

Texas Reform Waves

Compare how reform movements changed Texas politics and policy.

7.7.C “describe and compare the impact of reform movements in Texas in the 19th and 20th centuries such as progressivism, populism, women's suffrage, agrarianism, labor reform, and the conservative movement of the late 20th century;”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each reform movement and circle the words that tell what changed because of it. Write 19 or 20 in the margin beside each movement to show its century.

Movements That Changed Texas

- ① In the late 1800s, many Texas farmers faced debt, low crop prices, and high railroad shipping rates. Agrarian groups, including the Farmers' Alliance, asked government to regulate railroads and help farmers gain fairer economic conditions. Populism grew from similar concerns. Populists tried to turn rural demands into election power. These movements did not solve every farm problem, but they made farmers' complaints a stronger force in Texas politics.
- ② During the early 1900s, Progressives sought reforms in government and daily life. In Texas, reformers supported measures such as worker protections, public-health programs, and stronger regulation of businesses. Labor reform helped win a workers' compensation law in 1913 for employees injured at work. Women's suffrage changed political participation. Texas women gained the right to vote in primary elections in 1918, and Texas ratified the Nineteenth Amendment in 1919.
- ③ Reform movements could seek more government action or less. Early twentieth-century Progressives and labor reformers often wanted laws that protected workers or regulated business. By contrast, the conservative movement that grew in Texas late in the twentieth century promoted lower taxes, limited government, and traditional social values. Its growing support helped Republicans win more Texas offices. Each movement shaped public policy, yet their goals differed: some expanded government responsibility, while conservatives often argued for limits on it.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How were agrarianism and populism alike, and what political impact did they have?

2 Compare the impact of labor reform with the impact of women's suffrage.

3 How did the government goals of Progressives and labor reformers differ from those of late twentieth-century conservatives?

4 How did the impact of the late 1800s farm movements differ from the impact of the late twentieth-century conservative movement?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose two movements from the passage. Write exactly three sentences that compare their goals and impacts. Your third sentence must explain one important difference.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each reform movement and circle the words that tell what changed because of it. Write 19 or 20 in the margin beside each movement to show its century. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How were agrarianism and populism alike, and what political impact did they have?	Both grew from farmers' economic concerns. They made farmers' complaints a stronger force in Texas politics.
2	Compare the impact of labor reform with the impact of women's suffrage.	Labor reform helped win workers' compensation for injured employees. Women's suffrage expanded political participation by giving Texas women primary voting rights.
3	How did the government goals of Progressives and labor reformers differ from those of late twentieth-century conservatives?	Progressives and labor reformers often supported laws to protect workers and regulate businesses. Conservatives promoted lower taxes and limited government.
4	How did the impact of the late 1800s farm movements differ from the impact of the late twentieth-century conservative movement?	Farm movements made farmers' concerns stronger in Texas politics. The conservative movement helped Republicans win more Texas offices and supported policies favoring limited government.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Agrarianism sought fairer economic conditions for farmers, and it made farm complaints stronger in politics. Women's suffrage expanded political participation by giving Texas women primary voting rights. Both changed Texas politics, but agrarianism focused on rural economic concerns while suffrage focused on voting rights.

Accept equivalent comparisons supported by the passage. For Part 3, check for exactly three sentences, two accurate goals or impacts, and a clear difference.