

What Can You Corroborate?- Answer Key

Supporting Question 2: “How accurate was Upton Sinclair’s “The Jungle”?”

Directions: Upton Sinclair made some very sensational claims in his novel. Before acting President Roosevelt and Congress needed to verify those claims. Your job is to help the President and Congress by verifying each passage from *The Jungle* found below. AS A TEAM, review each source and find at least one quote that backs up Upton Sinclair’s assertions. When you’ve found it, write it in the space provided. Once you are done, answer the supporting question INDIVIDUALLY.

Read Source 2A: Excerpts from Upton Sinclair’s “ <i>The Jungle</i> ”	Watch Source 2B: How "The Jungle" Changed American Food (note time marker in citation)	View Source 2C: Visit the Stock Yards of the 1890s (note slide number in citation)	Read Source 2D: Neill-Reynolds Report
1. “There was never the least attention paid to what was cut up for sausage; there would come all the way back from Europe old sausage that had been rejected, and that was moldy and white – it would be dosed with borax and glycerin, and dumped into the hoppers, and made over again for home consumption.”	<i>1:44 Mold-covered meat, washed off in a bath of Borax</i>		<i>“In two different establishments great stocks of old canned goods were being put through a washing process to remove the old labels. Fresh labels, with the Government name on them, were added, and they were to be sent out as a new product. In one of these instances, the superintendent admitted the stock being relabeled was over two years old.”</i>
2. “There would be meat that had tumbled out on the floor, in the dirt and sawdust, where the workers had tramped and spit uncounted billions of consumption germs.”	<i>0:41- inhuman labor practices and unsanitary conditions on factory floors</i>		<i>“An absence of cleanliness was found everywhere. As an extreme example, we saw a hog that had just been killed, cleaned, and washed fall from the sliding rail to a dirty wooden truck and slide part way into a filthy men’s privy.”</i>
3. “There was no place for the men to wash their hands before they ate their dinner, and so they made a practice of washing them in the water that was to be ladled into the sausage.”		<i>Slide 4- it just looks really hot and gross</i>	<i>“One example of the lack of cleanliness are the privies for both men and women. They consist of a row of seats, generally without even side partitions. Washing sinks are either not furnished or are small and dirty.”</i>

4. "All of their sausage came out of the same bowl, but when they came to wrap it they would stamp some of it "special," and for this they would charge two cents more a pound."			<p><i>"The Government inspectors do not know what may have been placed in the cans in addition to "inspected meat."</i></p> <p><i>Abuse of the labels was noticed."</i></p>
5. "It was too dark in these storage places to see well, but a man could run his hand over these piles of meat and sweep off handfuls of the dried dung of rats. These rats were nuisances, and the packers would put poisoned bread out for them; they would die, and then rats, bread, and meat would go into the hoppers together."	0:47 Rat infestations		<p><i>"The buildings have been constructed with little regard to either light or ventilation. Their dark and dingy rooms are not kept suitably clean."</i></p>
6." There would be meat stored in great piles in rooms; and the water from leaky roofs would drip over it".			<p><i>"The worktables, the floor carts, and the tubs and other receptacles which touch the meat are generally made of wood. The wood is frequently found water soaked, only half cleansed and with meat scraps and grease accumulations adhering to it and collecting dirt."</i></p>

SUPPORTING QUESTION 2: "How accurate was Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*?"

The Jungle seems really accurate. Even if the only source we had was the report, every single thing that Sinclair says here is backed up in some way in the report.