



Student Presentation Guide

Use this guide to find information concerning important information on “Big Businesses” from the group presentations.

	Content	Notes
Business Organization and Practices	Basic corporate organization	
	Methods for eliminating competition	
	Types of industries using these methods	
	Improvements in life due to growth of large industries	
	Negative aspects due to the growth of large industries	
	The position of the wealthy during this time period	
The Railroad Industry	Origin and purpose of building railroads	
	Problems faced in creating railroad system	
	Government’s role in creating railroad system	
	Early history of the railroad system	
	Consolidation of railways	
	Positive aspects of a transcontinental railroad system	
	Negative aspects of a transcontinental railroad system	
	Contributions to the Industrial Revolution in the United States	

	Content	Notes
The Steel Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of the steel industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Origin ○ Important inventions ○ Reasons for the United States rapid growth in steel production 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation of the steel industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andrew Carnegie's role ○ J. Morgan's role ○ United States Steel Corporation 	
	Positive aspects the growth of the steel industry	
	Negative aspects of a consolidated steel industry	
	Contribution to the Industrial Revolution in the United States	
The Oil Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rising importance of oil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ History of oil use ○ Usage in the United States 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Oil and John D. Rockefeller <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business organization ○ Methods to eliminate competition ○ Methods of operation ○ Size of industry 	
	Negative aspects of the oil industry	
	Positive aspects of the oil industry	
	Contribution to the Industrial Revolution in the United States	

	Content	Notes
Government's Role	Causes for the government action against industries	
	Types of government action against monopolies and trusts	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old philosophy vs. new philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Laissez faire ○ Public need 	
	Successfulness of government actions	