

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Trusts and Monopolies Editorial/Political Cartoons

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the “Robber Barons” grew their companies into huge industrial organizations called trusts or monopolies. With their size and influence, they were able to control their industry, essentially preventing anyone from being able to successfully compete with them. One of the most powerful monopolies was Standard Oil controlled by the world’s first billionaire John D. Rockefeller.

Pay close attention to the labels and items in both of these images.



“King of the World”  
C. J. Taylor, January 1, 1900



“The Monster Monopoly”  
circa 1884

### “King of the World”

1. What is the setting in this cartoon? Who is sitting on the Standard Oil Monopoly barrel?
2. What are the elements in the image and what do they mean?

### **“The Monster Monopoly”**

1. What is the setting in this cartoon?
2. What are the elements in the image and what do they mean?

### **“King of the World” & “The Monster Monopoly”**

1. Compare and contrast the two images. Describe how are they similar and how are they different?
2. How would it be possible for two different illustrators to come up with two so drastically different images regarding the Standard Oil Monopoly?