

Key Questions:

1. Do you think that factory work offered the “fair wages” that Eleanor Roosevelt mentions? What information would you need to have to support your answer?
2. What was the purpose of Roosevelt’s article?
3. How does Roosevelt’s article demonstrate themes of imperialism?
4. What is the relationship between globalization and Puerto Rican women entering the workforce?
5. What is missing from Roosevelt’s article?
6. If you were a Puerto Rican woman activist at the time of Roosevelt’s column, how would your perspective differ from Roosevelt’s, and why? What factors account for your different perspectives?
7. What economic programs did the US install in Puerto Rico, and how do they affect gender structure? What kind of “help” do you think Roosevelt proposed? Did it help?
8. What were the causes of women’s strikes in Puerto Rico? What situations were different in the sugar cane strikes and the needleworker strikes?