Study Guide: The Indian Wars, Populism, Big Business, and the Gilded Age

Part A: Important Terms: Instructions: For each term below, on a separate sheet of paper, write at least one sentence explaining why that term is significant for one to understand the Indian Wars, Populism, Big Business, and the Gilded Age that occurred in the mid to late 1800s.

| 1. Nomad                  | 26. Monopoly            |
| 2. Crazy Horse           | 27. Horizontal Integration |
| 3. Buffalo               | 28. Vertical Integration |
| 5. Railroads             | 30. Herbert Spencer      |
| 6. Agrarian              | 31. Sherman Anti-trust Act |
| 7. Westward Expansion    | 32. Strike               |
| 8. Creek                 | 33. Unions               |
| 9. Sitting Bull          | 34. William Sylvis       |
| 10. Red Cloud            | 35. Eugene V. Debs       |
| 11. Seventh Calvary      | 36. The Noble Order of Knights of Labor |
| 12. George Custer        | 37. Capitalism           |
| 13. The Battle of Wounded Knee | 38. Socialism             |
| 15. Mary Elizabeth Lease | 40. The Gilded Age       |
| 16. Oliver Hudson Kelley | 41. City Boss            |
| 17. Democrats            | 42. Graft                |
| 18. Republicans          | 43. Kickback             |
| 19. Goldbugs             | 44. Roscoe Conkling      |
| 20. Bimetallism          | 45. Patronage            |
| 21. Silverites           | 46. Civil Service        |
| 22. William Jennings Bryan | 47. President Garfield   |
| 23. Andrew Carnegie      | 48. President Cleveland  |
| 24. John D. Rockefeller  | 49. Tariffs              |
| 25. J.P. Morgan          | 50. Charles Guiteau      |

Part B: Open Response: Instructions: On a separate sheet of paper, write an answer to the questions below. Use this section to study for the essay portion of the test.

1. What were the Indian Wars? How did they end?

2. Why did Populists have tension and conflict with railroad companies and with banks? What were some political and economic goals of the Populist Movement?

3. Why would some people label John D. Rockefeller as a “Robber Baron” and others label Rockefeller as a generous humanitarian philanthropist?

4. What were the “political machines” of the late 1800s? What did the “political machines” attempt to achieve? Were the “political machines” good, bad, or both for society?
1. **Nomad:** When a person travels often hunting animals and has no permanent home, then that person is a nomad.
2. **Crazy Horse:** A Native American warrior who fought in the Fetterman Massacre, which was also called the Battle of the Hundred Slain.
3. **Buffalo:** This was a prime animal hunted by nomads in the Great Plains.
4. **Manifest Destiny:** This was the belief that God wanted the USA to expand west.
5. **Railroads:** In the mid to late 1800s, the railroads made Westward Expansion possible.
6. **Agrarian:** This is when a people group’s economy is based primarily on farming and they remain in one location.
7. **Westward Expansion:** This is the movement in which the USA expanded west during the 1800s.
8. **The Massacre at Sand Creek:** This was a conflict in which United States Militia killed 150 Native Americans, many of whom were women and children.
9. **Sitting Bull:** He was a Native American leader who refused to sign the Treaty of Fort Laramie.
10. **Red Cloud:** He was a chief of the Sioux and wanted whites to leave the West so Native Americans could control the region.
11. **Seventh Calvary:** This was a cavalry group led by George Custer.
12. **George Custer:** He was an American leader who died at the Battle of Little Big Horn.
13. **The Battle of Wounded Knee:** This conflict essentially ended the Indian Wars.
14. **Populism:** This was a political movement in which farmers united to pursue various economic goals.
15. **Mary Elizabeth Lease:** She was a famous woman who lectured for the Populist movement.
16. **Oliver Hudson Kelley:** He started the Patrons of Husbandry.
17. **Democrats:** This party eventually embraced many Populist goals in their platform. Many in the South were Democrats.
18. **Republicans:** This party was pro big business and stood opposed to many Populist ideas in the late 1800s. Many in the North were Republicans.
19. **Goldbugs:** These people wanted a gold standard in the economy.
20. **Bimetallism:** This was the belief that gold and silver should back the economy.
21. **Silverites:** These people wanted gold and silver to back the economy.
22. **Monopoly:** This occurs when a business has virtually removed all competition from a market.
23. **Horizontal Integration:** This occurs when a company buys out its competitors to form a monopoly.
24. **Vertical Integration:** This occurs when a company buys out the suppliers for its market to become a monopoly.
25. **Charles Darwin:** He wrote, *On the Origin of Species* and developed the theory of evolution.
26. **Herbert Spencer:** He applied Darwin’s findings to economics to create Social Darwinism.
27. **Sherman Anti-trust Act:** This act tried to prevent monopolies from forming.
28. **Strike:** This is when workers refuse to work and petition at their work facility.
29. **Unions:** When the workers at a company unite to demand certain requests collectively.
30. **William Sylvis:** He formed the National Labor Union.
31. **Eugene V. Debs:** He asserted that skilled and unskilled workers needed to unite in unions.
32. **The Noble Order of Knights of Labor:** This union allowed diverse ethnicities to join their union.
33. **Capitalism:** When the market is controlled by private companies who seek to make a profit, capitalism is occurring.
34. **Socialism:** When the government has a dominant role in production, socialism is occurring.
35. **Monopoly:** This occurs when a business has virtually removed all competition from a market.
36. **Sherman Anti-trust Act:** This act tried to prevent monopolies from forming.
37. **City Boss:** This individual served as the top leader in the “political machines.”
38. **Graft:** This is the illegal use of a political office for personal gain.
39. **Kickback:** When a city leader receives illegal money from a tax payer funded project.
40. **Roscoe Conkling:** He was a city mayor in Utica that actually used his office ethically.
41. **Patronage:** In this system, anyone can have a government job regardless of qualifications.
42. **Civil Service:** This occurs when, in order to get a government job, you must be qualified.
43. **President Garfield:** He was assassinated by Charles Guiteau due to his Reformer beliefs toward patronage.
44. **President Cleveland:** He was the only president to serve two nonconsecutive terms in
silver to back currency.
23. Andrew Carnegie: He was a monopoly leader in the steel industry.
24. John D. Rockefeller: He was a monopoly leader in the oil industry,
25. J.P. Morgan: He was a monopoly leader in innovating used of electricity.

49. Tariffs: This is when a nation taxes imports to protect government businesses.
50. Charles Guiteau: He was a Stalwart who assassinated President Garfield.

Part B: Open Response: Instructions: On a separate sheet of paper, write an answer to the questions below. Use this section to study for the essay portion of the test.

1. What were the Indian Wars? How did they end?
The Indian Wars were a series of skirmishes in the late 1800s between the government of the USA and various Native American groups in the Great Plains and other regions in the West. The belief of Manifest Destiny was that God wanted the USA to expand west. Many Americans migrated west in hopes of many economic opportunities, such as access to precious metals and cheap land. Yet, there were many Native American groups in the Great Plains and other areas that were nomadic and hunted buffalo and other animals. This created conflicts with the Native Americans. Native American leaders, like Sitting Bull, encouraged resistance against the USA. George Custer and his Seventh Cavalry faced off against a Native American resistance at the Battle of Little Big Horn. Custer died in this conflict. At the Massacre at Sandcreek, the USA killed 150 people, mostly women and children. However, at the Battle of Wounded Knee in South Dakota, 300 Sioux were killed by the Seventh Cavalry previously led by Custer. The Indian Wars essentially ceased after the Battle of Wounded Knee.

2. Why did Populists have tension and conflict with railroad companies and with banks? What were some political and economic goals of the Populist Movement?
Populists were mainly farmers who were upset with banks and railroad companies. Banks were foreclosing on farms and confiscating the properties of many farmers. Railroad companies, who had little competition, were charging high rates to ship farm products. The Populists attempted to unite together to create economic change. Oliver Hudson Kelley started the Patrons of Husbandry as a Populist group to petition for change. A problem that had occurred in this era was that a type of currency, Greenbacks, were being phased out of use. The wealthy in the USA wanted to ensure inflation did not occur at a high rate and only wanted gold to back currency. They were called Goldbugs. Farmers and other common people wanted silver and gold to back currency to encourage inflation. Inflated money would mean the farmers would pay back less value on their loans. This desire for gold and silver to back money was called bimetallism and supporters of the system were called Silverites. William Jennings Bryan ran for the Democratic Party on a Populist Platform, but did not win the presidency. The Populists also had the goal of getting the government to further regulate the railroad industry to set prices and pursue other regulations. The movement was successful in getting Populist goals achieved, such as more government regulation of the railroad industry. Yet, the movement never achieved the political status of the Democrats or Republicans. However, the Populists goals were embraced by the Democrats Party in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

3. Why would some people label John D. Rockefeller as a “Robber Baron” and others label Rockefeller as a generous humanitarian philanthropist?
On the one hand, Rockefeller practiced shrewd, harsh business tactics, such as forming monopolies, paying low wages, and charging high prices. In this sense, many asserted he was a Robber Baron. On the other hand, Rockefeller gave away a significant amount of his wealth to various charities. In that respect, many asserted he was a generous humanitarian philanthropist.

4. What were the “political machines” of the late 1800s? What did the “political machines” attempt to achieve? Were the “political machines” good, bad, or both for society?
The term “Political Machine” simply referred to groups who offered services to voters and businesses for political power and reelection. This is the structure of the political machine: (1st) The City Boss ruled the city as mayor (2nd) Ward Bosses secured votes for the city mayor in large regions (3rd) Local Precinct Workers secured votes in smaller districts. Often, City Boss mayors gave favors to citizens in exchange for the power to stay in office. The goal was to get elected to maintain power. This was not necessarily a negative structure. Yet, it depended on the leader. Some leaders used their power corruptly and some used their power to help citizens. For instance, some
political leaders practiced graft, using their office for their own gain. William “Boss” Tweed took a kickback, illegally receiving money for a contracting job, in his office and used the “political machine” for immoral purposes. Yet, Roscoe Conkling and other bosses used their office to build hospitals, invest in orphanages, and to pursue other good endeavors. Many bosses, regardless of whether or not they were ethical, wanted the votes of immigrants. Many immigrants had moved to the USA and were valuable in elections. In fact, many bosses themselves were immigrants or the descendants of immigrants.