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*Self-Help* (Samuel Smiles, 1859)

1. During the Industrial era, society was more fluid and flexible than in the Agrarian era, characterized by a rigid social structure. The Industrial Revolution brought about social mobility, urbanization, and the emergence of new ideas, allowing people to move between social groups and exchange knowledge and resources. This fluidity made it more important to understand the simple systems that make up complex systems, rather than just the rigid pyramid structure. Moreover, Smile's advice aligns more with the scientific and technological advancements during the Industrial era. The period was marked by a focus on efficiency, standardization, and mechanization, which required a deep understanding of the simple systems that made up complex machines and processes. As a result, breaking down complex systems into their component parts and understanding how those parts interacted with each other was essential to the growth and success of industrial society. In summary, Smile's advice applies more to the Industrial era due to the greater flexibility of social structures and the emphasis on science and technology, where understanding the simple systems that compose complex systems was crucial.

2. While there doesn't seem to be a direct link between Smile's advice and nationalism, his ideas

do touch on the relationship between nations and individuals. Smile argues that nations are composed of individuals, and to understand a nation as a whole, it's important to understand the simple systems that make it up, such as its economy, social structure, and political system. However, Smile's argument regarding the relationship between individuals and nations is somewhat inconsistent. Although he recognizes the importance of individuals in forming a nation, he also maintains that an individual's primary duty is to improve themselves rather than their country. He states that personal self-improvement is the first responsibility of an individual and that neglecting to improve oneself leads to failure. It's important to note that Smile developed his ideas during the Victorian era- when nationalism was becoming more widespread, and many nations were grappling with defining their identities and values. In this context, Smile's emphasis on personal self-improvement may have been a response to the difficulties of the time. In summary, Smile's advice isn't directly connected to nationalism -but it does have implications for the relationship between individuals and nations. His argument suggests that to comprehend a nation as a whole, we must understand the simple systems that make it up.