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***Unit 5: Immigration & Urbanization***

**Overview:** In the later 1800’s the United States experienced an unprecedented wave of immigration changed America and its culture. More than twenty million people entered the United States over a forty year period bringing with them new religions, foods, customs, and ideas about the world. Most of these immigrants ended up in U.S. cities, taking advantage of the growing industrial opportunities located there.

**Vocabulary and Terms:**

**1)**  old immigrants new immigrants push factor

pull factor tenements sweat shops

*“The New Colossus”* Chinese Exclusion Act Myth of America

Immigration assimilation

**2)** mass transit suburbs mass culture skyscraper

Pulitzer/Hearst subway urbanization

**3)** Jacob Riis settlement house ethnic neighborhood

ghetto Jane Addams/Hull House slums

**Reading Assignments:**

1. 636 - 637
2. 638 – 641
3. 642 – 645
4. 646 – 647
5. 648 – 649

**Essential Questions:**

1. Why did immigrants undertake this enormous life-changing event of leaving their ancestral homelands?
2. What did the United States offer to immigrants that drew them to our country?
3. What problems did new immigrants face when they arrived in the United States?
4. What did these new immigrants do to make the process of assimilation easier?
5. How did the “native” Americans react to the new immigrants? Why?
6. What problems developed along with the rapid growth of American cities?
7. How did cities change to address the massive influx of people and the problems created by the growing population?
8. How did American culture change as a result of this new age of immigration?
9. America is known as the “melting pot.” Why is America called this? Do you think it was an accurate description of American back then? What about now?
10. What did cities offer to people that led to the urbanization of America?