

Name _____



Progressive Era Journal

Directions: Read the speech excerpt below. Then write one paragraph reacting to it as if you were a citizen living during the Progressive Era. You may choose any viewpoint: worker, reformer, business owner, factory parent, immigrant, etc. Use historical details and show how you might have felt at the time.

From Theodore Roosevelt's "The New Nationalism" Speech (1910):

"The citizens of the United States must effectively control the mighty commercial forces which they have themselves called into being. The absence of effective state and national restraint upon unfair money-getting has tended to create a small class of enormously wealthy and economically powerful men..."

Your Perspective Paragraph

Consider these guiding questions as you write:

- Do you agree or disagree with Roosevelt? Why?
- How are you personally affected by big business or unfair practices?
- What changes do you hope government officials will make?
