Paths to Reform

Compare how Americans organized for change.

SS24.US1.18 "Describe the emergence of the Populist and Progressive movements and explain changes brought about by individual reformers and organizations. 18a Develop an argument supporting the significance of the National Farmers Alliance..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the problems reformers faced, circle the methods they used, and number any results you find. Use your marks to compare which methods led to change.

Different Paths, Shared Demands

1 In the late 1800s, falling crop prices and costly railroad shipping left many farmers in debt. They joined groups to buy supplies together and demand fairer economic rules. Black farmers organized separately because racism limited their access to white-led groups. The farmers' alliances helped build the Populist Party, which called for federal action on farm credit and railroad power.

FARMERS ORGANIZE

Group	Action
Grange	Organized cooperative buying and pressed for railroad regulation
National Farmers Alliance	Backed cooperative buying and federal loans on stored crops
Colored Farmers' National Alliance	Organized Black farmers for cooperation and economic power

2 In growing cities, factory workers faced long hours and dangerous machines. Unions such as the American Federation of Labor organized workers to bargain for better pay, shorter hours, and safer workplaces. Journalists also pressed for reform. Ida Tarbell's magazine articles exposed Standard Oil's business tactics. Upton Sinclair's novel *The Jungle* stirred outrage about meatpacking, helping spur federal food safety laws.

3 Women reformers had different priorities. Susan B. Anthony argued women needed the vote to shape laws. The National American Woman Suffrage Association pursued a voting amendment. Frances Willard's Woman's Christian Temperance Union sought to limit alcohol, linking drinking to family hardship, and also backed suffrage. Reformers had different priorities but overlapping goals. The Nineteenth Amendment barred voting restrictions based on sex in 1920.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which two farmer groups in the table sought to lower costs through cooperation? How did one of them also seek a change in government policy?

2. Which writer's work is linked to a law in the passage? What does that link suggest about the power of published writing?

3. Why did industrial workers form unions, and what method did unions use to seek improvements?

4. How did the goals of the suffrage association and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union differ, and where did they overlap?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you are designing a museum display about reform in industrial America. In four sentences, pair two efforts from different paragraphs, argue what they shared, and explain one key difference using evidence for each.

ANSWER KEY

Paths to Reform

GRADE 10 · SS24.US1.18

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline the problems reformers faced, circle the methods they used, and number any results you find. Use your marks to compare which methods led to change. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which two farmer groups in the table sought to lower costs through cooperation? How did one of them also seek a change in government policy?	**The Grange and National Farmers Alliance promoted cooperative buying. The Grange pressed for railroad regulation, while the alliance backed federal loans on stored crops.**
2	Which writer's work is linked to a law in the passage? What does that link suggest about the power of published writing?	**Upton Sinclair's novel helped spur federal food safety laws. Published writing could draw public attention to a problem and build pressure for change.**
3	Why did industrial workers form unions, and what method did unions use to seek improvements?	**Workers faced long hours and dangerous machines. Unions organized them to bargain for better pay, shorter hours, and safer workplaces.**
4	How did the goals of the suffrage association and the Woman's Christian Temperance Union differ, and where did they overlap?	**The suffrage association pursued voting rights, while the temperance union sought to limit alcohol. Both supported women's suffrage.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A display should pair the National Farmers Alliance with the American Federation of Labor because both used organized groups to seek economic change. The alliance backed cooperative buying and federal loans on stored crops. The labor union organized workers to bargain for better pay and safer workplaces. Farmers sought relief from debt and crop prices, while factory workers focused on their wages and working conditions.

Accept other evidence-based comparisons in the museum label if the efforts come from different paragraphs. For question 1, students may name either policy goal shown for the two groups.