AP US History

Robber Barons or Captains of Industry?

Directions: Complete research online about your assigned entrepreneurs. Seek to discover not only information about the background of each, but also what kind of businessmen they were. Consider many concepts, including how many people they provided jobs for, how they treated their employees, how charitable they were, etc. Once you have at least five contributing factors for each, make an individual determination about whether or not each individual should be considered a Captain of Industry or a Robber Baron.

Next class, you will share your information with the class. All students are responsible for learning information about each man. You may prepare a visual if you’d like, or you may write on the board.

Again, you need to include the following:

**Important biographical information** (born rich? Education? Immigrant? How’d he get where he did?)

**Captain of Industry?** (contributing factors to why he was a good, moral person and business owner)

**Robber Baron?** (contributing factors to why he was not the best human, and a corrupt business owner)

**Verdict** (Your opinion – Captain of Industry or Robber Baron?)/

Research topics:

* Cornelius Vanderbilt
* Andrew Carnegie
* John D. Rockefeller
* J.P. Morgan
* Henry Ford