

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 6 Section 1 Primary Source, *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair

**Background** – Upton Sinclair had written several novels before *The Jungle*, but this novel was his first popular success. A weekly newspaper had asked Sinclair to investigate working conditions in the stockyards, and the resulting exposé of unsanitary conditions and impurities in meat brought him instant fame. After reading *The Jungle*, President Theodore Roosevelt was determined to see the 1906 Meat Inspection Act signed into law, one of the first pieces of legislation aimed at protecting consumers. Sinclair later became involved in politics, and even ran for governor of California.

**Vocabulary:**

rheumatism – a painful inflammation (swelling) of muscles and joints

carcass – dead body

**Directions:** Read the excerpt from Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* on page 176, then answer the following questions.

1. What are the differences between the killing-rooms and the chilling-rooms?
2. What dangers to workers and to food does Sinclair describe?
3. What does *The Jungle* suggest about the reasons workers formed unions?
4. Upton Sinclair is considered to be a muckraker. What are modern examples of muckracking?