.
5. Traveling east, it becomes one hour later as each time zone is crossed.

Economics and History

The American Labor Force

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

1. In 1910 the largest number of people

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