Daily Life in the Late 1800’s

Human Legacy Chapter 22.3
Pages 671-677
Cities Grow and Change

• “New activities like reading by electric light and riding bicycles were signs of the changes that occurred during the Industrial Age. Many of the changes took place in the cities. Throughout the 1800’s, much of Europe and the United States experienced rapid urbanization—the growth in the proportion of people living in towns and cities. Not only did cities grow, but they underwent a transformation.”

• Human Legacy, p. 672.
The Industrial City

• Functions
  – Send raw goods to factories
  – Manufacture new products
  – Distribute products to buyers

• Components
  – Factories
  – Large workforce
  – Transportation network

• Characteristics
  – Lively & fast-paced
  – Constantly changing
  – Crowded & unsanitary
Migration to the Cities

- Lure of cities
  - Provide jobs
  - Freedom from hunger, oppression & discrimination

- Immigrants
  - Some from rural areas
  - 1870-1900n12 million foreign immigrants come to the U.S.
  - 1890 42% of U.S. city-dwellers are foreign born
  - Create their own communities
  - Live in crowded, miserable conditions
The Livable Cities

• Improvements
  – Modernized water system
  – Sewer systems
  – Better plumbing
  – Improved sanitation
  – Recreational parks 1860s
    Napoleon III

• Electricity
  – Lighting
  – Electric appliances in homes

• Transportation
  – First subway (London 1863)

• Skyscrapers
  – 10 stories in 1883
  – Elevators 1887
The Suburbs

• Advantages
  – Less crowded
  – Quieter
  – cleaner

• Developments
  – Streetcars
  – Ferries
  – Railroad & bus lines
Education, Leisure, and Arts

• “With the growth of cities in the 1800’s, new educational opportunities developed. In addition, new sports, other leisure activities, and changes in the arts world affected society.”

• Human Legacy, p. 674.
Education and Information

• Need for more educated workforce
  – Technical skills
  – Reading & writing for managers
  – Knowledge of wider world

• Newspapers
  – Both a cause and a result of higher literacy
  – Provide entertainment as well as news
  – Journalism becomes a new profession

• Public Education
  – Begins in 1870s
  – Literacy increases
  – Lower classes only get elementary school
  – Girls often receive less education
  – Vocational schools in 1880s
Leisure Time

• Professional sports
  – Soccer, baseball & football

• Vacation spots
  – Made available by railroad transportation
  – Beaches & amusement parks

• Cultural Activities
  – Public concerts
  – Libraries
  – Museums
  – Theaters (not movies yet)
Changes in the Arts

• Romanticism (early 1800s)
  – Reaction against industrial revolution
  – Emphasized emotion & intuition
  – Love of nature, individualism & past culture

• Realism (mid 1800s)
  – Emphasis on everyday life
  – Struggle of ordinary working people
  – Human dignity

• Impressionism (late 1800s)
  – Capture a moment in time
  – Use of vivid color, light & hazy/loose brushstrokes
  – Reaction to photography