Name:

**Building a Thesis: Captains of Industry or Robber Barons**

**Step 1:** Choose your side: (circle one of the two below)

Captains of Industry (positive view of business leaders)

Robber Barons (negative view of business leaders)

**Step 2:** List three reasons that support the selection you made in step 1. Provide evidence. Use complete sentences.

1. –
2. –
3. –

**Step 3:** Write your thesis statement:

The business leaders of the Gilded Age were (circle one) Captains of Industry/ Robber Barons

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who (circle one) hurt/ helped American Society by

(reason 1)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

(reason 2) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

And (reason 3)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Step 4:**

Make this thesis statement your own.

-Change phrases- (business leaders of the late 19th and early 20th century)

-Change verbs (hurt or helped). Use more descriptive words. Use a thesaurus.

-Add description. Be more specific. What part of the American society?

**Your test ready thesis statement :**