**Chapter 18**

**STEP 4**

**Put It All Together**

Now, take a step back and try to explain the big picture. Remember to use specific examples from the chapter in your answers.

**THE RISE OF BIG BUSINESS**

* What role did railroads and new technologies play in the rise of American big business?
* How did the business pioneers of the late nineteenth century organize and grow their businesses?

**LATE NINETEENTH-CENTURY POLITICS**

* How did ideas about gender and race shape late-nineteenth-century politics?
* How did new social philosophical theories justify business and political practices in the late nineteenth-century?

**ECONOMIC ISSUES AND POLITICAL CONFLICT**

* How did each Gilded Age president react to economic issues? How did Supreme Court decisions affect economic issues?
* What made free silver such a powerful and emotional issue in the late nineteenth century?

**LOOKING BACKWARD, LOOKING AHEAD**

* How did the role of business in politics in the late nineteenth century differ from its role in the first half of the century?
* How did the rise of big business affect the economic and political landscape of early-twentieth-century America? In what ways did Americans try to deal with the excesses of big business?