Test: The Populist Revolt and the Currency Debate

Part I: Multiple Choice: Choose the best answer for each question.

1. The Populist Party was mainly supported by
   A. factory owners
   B. farmers and laborers
   C. railroad executives
   D. wealthy bankers
2. The Populist movement began because many farmers were unhappy about
   A. low crop prices and high debt
   B. free college education
   C. immigration laws
   D. overseas trade
3. What was the main goal of the "Free Silver" movement?
   A. To stop the use of all coins
   B. To increase the money supply by coining silver
   C. To replace paper money with gold
   D. To end banking
4. Which famous speaker supported the Free Silver movement with his "Cross of Gold" speech?
   A. Theodore Roosevelt
   B. Andrew Carnegie
   C. William Jennings Bryan
   D. Grover Cleveland
5. Farmers believed railroad companies often
   A. lowered prices too much
   B. charged unfair shipping rates
   C. provided free transportation
   D. refused to build tracks
6. The Populist Party was also known as the
   A. Greenback Party
   B. Liberty Party
   C. People's Party
   D. Reform Party

Part II: Fill in the Blank

Word Bank

silver gold farmers inflation Populists
railroads debts William Jennings Bryan

1. Many _____ joined together to support the Populist movement.
2. The _____ wanted more money in circulation to help people pay off loans.
3. Supporters of Free Silver believed it would create _____.
4. Many farmers struggled to repay their _____ during the economic hard times.
5. The currency debate centered around the use of silver versus _____.
6. _____ gave the famous "Cross of Gold" speech.
7. Farmers accused _____ of charging unfair shipping prices.
8. Free coinage of _____ was a major Populist demand.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Part III: True or False: Write T or F for each statement.

1. _____ The Populist Party mainly represented wealthy business owners.
2. _____ The Free Silver movement supported increasing the money supply.
3. _____ William Jennings Bryan supported the gold standard only.
4. _____ Farmers wanted government regulation of railroads.
5. _____ The currency debate focused on whether silver should back U.S. money.
6. _____ The Populist movement grew during economic hardship in the late 1800s.

LIVEWORKSHEETS