DIRECTIONS: Over the next two days, you and your peers will compete on the field of historio-intellectual battle. Seven teams will compete for a single judge’s favor. By tomorrow, we will know whether the period 1877-1901 was:

**GILDED OR GOLDEN?**

1. **You will be asked to volunteer for one of the following teams:**
   - The Mugwumps
   - Terence V. Powderly and the Knights of Labor
   - J.D. Rockefeller and the Executives of Standard Oil
   - Andrew Carnegie and the Executives of Carnegie Steel
   - Samuel Gompers and the American Federation of Labor
   - Cornelius Vanderbilt and the Railroad Interests
   - Middle class consumers
   - Mary Elizabeth Lease and the Populist Party

2. **Research Preparation (3 days)**
   In order to prepare for our debate, you need to access the Historical Newspapers Database to gather information.

   **Research Link for Historical Newspapers:**

   **Research requirements:**
   (1) Find articles and images that support your group’s position on whether the Industrial Era was Gilded or Golden.

   (2) Find articles and images that criticize or highlight problems with the other groups’ positions. Remember, you will use these to create cross-examination questions.

   (3) You need to complete an **ANNOTATED bibliography** in MLA format that will be turned in with your opening statements. An annotated bibliography has a brief summary of the article listed below the bibliographic information.
   Here is an example:


   This website provides information on how to format an annotated bibliography. It provides links and samples for AP US history students to use as a model. This summary only needs to be about 3-5 sentences.
3. The Gilded/Golden Debate (2 Days)
We will follow these steps on DAY ONE:

A. As a team, you will have twenty minutes to do the following:

i. write a 2-3 minute opening statement that CLEARLY presents your position as to whether the era was GILDED or GOLDEN based on your team’s ideology. Therefore, you must be VERY SPECIFIC to your particular team. The Mugwumps and the American Federation of Labor and the Knights of Labor may all want the same verdict, but they will want it for DIFFERENT REASONS.

ii. Also, each member of the team must write ONE PARAGRAPH of this statement. Therefore, I suggest taking TEN MINUTES to each write your paragraphs and ANOTHER ten minutes to organize a cohesive statement (which does not need to include ALL of each paragraph written). This step of the process will be worth twenty points for each team member.

iii. We will then hear the opening statements of each team. Everyone should take notes on these opening statements for the following reasons:

B. Tonight, you will generate cross-examination questions to other teams. These questions should do one of two things:

   i. either force a rival team to admit to or explain away facts that support your argument
   ii. or encourage an allied team to make a statement supporting your arguments.

On DAY TWO we will “cross-examine” each other. By the end of day two, the judge will make a final decision and explain his/her decision. You will be given the full twenty points for this day when you either ask or answer two questions (or one of each).

Items Collected on Day Two of Debate:
   1. Opening Statements
   2. Annotated Bibliography
   3. Cross-examination questions