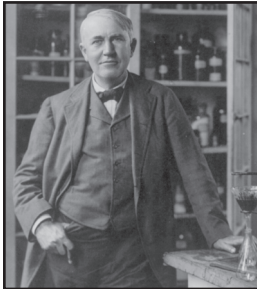


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## UNIT 1 Reconstruction and the Gilded Age

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- 1. The American Civil War, Emancipation, and Reconstruction on the World Stage**, Edward L. Ayers, *OAH Magazine of History*, January 2006  
The ***Civil War, Emancipation, and Reconstruction*** were seminal events in American history. The author argues that the war and its aftermath “has carried a different meaning for every generation of Americans” and “embodied struggles that would confront people on every continent.” 2
- 2. How a War of Terror Kept Blacks Oppressed Long after the Civil War Ended**, Steven Budiansky, *American History*, April 2008  
Between 1865 and 1877 more than 3,000 ***freedmen*** and their white allies were murdered in the South in efforts to keep ***blacks*** subservient. A particularly gruesome example of this savagery took place in 1876 at Hamburg, South Carolina, where a mob of whites carried out a massacre in this predominantly black community. 8
- 3. The Nez Perce Flight for Justice**, W. David Edmunds, *American Heritage*, Fall 2008  
Despite a long history of cooperation with whites, in 1877 the ***Nez Perce Indians*** led by ***Chief Joseph*** were thrown off their historic lands in Oregon. Driven from place to place over a distance of 1,000 miles, the exhausted band finally was defeated in September of that year. “I am tired. My heart is sick and sad,” Joseph stated. “From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.” 14
- 4. How the West Was Spun**, Stephen G. Hyslop, *American History*, October 2008  
***William “Buffalo Bill” Cody’s Wild West Show*** was enormously popular in this country and in Europe. Hyslop goes behind the daring rescues and cavalry charges, to discuss why this extravaganza was so attractive. It reassured Americans “that they would never be too civilized to beat the braves and bullies of the world at their own game.” 16
- 5. Gifts of the “Robber Barons,”** James Nuechterlein, *Commentary*, March 2007  
***Corporations*** grew to unprecedented size during the post-Civil War period. Those who headed these organizations often were referred to as “Robber Barons” for their ***shady business practices and exploitation of labor***. The author examines the lives of two of these individuals, ***Andrew Carnegie*** and ***Andrew Mellon***. He concludes that they were “neither heroes nor villains in the roles they played.” 20
- 6. Lockwood in ‘84**, Jill Norgren, *Wilson Quarterly*, August 2002  
In 1884, lawyer ***Belva Lockwood*** ran for the presidency on the Equal Rights Party ticket. Although ***women’s suffrage*** was her priority, she took progressive stands on most of the day’s leading issues. She was the first and last woman (so far) to stay in a presidential race right up to Election Day. 26
- 7. A Day to Remember: December 29, 1890**, Charles Phillips, *American History*, December 2005  
On this date the 7th Cavalry attacked a group of ***Sioux Indians*** at Wounded Knee Creek in South Dakota, killing about 300 people most of whom were women and children. Author Phillips analyzes the events leading to this massacre, including the rise of what became known as the ***Ghost Dancers***. 32

The concepts in bold italics are developed in the article. For further expansion, please refer to the Topic Guide.

8. **Utopia Derailed**, Arthur Melville Pearson, *Archaeology*, January/February 2009  
Industrialist **George Pullman** created a model community in a town outside Chicago that was supposed to create harmony between **labor and management**. This “harmony” dissipated into a bitter strike in 1894 when Pullman slashed workers’ wages but not their rents or other costs of living.

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## UNIT 2

### The Emergence of Modern America

#### Unit Overview

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9. **Where the Other Half Lived**, Verlyn Klinkenborg, *Mother Jones*, July/August 2001

The Mulberry Bend section was one of **the most notorious slums in New York City**. Danish-born reformer Jacob Riis photographed and wrote about the squalor and unbelievably crowded conditions in which the mostly immigrant population of the Bend had to live.

40

10. **TR’s Wild Side**, Douglas Brinkley, *American Heritage*, Fall 2009

The story of **Teddy Roosevelt** and his “Rough Riders” during the Spanish-American War has been told often. Brinkley uses this as a starting point, but zeroes in on Roosevelt’s concern about the wildlife he encountered in Cuba. Though an avid hunter, Roosevelt went on to become an ardent **conservationist** and our **first “green” president**.

42

11. **Joe Hill: ‘I Never Died,’ Said He**, Ben Lefebvre, *American History*, December 2005

The author describes the life and times of Joe Hillstrom, better known as “**Joe Hill**,” a legendary **labor organizer and agitator**. After his execution for a murder he may not have committed, Hill became a martyr to many in the labor movement.

47

12. **“A Machine of Practical Utility,”** Tom D. Crouch, *American Heritage*, Winter 2010

Experiments conducted on December 17, 1903 by the **Wright brothers** at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina generally are regarded as the **first powered and controlled flights in history**. The longest flight made that day, however, lasted only 59 seconds. Not until 1905, Couch shows, did they become certain that “they had invented an aircraft that could be flown reliably over significant distances under a pilot’s complete control.”

51

13. **A Brief History of Fear**, Jerry Useem, *Fortune*, September 3, 2007

Financial panics have been a recurrent phenomena throughout American history. During the **Great Panic of 1907**, one man—**J. Pierpont Morgan**—almost single-handedly prevented the panic from turning into a crash.

53

14. **A Day to Remember: March 25, 1911: Triangle Fire**, Charles Phillips, *American History*, April 2006

Beginning in late 1909, employees of the **Triangle Waist Company** joined in a **strike** led by the **Women’s Trade Union League** calling for better pay, shorter hours, and improvement of horrible working conditions. The strike ended with few gains. The 1911 fire, which claimed 146 women, brought to public attention the squalid and dangerous circumstances found at Triangle and other sweatshops. Blocked exits and faulty fire hoses resulted in many needless deaths.

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## UNIT 3

### From Progressivism to the 1920s

#### Unit Overview

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15. **The \$5 Day**, Robert H. Casey, *American Heritage*, Winter 2010

In January 1914 executives of the Ford Motor Company announced that they were going to double the **minimum wage** for an eight hour working day to \$5. **Henry Ford** became something of a hero to **workers**, who flocked to his plant to enjoy higher pay. Author Casey explores some of the unanticipated consequences of this bold move.

60

16. **To Make the World Safe for Democracy**, John Lukacs, *American Heritage*, Winter 2010  
 On April 2, 1917 **President Woodrow Wilson** appeared before Congress to ask for a declaration of war against Germany. “The world,” he stated, “must be made safe for democracy.” The allies won the war, but Wilson failed to attain the kind of settlement he wanted at the Paris Peace Conference and the United States Senate repudiated his plan for a **League of Nations**. Twenty years later Americans faced the horrifying prospect of another world war. 62
17. **The Democrats’ Deadlocked Ballot Brawl of 1924**, Peter Carlson, *The Washington Post Weekly Edition*, March 10–16, 2008  
 In 1924 Democratic frontrunners **Al Smith** and **William Gibbs McAdoo** deadlocked at the convention. Smith backers tended to be Northern, urban, “wet” (against prohibition), and Catholic; McAdoo appealed to the South and West, “dry” and Protestant. There were 103 ballots taken before a compromise candidate was selected. 64
18. **Between Heaven and Earth: Lindbergh: Technology and Environmentalism**, Glen Jeansonne and David Lührssen, *History Today*, January 2008  
**Charles A. Lindbergh’s** solo flight across the Atlantic in 1927 “symbolized the triumph of **technology** over geography and the human spirit over the barrier of space.” Seldom mentioned is that in his later years Lindbergh came to have grave doubts about the impact of technology on the planet, and devoted himself to a number of **environmental issues**. 66
19. **Evolution on Trial**, Steve Kemper, *Smithsonian*, April 2005  
 The **Scopes Trial** of 1925 pitted **William Jennings Bryan** against **Clarence Darrow** in a highly publicized clash over the teaching of **evolution** in Dayton, Tennessee. Kemper points out that 80 years later many residents of Dayton refuse to accept **Charles Darwin’s** theory about the common ancestry of humans and primates. 69
20. **Remember the Roaring ’20s?**, Robert S. McElvaine, *The Washington Post National Weekly Edition*, October 6–12, 2008  
 “The task facing business in the 1920s,” the author writes, “was replacing the work ethic with a consumption ethic.” He sees a great deal of similarity between the **Bull Market of the 1920s** and the economic bubble that burst in 2008. 74



## UNIT 4 From the Great Depression to World War II

### Unit Overview 76

21. **15 Minutes That Saved America**, H. W. Brands, *American History*, October 2008  
 On March 12, 1933 **President Franklin D. Roosevelt** made the first radio broadcast of what would become known as his “**fireside chats**.” In a calm, intimate manner he spoke to the American people about the **banking failure** that had almost paralyzed the nation and what he proposed to do about it. Author Brands regards this as perhaps the most important 15 minutes in American history. 79
22. **Lessons from the Great Crash**, James Piereson, *The Weekly Standard*, March 31/April 7, 2008  
 Piereson analyzes the overall impact of the **New Deal** on the American economy and society. If FDR did not “save” **capitalism**, Piereson concludes, “he at least steered it through its greatest crisis by engineering a package of moderate and constructive reforms.” 83
23. **When America Sent Her Own Packing**, Steve Boisson, *American History*, October 2006  
 During the **Great Depression** about 1 million people of **Mexican** descent were driven from the United States by **raids, deportations, and scare tactics**. Los Angeles County, for instance, sponsored trains to “repatriate” Mexicans. Americans, bewildered by the economic disaster, sought a convenient scapegoat and “found it in the Mexican community.” 86

24. **Labor Strikes Back**, Robert Shogan, *American History*, December 2006  
 In December 1936 the **United Auto Workers** launched a sit-down **strike** against **General Motors**. Shogan discusses events leading up to the strike and the violence that resulted. The success of the strike sparked a wave of similar actions in workplaces across the nation. According to the author, “the sit-down strikers wrote a new chapter in the annals of American **labor**.” 91
25. **Flight of the Wasp**, Victoria Pope, *American Heritage*, Spring 2009  
**The Women Air Force Service Pilots** served as a home front Army auxiliary during World War II. They flew cargo, transported new planes from factories, and towed aerial targets. Always controversial in an age when the ability of women to perform such functions was controversial, the group was disbanded in 1944. An initially skeptical General Harold Arnold, Chief of the Army Air Forces, said of their performance: “It is on the record that women can fly as well as men.” Unfortunately, it was not until the 1970s that they were officially recognized as veterans. 96
26. **Ike at D-Day**, Michael Korda, *Smithsonian*, December 2007  
**General Dwight D. “Ike” Eisenhower** commanded a force of 3 million men scheduled to **invade France** during the first week of June 1944. Planning for the operation had been meticulous but could not account for the weather. Author Korda describes the run up to Ike’s decision to “go.” 99



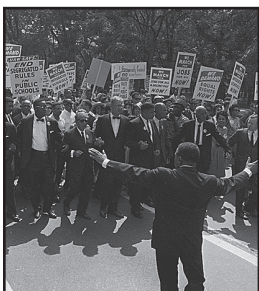
## UNIT 5 From the Cold War to 2010

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27. **Dollar Diplomacy**, Niall Ferguson, *The New Yorker*, August 27, 2007  
 The end of World War II found the economic structure of Europe in ruins. The harsh winter of 1946–47, further **depressed economic and social conditions**. Fearing a collapse into chaos, American Secretary of State **George C. Marshall** in the spring of 1947 proposed a massive aid program to get Europe back on its feet. Niall Ferguson evaluates the **Marshall Plan**, which has been called “among the most noble experiences in human affairs.” 107
28. **Command Performance**, David Halberstam, *Smithsonian*, November 2007  
 Just five years after the end of World War II, Americans found themselves involved in the **Korean War**. Halberstam analyzes the role of **General Matthew B. Ridgway** in reorganizing demoralized American forces after China entered the conflict. 111
29. **Crisis at Central High**, John A. Kirk, *History Today*, September 2007  
 In September 1957, nine **black students** attempted to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Kirk analyzes events leading up to this courageous act and its lasting consequences. 116
30. **Launch of a New World**, Joel Achenbach, *The Washington Post Weekly Edition*, October 8–14, 2007  
 In October 1957, the **Soviet Union launched the first space satellite** in history. **Sputnik**, as it was named, had an enormous impact on the way Americans viewed their society and their future. Their confidence in **American technological superiority** was badly shaken and the Soviets had gained an insurmountable military edge in the Cold War. 121
31. **Will the Left Ever Learn to Communicate across Generations?**, Maurice Isserman, *The Chronical Review*, June 20, 2008  
 During the tumultuous 1960s several generations of **radicals** vied to determine the course of **protest movements**. Their inability to cooperate effectively severely damaged their cause. 124
32. **King’s Complex Legacy**, Kevin Merida, *The Washington Post National Weekly Review*, April 14–20, 2008  
**Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.** is rightly remembered as the towering **Civil Rights leader** of his time. Less well remembered, however, is that he was a beleaguered man during the last years of his life. His opposition to the **Vietnam War** and his embrace of **social and economic goals** some considered extreme alarmed even some of his supporters who believed he “had taken on too much.” 128

The concepts in bold italics are developed in the article. For further expansion, please refer to the Topic Guide.

33. **The Spirit of '78, Stayin' Alive**, Kenneth S. Baer, *The Washington Post*, July 13, 2008  
 Many writers have claimed that if you want to understand the present, you should look back to 1968. Not so, according to the author. "If you peer deeply into the polyester soul of 1978, you can see the beginnings of the **world we live in today.**" 131
34. **Soft Power: Reagan the Dove**, Vladislav M. Zubok, *The New Republic*, June 21, 2004  
**Ronald Reagan**, once considered by many to be a bungling incompetent, now occupies a much higher place in the ranks of twentieth century presidents. This transformation has come about, Zubok argues, not because of his embrace of militant policies such as Star Wars but because he sought the path of **peace** with the **Soviet Union** when the opportunity arose. 133
35. **The Tragedy of Bill Clinton**, Garry Wills, *New York Times Book Review*, August 12, 2004  
 Most people agreed that **Bill Clinton** was an able politician, regardless of whether they agreed with his objectives. This article analyzes the man and the **scandals** that mortally wounded his presidency. Wills argues that Clinton would have better served himself and his programs had he resigned from office. 135
36. **The Rove Presidency**, Joshua Green, *The Atlantic*, September 2007  
 President **George W. Bush's** key strategist, **Karl Rove**, "had the plan, the power, and the historic chance to remake American politics." This seemed especially true after **9/11**. The Bush/Rove vision of creating a permanent Republican majority dissipated through a series of blunders. "Bush will leave behind a legacy long on ambition," Green writes, "and short on positive results." 142
37. **Good Health for America?**, Martin Gorsky, *History Today*, February 2010  
 Written shortly before passage of **President Obama's health care bill**, Gorsky provides a brief history of why previous attempts failed. "The key point," according to Gorsky, "is that the political institutions of the U.S. tend to impede deep and contentious reforms." 151



## UNIT 6

### New Directions for American History

#### Unit Overview 154

38. **An Empire at Risk**, Niall Ferguson, *Newsweek*, December 7, 2009  
**The United States** is the lone **superpower** with unrivalled military and economic strength. Ever mounting **deficits**, Ferguson warns, could pave the way to disaster. "Call it the fatal arithmetic of imperial decline." 156
39. **What Do We Owe the Indians?**, Paul VanDevellder, *American History*, June 2009  
 The treatment of Indians has been a sordid chapter in American history. Pushed off their ancestral lands, many **tribes** were herded onto reservations that could barely sustain existence. A new generation of educated Indians are using the courts to make certain that the 371 active **treaties**, many of which have been broken or ignored, are interpreted fairly. 160
40. **Becoming Us**, Alan Ehrenhalt, *Governing*, July 2008  
 For nearly 200 years those who consider themselves "Americans" have been worried about successive waves of **immigration**. Will the newcomers eventually blend into society, or will they remain a quasi-alien presence for the foreseeable future? The author analyzes this issue as it applies to **Mexican** immigrants. 164
41. **Ending the Slavery Blame-Game**, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., *The New York Times*, April 23, 2010  
 One of the most contentious issues in **American racial history** has been that of **reparations**: "that the descendants of American slaves should receive compensation for their ancestors' unpaid labor and bondage." Gates explores the relatively unknown role of **Africans** in providing bodies for the deplorable **slave trade**. 166



<b>42. The American Character</b> , Louis P. Masur, <i>The Chronical Review</i> , January 16, 2009 Going against recent scholarly trends, historian Simon Schama argues that there is an American character that sets us apart from other nations. He cites four topics that “will inform America’s future because they have indelibly stamped its past: war, religion, immigration and abundance.”	<b>168</b>
<b>43. Global Warming: Who Loses—and Who Wins?</b> , Gregg Easterbrook, <i>The Atlantic</i> , April 2007 <b>Global warming</b> , Easterbrook argues, could cause a “broad-based disruption of the global economy unparalleled by any event other than World War II.” He points out that this phenomenon probably will do more harm to those nations already mired in poverty and might actually benefit the more affluent ones. He also discusses what must be done to stave off disaster.	<b>171</b>
<b>44. Boomer Century</b> , Joshua Zeitz, <i>American Heritage</i> , October 2005 “ <b>Baby Boomers</b> ” are generally referred to as those who were born between 1946 and 1964, a period when the national birthrate skyrocketed. “Raised in an era of unprecedented affluence and national omnipotence, but coming of age in a time that perceived more limited resources and diminished American power,” Zeitz points out, “the boomers have long been defined by a vain search for satisfaction.”	<b>177</b>
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