



LESSON 7.1.7 | WATCH | Crash Course US History #29 Progressive Presidents

PURPOSE

In this video, you will be introduced to the presidents of the Progressive Era in more detail. You'll find out who these men were, what causes and efforts they made that garnered them the title "Progressive President", and what successes and failures they met on their quest to better life in the United States. Also of note is the way in which these presidents, particularly Theodore Roosevelt, shaped the perception and expectations of the office.

LINK

- [Crash Course US History #29—
Progressive Presidents](#)

Watch the video on your own time, either at home, on your phone, or in the library.

PREVIEW

In which John Green teaches you about the Progressive Presidents, who are not a super-group of former presidents who create complicated, symphonic, rock soundscapes that transport you into a fantasy fugue state. The presidents most associated with the Progressive Era are Theodore Roosevelt, William Taft, and Woodrow Wilson. During the times these guys held office, trusts were busted, national parks were founded, social programs were enacted, and tariffs were lowered. It wasn't all positive though, as their collective tenure also saw Latin America invaded A LOT, a split in the Republican party that resulted in a Bull Moose, all kinds of other international intervention, and the end of the Progressive Era saw the United States involved in World War.

PROCESS

As with all of the videos in the course, watch the video before class. Remember that John speaks quickly and you may benefit from having the captions turned on. If you missed something, be sure to pause or rewind the video. Keep in mind that one of the central ideas in this lesson is to understand the role of government in effecting change. In what ways were these presidents promoting "progress"? In what ways did they require assistance from outside the government? Were they successful? How so? If not, why not?



LESSON 7.1.7 | WATCH | Key Ideas – Factual

Think about the following questions as you watch the video.

1. Why is Theodore Roosevelt considered a model of the 20th Century president?
2. In what ways did Roosevelt regulate the economy by directing the federal government?
3. Why did Roosevelt run against his self-appointed successor in the Election of 1912?
4. What was Wilson's progressive program called and what were its aims?
5. What were the aims of the Bull Moose platform?
6. What were the results of the Election of 1912?



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7. What were the goals of the legislation passed under the Wilson administration?

8. What characteristics of progressive presidents does John point to as an interesting contradiction?

9. What did Wilson believe was the best way to share America's greatness overseas?