-The Gilded Age

1. The Gilded Age = beginning of 2nd Industrial Revolution in 1877.
2. Pre Civil War
    a. Agrarian and decentralized
3. Post Civil War
    a. Large, unified and powerful nation state
        i. People questioned if the constitution was still relevant.Industrial Revolution
4. 1900 = US is #1 in world
    a. Natural/Human resources (iron, timber, coal and population)
5. Railroads
    a. 1st big business
    b. Standardized time for travel with time zones
    c. Investment needed upfront
        i. $36,000/mile
    d. Stimulated economy
        i. Purchased 94% of steel to build
            1. Expanded markets -> people could buy anything from anywhere
    e. Telegraph-> built alongside trains
        i. Fast communication
6. 19th Century Changes
    a. Rise of big business
    b. Lots of corruption
    c. America = one nation, no longer islands
    d. Becoming industrialized
    e. More immigrants
    f. Trains boosted the economy and got goods to more places
        i. Mail order catalogs sold everything

2. Big business
    a. large and powerful.
    b. Monopolized markets and bullied competitors.
        i. Andrew Carnegie–Leader of steel industry
        ii. John D. Rockefeller–Leader of Oil
        iii. J. Pierpont Morgan–Banker
            1. 2x helped the US economy
        iv. Cornelius Vanderbilt–Shpping/Railroad

3. Muckrakers
    a. Journalists and photographers who exposed corruption in politics and business.
    b. The Jungle by Upton Sinclair
        i. Exposed the meatpacking industry
    c. Other authors exposed child labor