Gilded Age Webquest

Go to:  http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/carnegie/gildedage.html

1. What did Mark Twain mean when he said the opening quote?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

2. What extravagant gift did Mrs. Stuyvesant buy her dog for a party?
   ____________________________________________________________

3. Describe the stratification (difference in classes) of American Society in the Gilded Age.
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

4. What specific groups were in the lowest part of Society?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

5. Describe “Political Machine” (search on internet if you need help).
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

6. Why did immigrants turn to political machines?
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________
7. How many strikes/lockouts occurred in the 1880s?

8. In __________, the State Militia fired on strikers, killing 11 and wounding 40.

9. What was governmental policy toward strikes?

10. What did laborers do in response to the hard line taken by factory owners and the government?

11. _______ owned Pullman Car Company and slashed workers’ wages and raised rent, which resulted in the workers going on strike.

12. What is the result of the labor-owner clashes?

13. What street in New York City became the most magnificent street in the world?

14. What two “Robber Barons” worked out of Pittsburgh?

15. Why did Frick build his mansion?

16. The Astros could host ______ people in their ballroom.
17. Describe the picture of the “Vanderbilt Chateau.”
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

18. What member of the Vanderbilt family led the building of the Metropolitan Opera House?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Next page: go to People and Events; click on Andrew Carnegie
19. How much did it cost the Carnegie family to come to the US in 1848?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

20. __________ hired Carnegie to work for him and became his mentor, calling him “my boy Andy.”

Next page: go to People and Events; click on Herbert Spencer
21. Summarize the theory put forth by Spencer in his philosophy of Social Darwinism:
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

Child Labor
http://www.historyplace.com/unitedstates/childlabor/
1. Carefully read through the captions and review the picture on this site. Using bullet points, list 5 observations based on what you see.
   a. __________________________________________________________
   b. __________________________________________________________
   c. __________________________________________________________
   d. __________________________________________________________
   e. __________________________________________________________
Inventions of the Gilded Age

http://www.shmoop.com/great-inventions/timeline.html

1. List 4 significant inventions during the Gilded Age. Explain how each improved life during this time period.
   a. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   b. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   c. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   d. ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

Personal Wealth

Please use the following links:
http://www.nytimes.com/ref/business/20070715_GILDED_GRAPHIC.html#

2. Of the top 30 wealthiest people in American History, how many were from the Gilded Age?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

3. Which of these men has a local connection to Whiting?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

4. As you look through the stories of how these men acquired wealth: in what ways did they acquire wealth? What were the primary industries of the day?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

5. Brainstorming: what political factors do you think allowed for these men to become as wealthy as they did?
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________