

Who were the robber barons?

1. What does the story of John P. Morgan's refusal to lend money to the United States government illustrate?
2. What were the four basic components to build cheap, fast railroads? Who provided these components?
3. Give three examples of corruption in making a link between the East and the West. (Fourth and fifth paragraphs).
4. What was the human cost to this westward expansion?
5. Please read the paragraph on American Voices before the title "Who were the robber barons" and describe the excesses of the Gilded Age.
6. Briefly describe the three scandals that occurred during Grant's presidency.

Please describe how each tycoon made their fortune and whether each did anything unethical or illegal to help acquire their wealth. Please describe and compare with the textbook. Page numbers in parenthesis.

7. Cornelius Vanderbilt (557)
8. Jay Gould (not in textbook)
9. John Pierpont Morgan (570)
10. Andrew Carnegie. (570)
11. John D. Rockefeller (569)
12. Do you think that these families still have large amounts of money today? If so, explain why some people might not view this as fair.
13. What are some problems associated with trusts and enormous monopolies?
14. What does it mean in the 20th paragraph that the president "seemed almost superfluous?"
15. What does the statement "attempts at 'reform' were mostly dogs without much bark or bite" mean?" Give two examples of reforms without much bark or bite. Compare the Sherman Antitrust Act with the reading and the textbook (page 571).
16. Summarize the final paragraph of the reading.