

Name _____

Life In 1890 Answer Key

Students must:

- Clearly identify one role
- Include 1890s-specific context (urbanization, immigration, long factory hours, big business growth, technology, reform movements)
- Provide both challenges and opportunities
- Demonstrate awareness of how people contributed to industrial expansion

Example Themes:

- Immigrant: arriving through Ellis Island, crowded tenements, new job opportunities
- Factory Worker: low wages, dangerous machines, labor reforms, growing cities
- Industrial Tycoon: wealth and influence, business expansion, involvement in trusts

The final statement should demonstrate perspective-taking and evidence-based reasoning.

Teacher's Guide

Engagement Strategies:

- Use images from Gilded Age factories or immigrant neighborhoods as prompts
- Allow students to role-play interviews with one another
- Provide a short background mini-lesson before writing

Differentiation:

- Offer sentence starters for students who need support
- Encourage advanced students to include references to major events or policies
- Allow oral brainstorming or mind maps prior to writing

Extension Ideas:

- Students create a diary entry with a date and historical references
- Present reflections in small groups to compare different roles