



Name: _____

Date: _____

GILDED AGE INDUSTRIALISTS: ROBBER BARON OR CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY?

Directions: Go to biography.com and search for the biographies of the following industrialists: **Cornelius Vanderbilt** (1794-1877), **John D. Rockefeller** (1839-1937), **Andrew Carnegie** (1835-1919), and **J.P. Morgan** (1837-1913)

	Industrialist: _____
How did he grow up? Wealthy, poor?	
Name of Corporation/Business What was the business responsible for?	
How did he make most of his wealth? What strategies did he use in business?	
What causes did he donate his money to?	

Summary Question: It has been debated by many historians whether to view these Gilded Age industrialists as “**robber barons**” (people who swindled the poor and used corrupt practices to gain their wealth) or as “**captains of industry**” (people whose resourcefulness helped build the nation’s economy and helped shape it into a strong international leader).

Using evidence written in the chart above, **analyze which title is more appropriate for these individuals in your estimation.**