

Roosevelt's Lasting Mark

Trace how Theodore Roosevelt's actions shaped the United States.

USII.4.a "explaining the legacy of Theodore Roosevelt including, but not limited to conservation contributions, progressivism, the building of the Panama Canal, and his role in the Spanish-American War;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one action Theodore Roosevelt took in each paragraph, then circle the result or effect connected to that action. These links show why his actions became part of his legacy.

A President of Action

- ① When war broke out between the United States and Spain in 1898, Theodore Roosevelt was a leading voice for action. He resigned as assistant secretary of the navy and helped organize the Rough Riders, a volunteer cavalry unit. In Cuba, Roosevelt and the Rough Riders joined other troops in charging up Kettle Hill during the Battle of San Juan Heights. Reports of his actions made him nationally famous. After the war, voters elected him governor of New York, then vice president.
- ② As president from 1901 to 1909, Roosevelt supported progressivism, a movement that used government action to address problems caused by rapid industrial growth. He challenged some powerful business trusts, companies that controlled much of one industry. He also backed laws that protected consumers. The Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act, both passed in 1906, required safer handling and more honest labeling of food and medicines. Roosevelt believed the federal government should serve the public interest, not only wealthy corporations.
- ③ Roosevelt also left a lasting mark on land and transportation. He protected about 230 million acres by creating national forests, wildlife refuges, and other federal protected areas. To link the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, he supported building the Panama Canal across Panama. The United States began construction in 1904, and the canal opened in 1914, after Roosevelt left office. Ships could avoid the long trip around South America. These actions showed two parts of his legacy, conserving natural resources and expanding the nation's power to trade and travel.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did Roosevelt's role in the Spanish-American War help his later political career?

2 What did progressivism mean in the passage, and what is one way Roosevelt acted on this idea?

3 What are two kinds of protected areas Roosevelt created, and what resource did this work help conserve?

4 Why did the Panama Canal matter to trade and travel?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label about Theodore Roosevelt's legacy. Choose two actions from two different categories in the passage, explain an effect of each action, and state which action you think had the broader legacy.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one action Theodore Roosevelt took in each paragraph, then circle the result or effect connected to that action. These links show why his actions became part of his legacy. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Roosevelt's role in the Spanish-American War help his later political career?	His actions with the Rough Riders made him nationally famous. After the war, voters elected him governor of New York and then vice president.
2	What did progressivism mean in the passage, and what is one way Roosevelt acted on this idea?	Progressivism used government action to address problems from rapid industrial growth. Roosevelt challenged business trusts or supported consumer-protection laws.
3	What are two kinds of protected areas Roosevelt created, and what resource did this work help conserve?	He created national forests and wildlife refuges, along with other federal protected areas. This work helped conserve natural resources, including land and wildlife habitats.
4	Why did the Panama Canal matter to trade and travel?	It linked the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, so ships could avoid the long trip around South America. It expanded the nation's power to trade and travel.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Theodore Roosevelt's conservation work and his support for the Panama Canal show a broad legacy. He created protected areas that saved forests and wildlife habitats. The canal connected the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, helping ships avoid sailing around South America. I think conservation had the broader legacy because protected land continues to benefit people and wildlife today.

Accept equivalent descriptions of Roosevelt's actions and effects when they are supported by the passage. For the museum label, accept different well-supported choices of two categories and a clearly stated opinion about broader legacy.