General issues:

* You have to cite facts in your own words, not just quotations. You cannot just claim something is true without providing evidence (a specific page number from a required source).   
  ***Personal tip***: Yes, it is true that some heads of corporations (CEOs) and some small owners of companies think shouting their myth makes a reality. Based on my 20 years in varied industries where I worked with learning, you will have to do what they say and not argue with their myth. **If they keep up that, start looking for another job.** Reality rules the world. Yes, there are illusions (like the lead up to a stock market crash and law changes—that the CEOs paid for—that can hide the impending crash for a while), but reality rules.
* If your last sentence of a paragraph is a quick summary of what you proved in that paragraph, you do not have to cite—and you also probably did not need even to write the sentence in this paper since you are answering question. If however you introduce a new issue in that last sentence, you must prove it with proper citation.
* You can use (and cite) evidence of what people **said/wrote** or what they **did**. **That’s it.** You **cannot** tell what a person felt. Think how corrupt it would be if you were on a jury in a murder trial and if another person on the jury claimed that the defendant hated the dead man but there were **no** words heard/written or **no** actions as evidence.
* To answer question that require an impartial witness, do not use those in the primaries who are in dispute. The closest thing to an impartial witness in the primaries is Altgeld.

Helping you Teach Yourself What the Pullman Strike Shows You about America and Government Power in 1894

Many of you did not catch on. You are lovely people, but you did realize this was not only history that the department expects you to learn, but also practice in how to figure out things life. This gives you search words from the primaries so you can find some key things

Do not skip words and sentences—the truth is in the sequence.

***Tip*** I should have given you: Read each primary aloud and slowly enough to think about it.

Watch your assumptions. Use the primaries in Chapter 16 and your textbook (581, 584-585) to answer 4 questions:

1) What is Governor Altgeld’s responsibility and his judgement on the situation?

***Caution:*** A governor in 1894 is not like a governor in 2017—and some of you assumed a governor in 1894 had more power than a governor in 2017.

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| **Issue** | **Primary** | **Search Words in Yellow to Locate the Information in the Primary** |
| A governor’s responsibility | Altgeld, p.1 | perish of hunger – Note: perish means **die**. What the **State of Illinois** cannot let happen makes it what the **governo**r cannot let happen. The governor doesn’t have a lot of power, OK?  In 1894, he has **no** authority on their being hungry but not near death, on unhappiness of workers, on frustrations, on actual oppression, on safety, on wages, on how housing is done, and the list can go on with a lot more. **Stop assuming!** |
| ***Caution:*** A governor’s power | Altgeld, p.1 | cannot help them much. – It’s **no** threat to tell Pullman you will beg decent Illinois people to contribute to feeding the starving in Pullman. (Notice in Altgeld, p. 3, Altgeld is no longer talking about that special session—a hard thing to make happen.)  meddle – The **State of Illinois** does not give the governor power to meddle in a business.  Guys, Altgeld is not a fool. He knows he has little that he can do. |
| Judgment on workers | Altgeld, p.1 | foolish or wrong – He says it a bit differently in Altgeld, p. 3, but it the same meaning and the same keywords. Personal Comment: their initial strike was not a good chess move so I can see why he’d say those words.  ***Caution:*** Neither Altgeld nor Pullman ever call these people *citizens* of Pullman. Think what that means. |
| Judgment on Pullman | Altgeld, p.1 | property – The State of Illinois had spent a lot already to protect Pullman’s property. He repeats this in Altgeld, p. 3.  years –Altgeld raises the issue that these workers had been with Pullman for years in each letter. |
| Judgement on how to act | Altgeld, p. 1 | investigation – Altgeld does not assume the workers or Pullman are accurate in their view—not should he. |

2) What is the situation of the workers and people in Pullman, Illinois? – The most impartial witness is Altgeld who goes to investigate

Reminders:

* Rent/food prices paid by workers **to** Pullman still same, but wages paid to works **by** Pullman down 25-40%*.*
* Workers were **required** to live in Pullman.(*Essentials*, p. 581)
* Altgeld’s letter, p. 2 is after his going to Pullman.

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| **Issue** | **Primary** | **Search Words in Yellow to Locate the Information in the Primary** |
| Starving | Altgeld, all 3 | hung and star- using those short forms will give different versions of the same words (such as hunger and hungry). |
| Pullman knows (or at least his managers know) | Altgeld, p. 2 | Two representatives of your company were with me and we found the distress as great as it was represented. Read that section. |
| The people were hungry before the strike | Altgeld, p. 1 | It is claimed they struck because after years of toil their loaves were so reduced that their children went hungry. – Notice that he says claimed because he had not investigated yet. |
| Pay reduced;  Rent/food kept same | Altgeld, p. 2 | a) If you will allow me and b) dollar is a large sum - Altgeld knows a) his position with Pullman and b) the workers’ issue on the rent (covered in the textbook) and how these workers are experiencing this issue  A very simple (I can do math with a $1.00):   * Your boss pays **you** a $1 for your work. * **You** pay your boss $.40 for food and $.40 for shelter and you have $.20 for other necessities.   Your boss lowers your pay and some of you get $.75 and others get $.60. You still pay your boss $.40 for food and $.40 for shelter   * If your pay is $.75 and the rent is the same, you buy **¼** less food and do **not** spend that $.20 on necessities. * If your pay is $.60 and the rent is the same, you buy ½ less food and do not spend that $.20 on necessities. |
| Relief supplies gone | Altgeld, p. 2 | relief – Note at this time: **relief** is stuff (food, shelter in winter) that keeps humans from **dying.** |

3) What does Pullman argue?

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| **Issue** | **Primary** | **Search Words in Yellow to Locate the Information in the Primary** |
| Panic of 1893 | Pullman, p. 1 | obliged to lay off |
| Lowering of workers’ pay | Pullman, p. 1 | revision of piecework prices - Piecework: You are not paid by the hour or the day or the week, but by the pieces you finished.  Read with care the rest of that line about what he supposed. |
| Methods to have work for Pullman workers and income for his company | Pullman, p. 2 | * lower bids + the concept of contract work Notice: 3/4s of workers are not hired but **contractors.** Contractors. have work only as long as that ¼ that is hired has more work than they can do. The contractor’s life is risky. * closing our Detroit shops – shift of work to Pullman’s town * internal improvements – a 19th century term about infrastructure, but in context it is doing improvement to the shop that Pullman would have normally done later – Notice the condition of Pullmen helping them with this extra work again: Pullmen men show a proper appreciation |
| Rent and Altgeld’s suggestion | Altgeld, p. 2 | Pullman does not deal with Altgeld’s issue on the suggestion to not charge rent so the workers can cease being near starvation. Altgeld’s point if he’d shut the plant for that time period, he would not have gotten rents. |
| Rent – not lowering the rent. Reason: no sound business practice since 3.82 % was (to him) not a good return on investment | Pullman, p. 2 and continues to p. 3 | His 1st argument the rents make a manifestly inadequate return upon investments– Today we call this ROI.  Alternate ways to see this:   * 3.82% would be a great return today for many people (Compare it to interest on a CD now at 0.15 %.) * If the workers were laid off and therefore were not in Pullman’s town, they would not be paying him. * In some ways the payments for the tenements (not the houses that are being sold) are subsidizing his being able to build them so he can rent them out to the next folks who work for him. |
| Rent – like local rates | Pullman, p. 3 | Kensington |
| Rent -sublet | Pullman, p. 3 | subrents paid by single men as lodgers  Alternate ways to see this: a family can only afford the rent if they let strangers live with them |
| Panic of 1893 | Pullman, p. 1 | obliged to lay off |

4) How does it all turn out? (Not covered in the letters but in the textbook.)

Notice the difference in the two sides and notice the Federal intervention to stop this strike.

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| **Workers Side** | **Pullman Side** | **Textbook** | **Big Biz?** | **State?** | **Federal?** |
| Workers in Pullman strike over insufficient income to eat | Pullman – wages down 25-40%; rent, food, unchanged  Reminder: **His** workers are **required** to live in **his** town. | p. 581 | -- | -- | -- |
| Re both, Governor listens/looks | Re both, Governor listens/looks | -- | -- | X | -- |
| American Railway Union (ARU)—supports them | Pullman—fires workers on grievance committee | p. 584 | -- | -- | -- |
| Debs – for negotiated settlement | Pullman- refuses | p. 584 | -- | -- | -- |
| ARU—not handle Pullman cars | Railroad executives – hired strikebreakers | p. 584 | X | -- | -- |
|  | U.S. Attorney general (worked for railroads)– “**swore** in **3400** special deputies”  U.S. Attorney general is the head of the Justice Department! | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X + federal force** |
| Workers –assaulted strikebreakers and destroyed property | President Cleveland, **2,000** federal troops [the nation’s army] over the mail – Notice the word **claiming**—Historians use that when they cannot prove that this h | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X + federal force** |
|  | U.S. Attorney general – **convinced** a federal judge | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X** |
|  | Federal judge – issues injunction | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X** |
| ARU calls off strike |  | p. 584 | -- | -- | **--** |
|  | Judge –Debs charged on that injunction – **6 months jail and becomes socialist** | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X** |
|  | Supreme Court – confirms *In re Debs* | p. 584 | -- | -- | **X** |
| The primaries pick up with the strike over and some Pullman workers tried to come back to work and they are “starving” |  | The dates in the textbook and on the primaries show this. | -- | -- | -- |
| Pullman’s company town no longer existed. |  | -- | -- | -- | -- |

The Federal government and big business come down on the workers, with the law and quantities of muscle: the strikebreakers, the 3400 sworn special deputies, and the 2,000 federal troops. Click [here for the Patterns of Treatment of Labor in the Gilded Age](http://www.cjbibus.com/1870-1890s_Comparing_What_Happens_to_Workers.pdf) (also provided on the Concepts for Unit 1). Pullman is the last row of this chart.

***Tip:*** If you are remembering your Constitution and you know that for the federal government to send federal troops, state officials must ask. Not covered in this textbook, but Altgeld did not ask. If you want to see the part of the Constitution that covers this, click on my searchable Constitution in Required Concepts and search on the letters repub. **If you need to read more about the legal issues to understand**, here is an honorable resource from the Federal Judicial Center: [The Debs Case: Labor, Capital, and the Federal Courts of the 1890s](http://www.fjc.gov/history/home.nsf/page/tu_debs_ta_asa.html). (Do not get caught up in it since it is not essential to this work.)

***Great Caution:*** Read the whole and hear its meaning. If you have to read everything aloud do it. You are to be a detective looking for a reasonable of the truth, not a person writing fake stuff.

* The section above the heading on page 585 is not just that side information form Nation magazine about homeownership.
* The heading “Economic Success and **Excess**” on page 585 is **not** a positive statement about workers. Read with care.