

06001

ERA 6: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL U.S. (1870–1900)

ERA 7: THE EMERGENCE OF MODERN AMERICA (1890-1930)

THEMES: CULTURE, POLITICS AND CITIZENSHIP

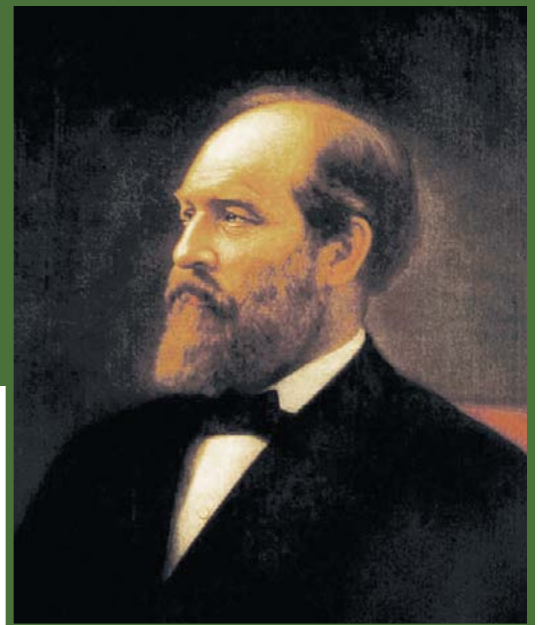
The President and the Lunatic

Guiding Questions

Is the suppression of public opinion during times of crisis ever justified?

What accounts for ideological changes in society and the government?

Is the assassination of a government official a more egregious crime than the murder of an ordinary citizen?



Portrait of President James A. Garfield.

Question Focus Examples for Task 24

Capital punishment can be an appropriate penalty.

“Insane” criminals deserve sympathy and treatment, not punishment.

Teacher-to-Teacher

This article frames a backdrop for a debate/discussion on one of the more “emotionally loaded” issues in American society. This collection includes a recount of Garfield’s assassination, as well as an examination of the issue of Charles Guiteau’s sanity, and the history and broader implications of the insanity defense in today’s society.

Literature Connection: *The Alienist*, by Caleb Carr

Contents

- **The President and the Lunatic** ARTICLE
- **Newspaper Headline of Garfield Assassination** DOCUMENT
- **The Trial of Charles Guiteau: An Account** DOCUMENT
- **Copy of Guiteau letter to Gen. Sherman** DOCUMENT
- **The 'Insanity Defense' and Diminished Capacity** DOCUMENT
- **The Insanity Defense An Intersection of Morality, Public Policy, and Science** DOCUMENT

Recommended Instructional Strategies

Task 2

One Sentence Summaries

Task 4

Explicit Vocabulary Sheet

Task 23

Identifying Claim and Evidence

Task 24

QFT (Question Focus Technique)

Task 25

Document Sourcing

fourscore
make history