

1 | General Information

| Due Date | Topic | Important Documents |
|------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 02/14/2022 | A Title for Guided Age | Guided Age Reading Items |

2 | Prompt

Through the examination and synthesis of various dynamics of the era, propose a NEW title for the “Gilded Age.” It may be helpful to consider metaphors, connotations, central elements of the era, political and economic structures, social changes, analytic constructs, and thematic connections to other parts of American history.

3 | Claim Synthesis

3.1 | Sub-Claim Organization

3.1.1 | There is only one thing different about the Gilded age: tech

- Wealth accumulated and concentrated in the Gilded age.
- That social and economic inequality has always been a thing in America.
- Gilded age had a sense of productive enthusiasm both by rising economy but also new tech.
- We never noticed this b/c historians fail to specialize in business, tech, or politics, which then create the negative term.

3.1.2 | Technology boomed in the Gilded age, which actually created the basis of discontent

- Skyscraper technology also caused financial and corporate boom.
- Oil drilling advancement created boom in industry, and created the opportunity for businessmen.
- Hard pursuit of technology was something that created the basis for agitation: that child workers are shut away from the “civilized” qualities of the world.

3.1.3 | Supposed social change is a byproduct of technology development

- Innovation is something that underscored the societal change.
- Gilded age brought corporate lobbying, but Technology enabled corporatization.
- For instance, reductionistic argument that there needed to be a corporation in every state through which the pipeline passed.

3.2 | **The Claim**

Despite the classical, social-centered analysis of the late 19th-century America which labeled the time period the "Gilded Age", it was actually the discovery of novel technology at the time that shaped the modern Republic and brought the sociopolitical change which is typically associated as identifying markers of the time.