

EXAMPLE #3

The Meat Packing Industry

Below, list shocking observations from the clip on the meatpacking industry.

Background:
Upton Sinclair

PRIMARY SOURCE ACTIVITY – UPTON SINCLAIR “THE JUNGLE”



Sinclair’s investigation of the Chicago meatpacking industry flew off the shelves and informed the country about the conditions at the places where they got the meat for their dinner. Use the table and questions to discuss the problems facing the population at the time of the Progressives.

1. What kinds of problems are seen facing the workers in this meatpacking factory?
(Give 3 examples)
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2. What kinds of problems could the consumers see from meat purchased from this company? (3 examples)
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3. How do you think readers reacted to *The Jungle* when it first came out?

4. What can the government do to protect the citizens of the United States from companies such as this?