Bessemer Process: a process of making steel from cast iron by burning out carbon and other impurities through the agency of a blast of air forced through the molten metal.

Chartres: a Gothic cathedral in a French town of the same name, celebrated for its magnificent stone carvings and stained glass windows.

Dynamo: a powerful machine for converting mechanical energy into electrical energy by magnetoelectric induction.

Expressionism: an early 20th century art movement that expressed the inner consciousness of an individual through the distortion or exaggerated obtrusion of the "outside" reality rather than building visual art or dramatic scripts that tried to objectively describe or recreate the external.

Lourdes: a town in France in which the Roman Catholic shrine to the Virgin Mary has become famous as a place of pilgrimages for the sick seeking cures. Cures effected at the shrine are considered to be Miracles bestowed by the Virgin Mary.

promenade deck: an upper deck of a passenger steamer where passengers walk for pleasure and/or display.

Robber Barons: late 19th century capitalists who grew extremely wealthy through exploitation of others. Connotatively, they were the "nouveau riche" who conspicuously displayed their wealth and the enhanced social status that went with wealth.

Rodin: a French sculptor, noted for expressing the internal energy of his subject.

Social Darwinism: the application of Darwinian theory of evolution to competition in the marketplace. Herbert Spencer (joined by William Graham Sumner) argued that human society would benefit by the "survival of the fittest" in such marketplace competition; the "unfit" would be eliminated. They argued that the talented and strong should have freedom to gratify their instinct for survival, unencumbered by federal or state laws (e.g. "laissez-faire" economics).

stokehole: the space in front of the boilers of a ship, from which the furnaces are fed.