**American Perspectives** Name: Quang Huynh

Crash Course History – Gilded Age Politics

1. **Where did the term “Gilded Age” come from and what does it really mean?** – The term “Gilded Age” came from a book made by Mark Twain and Charles Dudley Warner. The book was published in 1873 and was called “The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today.”
2. **What is a “political machine”?** ­– Political machines were organizations that worked to win elections by controlling events and activities of certain political parties in areas of a city. It did this to exercise and gain power.
3. **Who was William “Boss” Tweed?** ­– William “Boss” Tweed controlled New York in the late 1860s and early 1870s. He was an American politician and used many devious and scandalous methods to earn money.
4. **What valuable services did a political machine provide and to whom?** – The political machines would provide valuable services for immigrants and poor people in cities. The political machines would keep good leaders to run and to help control the city jobs and contracts.
5. **What was Tammany Hall and how did it work?** – The Tammany Hall was a political organization that was within the Democratic Party. They would seek political control through corruption and deception. The Tammany Hall helped poor people for social services, in return for the poor people’s votes.
6. **What was Credit Mobilier?** ­– The Credit Mobilier was a construction company that built most of the roads for the Union Pacific Railroad company. There was a scandal that was involved involving bribery and overcharging the public for construction costs.
7. **What was the Whiskey Ring?** – A scandal that involved a group of distillers located in St. Louis. John McDonald reduced the taxes of the distillers by undercounting the amount of kegs of booze they had.
8. **What was the Civil Service Act of 1883?** – The Civil Service Act of 1883 was a merit system made for federal employees. The federal employees were chosen by a competitive examination instead of political favoritism.
9. **What was the Sherman Antitrust Act of 1890?** – The Sherman Anti-trust Act of 1890 prohibited the practices of monopolies. The act was made by Roosevelt to give the federal government more control over the big businesses during court.
10. **What was the Grange movement and what did it lead to?** – The Grange Movement was a movement in the 1870s where farmers put pressure on the state governments to make fair warehouse and railroad rates. Eventually, the Grange Movement became the Farmer’s Alliance movement, which advocated for economic cooperation for increased pay.
11. **What were the results of Populist attempts at getting involved in politics?** – After the Populist got involved in politics, the Populists would begin to fail since not that many people supported them. Furthermore, after Bryan’s defeat in the Election of 1896, the Populists would begin to fall.
12. **Examine the two political cartoons. What president are they dealing with and what are the messages they are trying to convey?** – The two political cartoons dealt with President Ulysses S. Grant. The messages they are trying to convey was all of the corruption going on in the Grant administration and the unprecedented growth of dishonesty.

 