

# Imperialism



**The Race for a Global Empire**

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

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Understanding Key Concepts

Read the paragraph below, then formulate working definitions for each of the questions.

During the nineteenth century, many nations in Europe who adopted nationalism and capitalism (Germany, Italy, and England) as their philosophies were also becoming industrialized and overcrowded due to large population growth. To take care of this population problem, these nations sent people overseas to colonize new lands. These new colonies then became part of the home or "mother" country's "empire." These colonies main goals were to provide raw materials for the home or mother country's new industry and to provide the mother country with new and increasing markets for their manufactured goods. This worked out quiet well for the mother country but often was very unfair to the colony. The peoples in these colonies were often mistreated and sometimes revolted against the imperial power as we did in the United States in 1776.

1. What is nationalism?
2. What is capitalism?
3. What is an empire?
4. What is a "mother" country?
5. What is a colony?
6. What are the two main functions of a colony?

# Imperialism is:

There are two types of imperialism:

## Old Imperialism

Dates: 1500 – 1800

Motives:

Locations:

Power:

## New Imperialism

Dates: 1880 →

Motives:

- establish trade routes and new markets

- to make large financial investments

Locations:

- Eastern Hemisphere  
ex:

Power:

## Causes of Imperialism

Nationalism	Political/Military	Economic	Social	Science and Invention
National _____ Believe others are weaker and _____	Bases for trade and _____ Power and security of _____	Need for _____ Need for new _____	Wish to spread _____ Wish to share _____	New weapons New _____
Spirit of _____	_____	Place for growing _____ to settle _____ Places to invest _____	_____	Improved _____

**Define New Imperialism:**

# The Whiteman's Burden

Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) wrote this poem in 1899, at the height of the imperialistic age. It expresses an attitude shared by many in the west at the time.

Take up the White Man's burden--  
Send forth the best ye breed--  
Go, bind your sons to exile  
To serve your captives' need;  
To wait, in heavy harness,  
On fluttered folk and wild--  
Your new-caught sullen peoples,  
Half devil and half child.

Take up the White Man's burden--  
In patience to abide,  
To veil the threat of terror  
And check the show of pride;  
By open speech and simple,  
An hundred times made plain,  
To seek another's profit  
And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden--  
The savage wars of peace--  
Fill full the mouth of Famine,  
And bid the sickness cease;  
And when your goal is nearest  
(The end for others sought)  
Watch sloth and heathen folly  
Bring all your hope to nought.

Take up the White Man's burden--  
No iron rule of kings,  
But toil of serf and sweeper--  
The tale of common things.  
The ports ye shall not enter,  
The roads ye shall not tread,  
Go, make them with your living  
And mark them with your dead.

Take up the White Man's burden,  
And reap his old reward--  
The blame of those ye better  
The hate of those ye guard--  
The cry of hosts ye humour  
(Ah, slowly!) toward the light--  
"Why brought ye us from bondage,  
Our loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden--  
Ye dare not stoop to less--  
Nor call too loud on Freedom  
To cloak your weariness.  
By all ye will or whisper,  
By all ye leave or do,  
The silent sullen peoples  
Shall weigh your God and you.

- 1) A - What benefits does Kipling say Westerners bring to non-Europeans?  
B - Does Kipling believe that non-Europeans are grateful for these benefits?

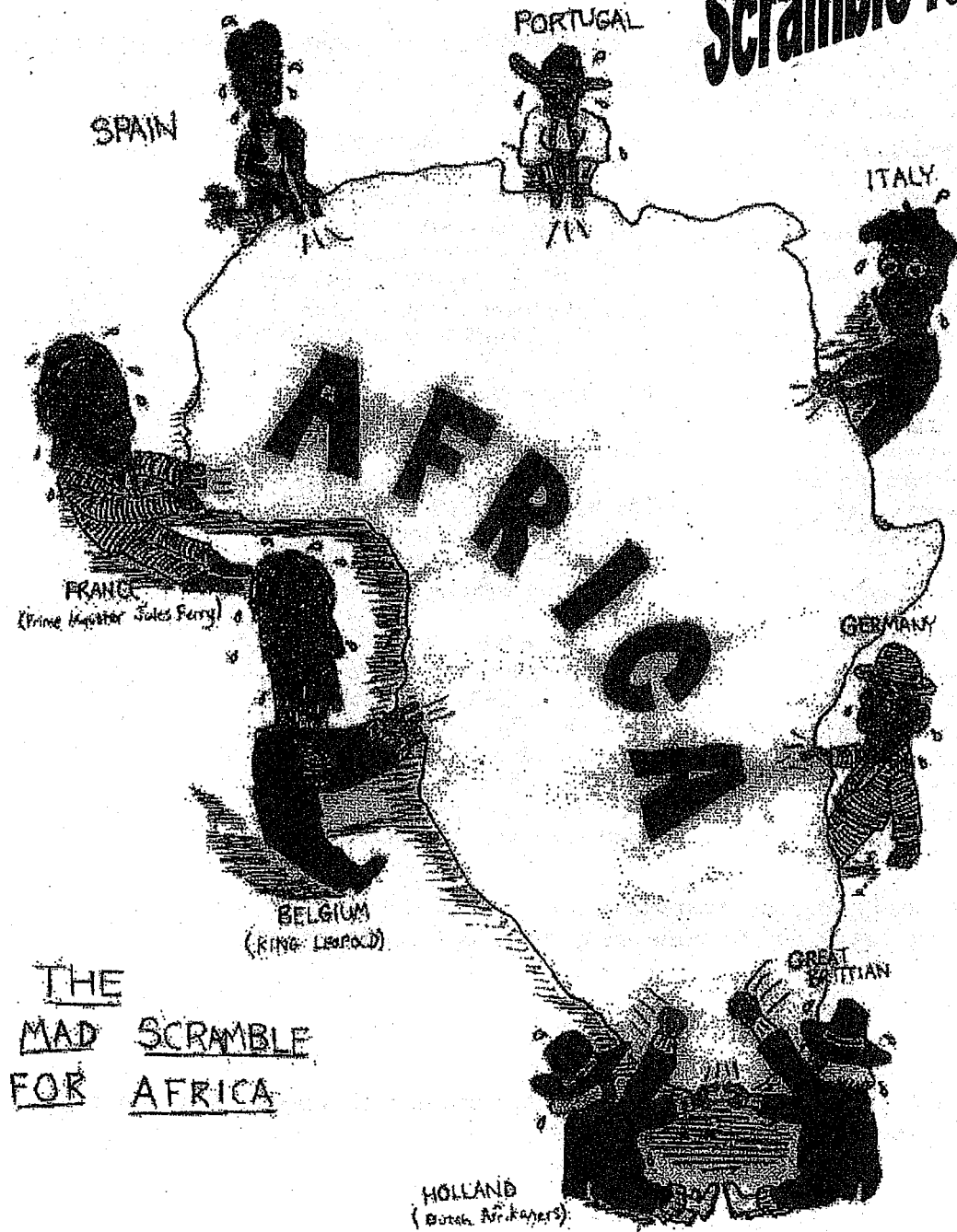
2) Kipling paints a vivid, unflattering portrait of non-Europeans in this poem. What are some of the phrases he uses to convey his characterization?

3) Kipling warns his audience not to "call too loud on freedom." How might the argument of freedom be used against his views?

# The Mad Scramble for

# Scramble for Africa

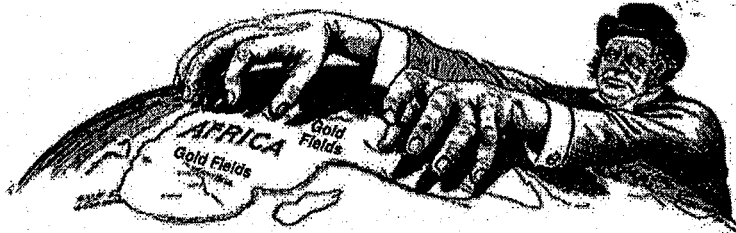
Africa



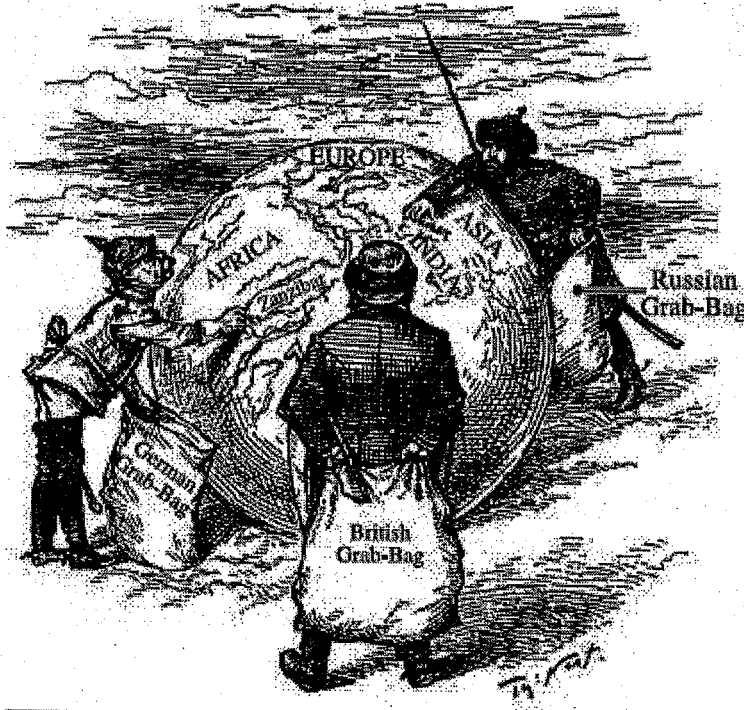
What countries attempted to take pieces of Africa?

Source: <http://sun.menloschool.org/~sportman/modernworld/chapter8/2003/bblock/sbarrales/africa.jpg>

## The Scramble for Africa



Source: <http://www.boondocksnet.com> (adapted)



**THE WORLD'S PLUNDERERS.**  
"It's English, you know."

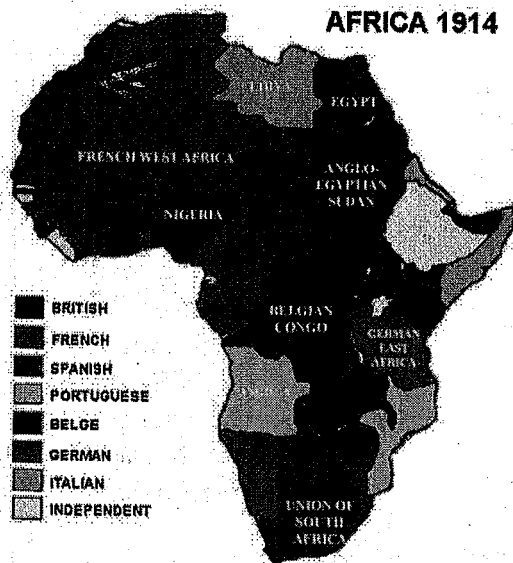
Source: Thomas Nast, *Harper's Weekly*, June 20, 1885 (adapted)

European leaders wanted an available supply of raw materials for their factories. They also needed new markets for their new products. Since colonies increased a nation's wealth and military strength, nationalism and industrialization fueled imperialism.

During the new imperialism of the late 1800s, European expansion reached its peak. In particular, Africa was almost completely conquered and colonized. To resolve the claims of competing nations, representatives from various European nations met at Berlin. From November 1884 through February 1885, European nations "carved up" the African continent. The Age of Imperialism had begun.

### Questions:

1. What did European leaders want in the 1800s?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did the Industrial Revolution encourage imperialism?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Using the images above, what was the "Scramble for Africa"?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the Berlin Conference?  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Questions:**

1. What parts of Africa were controlled by the French?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What colonies were British colonies?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What nation controlled the Congo?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What nation controlled Egypt?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why did Europeans conquer Africa?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Excerpt adapted from *The Economist Magazine* (December 23<sup>rd</sup> 1999)

**“OF ALL the targets of European empire-builders, Africa was nearest...Yet, saving for its far south; it was the last to be grabbed. Its coast had been known to Europeans for centuries and was dotted with their trading posts. But until around 1860 the interior was protected. Fevers killed off intruding white men, roads were few and cataracts (waterfalls) blocked access by river.**

**By 1862, (Europeans) had reached the source of the Nile...They confirmed the reality of Africa’s fabled riches—ivory, gold, diamonds, emeralds, copper. Entrepreneurs also saw that, instead of buying crops like cotton or palm oil from its villagers, they could set up plantations and use cheap local labor to work them. Africa was becoming too valuable to be left to the Africans.**

**...Britain at first opposed a carve-up, but ended with the richest parts: today’s South Africa, Ghana and Nigeria. Belgium’s King Leopold II was one of Europe’s least powerful rulers. But once he had carved out the Congo basin as a personal fief, other countries were quick to stake claims. Otto von Bismarck, chancellor of the strong new Germany, put in a bid for huge chunks of East and West Africa. Europeans, quick to fight each other at home, were loath to do so for slices of a continent that they barely knew. Besides, it would set a bad example to the natives. So in 1884 the powers met in Berlin to share Africa out. In some areas, ignorant of people and geography alike, they made frontiers simply by drawing straight lines on the map.”**

**Questions:**

1. What factors prevented Europeans prior to 1860 from exploring the African interior?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What natural resources were abundant in Africa?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did representatives from European nations agree to meet in Berlin?  
\_\_\_\_\_



# TELLS OF ATROCITIES IN BELGIAN CONGO

**Natives' Hands Cut Off, Dr. Leslie Says, to Force Them to Bring in Rubber.**

**17 YEARS A MISSIONARY**

**Home for First Time with Baby Son, Who Speaks Only the Negroes' Dialect.**

The Rev. Dr. and Mrs. William H. Leslie, for years missionaries in the Congo, accompanied by their little son Theodore, who speaks only the dialect of the negroes of the Portuguese Congo, arrived in New York yesterday on the Red Star liner Vanderland. The little boy was about the most important person on the big liner; and he held a levee on the pier when his parents had been passed by the Customs Inspectors. Every passenger in both the first and second cabins pressed forward to shake little "Accoycka's" hand. "Accoycka" is the name that Teddy's little Congo friends call him by.

Teddy, who is only a little more than 2 years old, was born in the Congo, and he kept everybody in good humor with his baby talk in the strange lingo of the blacks that his father and mother have been laboring so long to convert to Christianity. When the child gets older Dr. Leslie said they would teach him English, and when he was big enough would probably send him to America to be educated.

Dr. Leslie was born in Canada, but migrated to Chicago many years ago, in which city he was living when he decided, seventeen years ago, to go to the Congo as a missionary of the Baptist Church. Yesterday Dr. Leslie confirmed many of the stories of the atrocities that have marked the rule of the Belgians in the Congo.

"I have heard," he said, "about the indignation that was aroused in this country and in Europe because of the reports that came out of the Congo which related to atrocities practiced in that country under King Leopold's rule. I greatly regret that it is all too true and that the representatives of King Leopold have been guilty of many of the atrocities charged against them.

"With my own eyes I have witnessed many of the most horrible examples of cruelty practiced upon the poor natives in that country. I have seen natives with one hand cut off and I have seen them with both cut off, and in many cases the poor victims were children. In the last eight years, however, I have seen but little evidence of such barbarity. This may be because four years ago I left the Belgian Congo and went to a new field in Portuguese territory, which lies near the Belgian protectorate.

Dr. Leslie gave many other instances of the tortures that have been suffered by the natives, and said that much of the cruelty had been practiced in order to impress upon the blacks the necessity of their bringing to market the rubber wanted by their persecutors, and to emphasize the dire results that would follow their failure to do so.

Dr. and Mrs. Leslie will spend several months in this country. As they were leaving the pier their little son shouted something that is spelled like this: "Ywananatu, kwannanatu" at several of the passengers who had crossed with him in the Vanderland.

Dr. Leslie explained that what the little chap was saying expressed in the Congo dialect now glad he was to be back on land again.

The New York Times

Published: November 24, 1909  
Copyright © The New York Times

## Horrors in the Belgian Congo

Excerpt adapted from [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)

"... (The Belgian Congo was) the personal property of that country's king, Leopold II. Leopold then went on to use the Congo as a...money-making resource, committing...human rights violations...Copper rapidly became one of the colony's prime exports...The harvesting of ivory and rubber also flourished. These industries all relied primarily on indigenous labor. In an effort to increase exports, an 1892 tax was levied...which could be paid in rubber...This quickly led to a system characterized by unrivalled barbarism. Entire villages were held responsible for meeting rubber production quotas...It was not uncommon for workers to be beaten to death...Stories abound of soldiers and officials returning...with strings of ears or collections of amputated hands...The fact remains that Leopold did reap fantastic personal gains from the exploitation of the Congo, much of which he spent on lavish public works projects in his beloved Belgium. The Congo Free State was eventually wrested from Leopold's grasp and converted into a Belgian colony as reports of the outrages became more numerous.



NEW PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES W. WALKER

"The pictures get squeaked around everywhere." Page 40.

### Questions:

1. List four abuses from the Belgian Congo:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. List three exports from the Belgian Congo:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Diamond fields were discovered in Africa and Cecil Rhodes became a diamond prospector. Rhodes strongly encouraged British imperialism in Africa. When he became a British statesman, he encouraged the annexation of Bechuanaland (now Botswana) in 1885. He also founded the white-dominated state of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The following is a primary source of Cecil Rhodes' adapted from [historywiz.com](http://historywiz.com)

"I contend that we are the finest race in the world and that the more of the world we inhabit the better it is for the human race. Just fancy those parts that are at present inhabited by the most despicable specimens of human beings what an alteration there would be if they were brought under Anglo-Saxon influence, look again at the extra employment a new country added to our dominions gives. I contend that every acre added to our territory means in the future birth to some more of the English race (that) otherwise would not be brought into existence."

"Take up the White Man's burden... Fill full the mouth of Famine, And when your goal is nearest... Watch sloth and heathen folly-Bring all your hope to naught."  
~ Rudyard Kipling

**Questions:**

1. What valuable resource was discovered in South Africa?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who was Cecil Rhodes?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What did Cecil Rhodes do?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. List three reasons why Cecil Rhodes advocated or promoted British imperialism in Africa:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Was Cecil Rhodes ethnocentric?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you agree or disagree with Cecil Rhodes?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Explain your answer.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Africa Map Skills

**Directions:** Using textbook page 777 determine all territories on the map claimed by each of the following nations and then use different colors or patterns to shade each nation's possessions in Africa.

France, Italy, Germany, Britain, Spain, Portugal, Belgium

Students must create a key in the box.

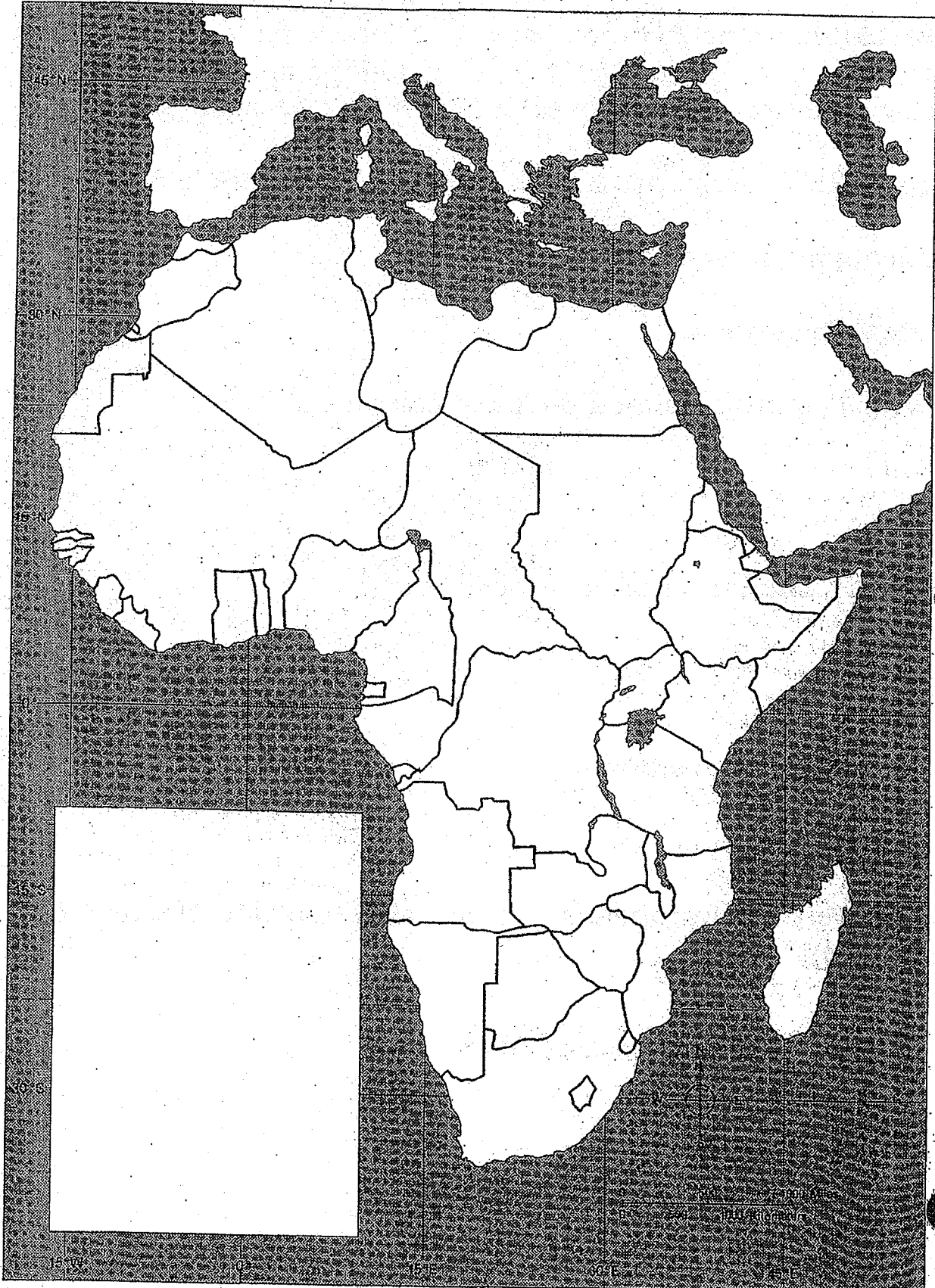
### Review Questions:

- 1) Which country claimed the most colonies in Africa?
- 2) Who claimed most of northwest Africa?
- 3) Who claimed Angola?
- 4) Why were the Europeans so easily able to divide Africa among themselves?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### 40 Imperialism in Africa, 1880-1914



# African Resistance

## Zulu Resistance

In the 1830s descendants of the original Dutch settlers, now called **Boers**, migrated into the interior of South Africa and began to engage in conflicts with the **Zulu**. These battles with the Boer settlers continued well into the late 1800s, but never truly threatened Zulu sovereignty.

The Zulu were a south African tribe that placed an emphasis on military organization and skill, as established by their legendary leader **Shaka Zulu**. Under Shaka's rule, the Zulu broadened their land claims throughout southern Africa.

Eventually, the Zulu came into the conflict with the British army as they expanded their control over southern Africa and invaded the homeland of the Zulu.

Despite early victories, the Zulu were eventually defeated by the technology and vast resources at the command of the British troops. Soon, all of southern Africa would come under British control.

## Cecil Rhodes and the Boer War



Cecil Rhodes stands astride the whole of Africa.

**Cecil Rhodes** was instrumental in assuring British dominance of southern Africa. He founded the De Beers Mining Company, eventually controlling 90% of the world's diamond production. After becoming prime minister of the Cape Colony (now South Africa) in 1890, he used his influence to strengthen British control over the region.

His master plan was to establish a **Cape to Cairo** railroad line that would link British colonial interests in Africa between Egypt and the Cape Colony in southern Africa. The Boers, however, provided heavy and eventually armed resistance to this proposal. After authorizing an aggressive invasion of the Boer Republic of Transvaal which ended poorly, Rhodes was removed from office. However, the seeds of the **Boer War** had been sown.

Great Britain decided to annex the Boer republics, and with Boer resistance came the **Boer War** (1899-1902). By all accounts the fighting was vicious, with the Boers employing guerilla tactics and the British eventually using 450,000 troops to achieve victory.

In 1910, the various British colonies in southern Africa were united as the Union of South Africa, eventually becoming the nation of **South Africa** after **WWII**.

**Others who resisted included:** Samori Toure in Western Africa, Yaa Asantewaa led the Asante in West Africa as well, Nehanda fought the British in Zimbabwe, Menelik II in Ethiopia modernizes and defeats the Italians.

## The Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 (May—December, 1857)

Read the following passage and answer on a separate sheet the questions that follow.

By 1857, the English had established a series of well-developed colonies on the Indian subcontinent. These colonies were run by the British East India Company under a charter issued by the British government. This charter allowed the company to run India as a "private" country and gave them exclusive trading rights. The company was only interested in annual profits and largely ignored the culture and needs of the Indian people.

In 1857, new cartridges were issued to Indian troops of the British East Indian Army. These native Indian troops were called Sepoys. The cartridges were rumored to have been greased with cow or pig grease; as such, they were forbidden to the Indian troops because of their religious beliefs. Moslems believe that pigs are unholy, and Hindus believe that it is unholy to kill a cow. The cartridges of this time required a soldier to tear open the cartridge with his teeth, and pour the powder and bullet down the barrel of the gun. This process would have caused the Sepoys to get soul polluting grease directly into their bodies. After refusing to use the new cartridges, a whole regiment of Sepoy troops were imprisoned by the British. Other Sepoys attempted to free these prisoners and it snowballed into a revolt across all of northern India. The heavily outnumbered white Europeans and some Indians who remained loyal to them were attacked by the Indian Sepoys. However, some Indian units remained loyal but refused to use the cartridges issued them; instead they fought only with swords and bayonets until they were issued new cartridges greased with sheep or goat fat. There were many massacres where hundreds of Europeans were killed by Sepoys who were bent on revenge and on kicking the British out of India.

Eventually, pockets of Europeans, both civilians and army troops, held out against the Sepoys. They were finally rescued by British Army units in the fall of 1857, after having been besieged for as much as six months with little food or water. The rebellion was ended and order restored to India.

The British government, however, realized that two changes were needed in the handling of British colonies. One was that the inefficient company-type government of the East India Company must end and secondly, that some attention must be paid to the needs of the Indian people.

The British installed a government-run colonial rule to replace the company government. They also passed the "Act for Better Government of India" in which schools, hospitals, and other services were provided. Indians themselves were allowed to serve as civil servants in the colonial government. This new type of colonial government was later used in colonies not only of England but also of other countries. This form of government is referred to as "new imperialism." New imperialism still held the colonies under the control of the imperial power, but it improved the quality of colonial government and got away from the profit first idea of "old imperialism."

1. Who were the Sepoys?
2. What brought about the Sepoy Revolt?
3. What is "Old Imperialism"?
4. What is "New Imperialism"?
5. What did the Sepoys do to take revenge on the British?
6. What law was passed to correct the situation in India? What were some of its improvements?

# India: A British Colony

Directions: Read the following excerpts and answer the questions that follow. You will use the documents and your answers to complete the table.

Excerpt adapted from O.P. Austin's "Does Colonization Pay?"

Modern progressive nations [European colonizers] . . . seek to control "garden spots" in the tropics. Under their direction, these places can yield the tropical produce that their citizens need. In return the progressive nations bring to the people of those garden spots the food-stuffs, and manufactures they need. They develop the territory by building roads, canals, railways and telegraphs. The progressive nations can establish schools and newspapers for the people of the colonies. They can also give these people the benefit of other blessings of civilization which they have not the means of creating themselves.

According to the document, what are the benefits of colonization?

Dadabhai Naoroji, an Indian, describes the effect of imperialism on India.

To sum up the whole, the British rule has been - morally, a great blessing; politically peace and order on one hand . . . on the other, materially, impoverishment . . . The natives call the British system . . . "the knife of sugar." That is to say there is no oppression, it is all smooth and sweet, but it is the knife, nevertheless.

Europeans [the British] occupy almost all the higher places in every department of government . . . Natives, no matter how fit, are deliberately kept out of the social institutions started by Europeans . . . All they [the Europeans] do is live off of India while they are here. When they go, they carry all they have gained.

According to the document, what are the positive and negative effects of Imperialism on India?

**This excerpt is adapted from The Economic History of India Under Early British Rule, by an Indian, Romesh Dutt.**

Englishmen . . . have given the people of India the greatest human blessing - peace. They have introduced Western education. This has brought an ancient and civilized nation in touch with modern sciences, and modern life. They have built an administration that is strong and efficient. They have framed wise laws and have established courts of justice.

**According to the document, what are the benefits of imperialism in India?**

**This excerpt is adapted from British historian, J.A.R. Marriott's book, The English in India.**

British brains, British enterprise, and British capital have changed the face of India. Means of communication have been developed. There are great numbers of bridges, more than 40,000 miles of railway, and 70,000 miles of paved roads. These testify to the skill and industry of British engineers. Irrigation works on a very large scale have brought 30 million acres under cultivation. This has greatly added to the agricultural wealth of the country. Industrialization has also begun. India now has improved sanitation and a higher standard of living. It has a fine transport system and carefully thought-out schemes for relief work. Because of these things famines have now almost disappeared.

**According to the document, what are the benefits of imperialism in India?**



# Imperialism in Other Parts of Asia

European powers competed to carve up lands on the Pacific Rim. Why?

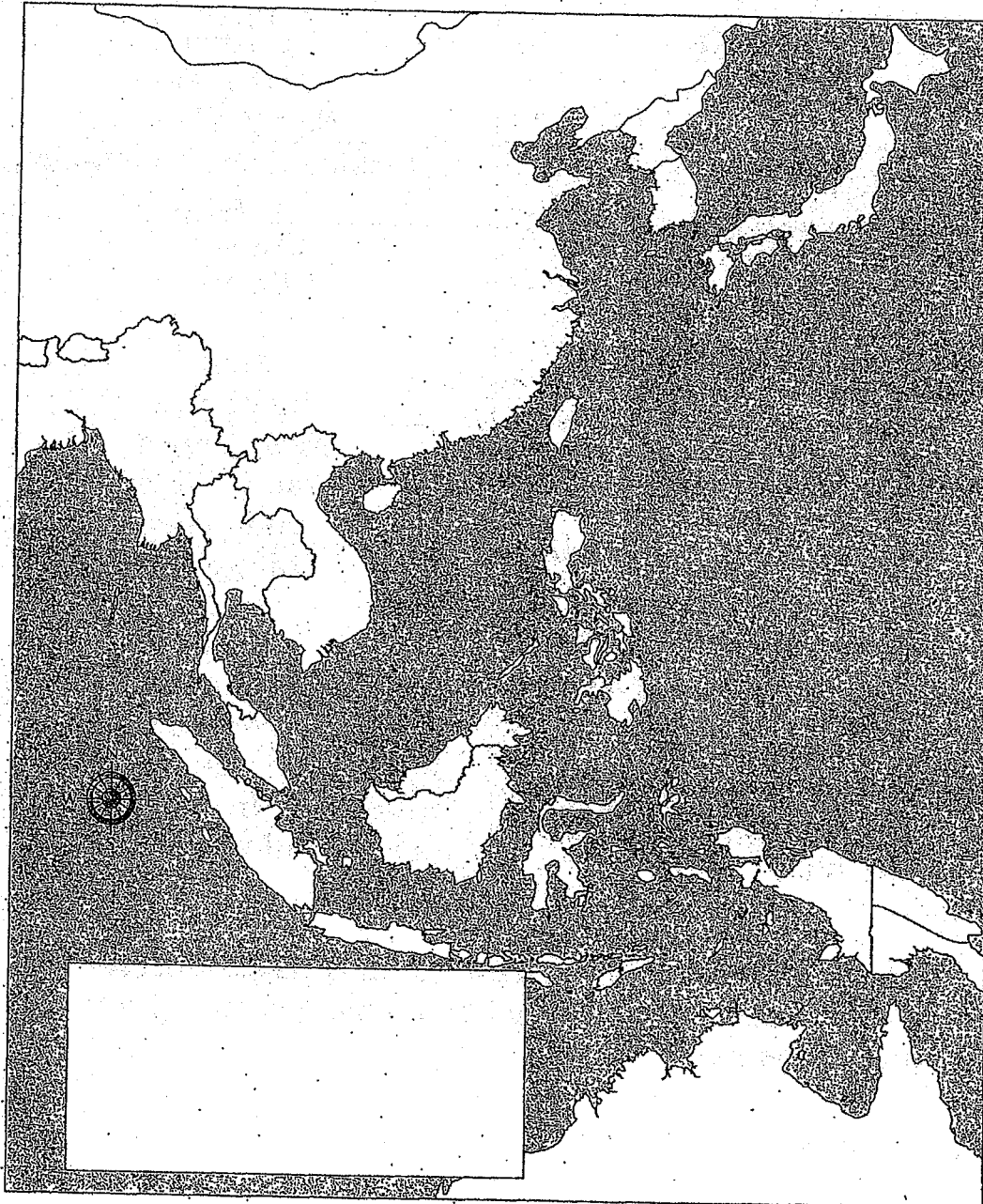
Country	Area Colonized
Britain	Singapore Malaysia Burma Australia New Zealand
France	Indochina (Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam)
Netherlands (Dutch)	Sumatra Borneo Celebes Bali Indonesia
Germany	New Guinea Marshall Islands Solomon Islands
United States	Philippines Guam Hawaii
Japan	Korea
Siam (present day Thailand)	was never colonized but served as a neutral area or buffer zone between British Burma and French Indochina

Map Assignment: On the map on the next page, label the above areas that were colonized by foreign powers. (leave New Zealand off the map)

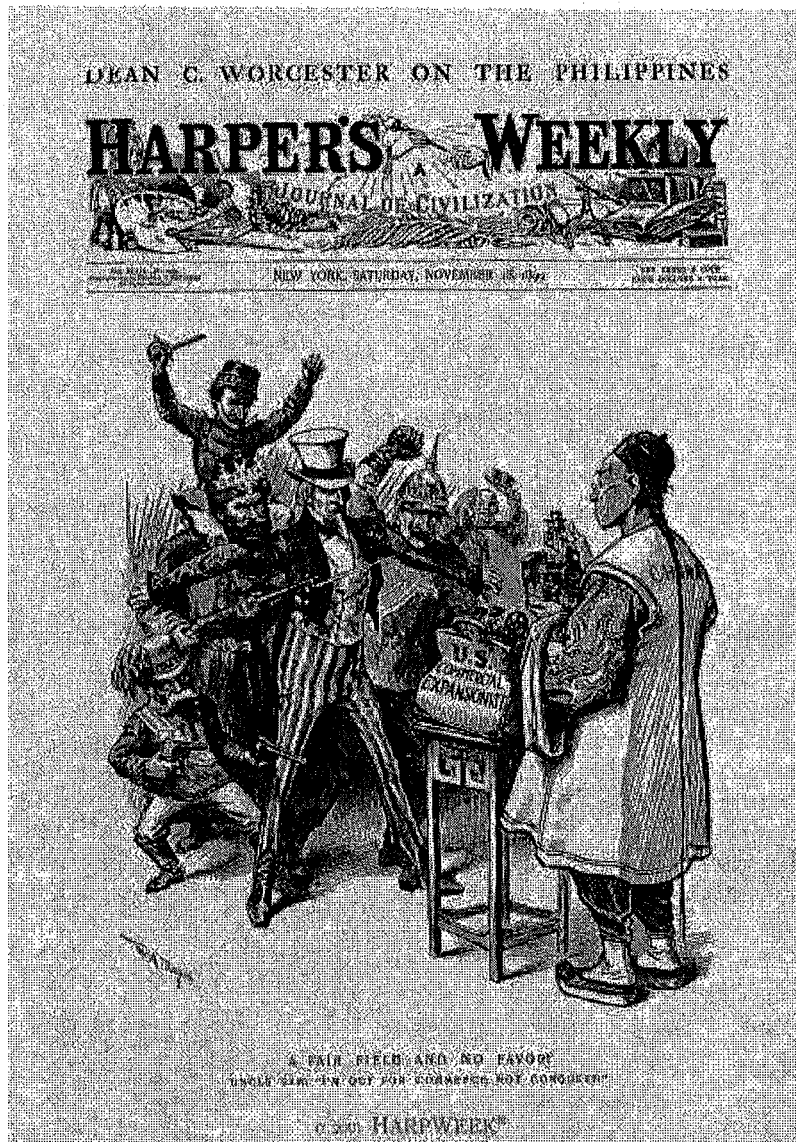
**NEW GLOBAL PATTERNS**  
**Outline Map**

### Imperialism in Asia

*Directions: Locate and label the following: Siam, Malaya, Japan, the Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Australia, French Indochina, China, Korea, and Burma. Shade the map to show the areas of influence of the Dutch, British, French, and the United States and then create a key to your shading in the blank box. You may use any map in the textbook chapter, unit opener, or Atlas for reference.*



Opium, Conflict, and Spheres of Influence in China  
Global History and Geography



**Questions:**

1. What problems faced the Qing dynasty?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What was a sphere of influence?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why do you think Europeans and Americans were interested in trade with China?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the "Open Door" Policy?  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Qing or Manchu dynasty was the last Chinese dynasty. It was not interested in Western technology and believed Europeans were inferior. This ethnocentric attitude led to the dynasty's lack of modern weapons and its inability to resist Western demands.

European nations were very interested in China. They established spheres of influence in China or areas where a European nation could control trade without interference from other Western nations. European nations began to economically control parts of China. Wishing to participate in trade with China, the United States insisted on an "Open Door" Policy or allowing all nations interested in commerce with China equal trading rights.

While Europeans and Americans benefitted from trade with China, the Chinese suffered, particularly as Opium, a highly addictive drug, was increasingly imported into China.

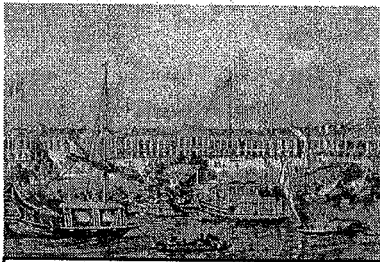


“The opium addict often sold all his possessions to pay for the opium. This woodcut shows an addict's wife being sold to support his habit.”

~ sacu.org

### The Opium War (1839-1842)

As the British imported more and more Chinese goods, particularly tea, its treasury was being depleted. The Chinese were very ethnocentric and believed that China was the Middle Kingdom. Therefore, the Chinese were not interested in European products. As a result of these attitudes, the British had developed an unfavorable balance of trade with China. In order to correct this imbalance, the British realized that they could sell opium to the Chinese people. Opium was a highly addictive drug. The British were able to easily acquire poppy plants, the plants from which opium was derived, from its colony of India. The poppy plants were processed into opium and then the opium was sold directly to the Chinese people. As more and more Chinese men and women succumbed to opium addiction, Chinese officials tried to ban the importation of the highly addictive opium. In 1839, Chinese officials destroyed 20,000 chests of the drug and imprisoned British traders selling it. The British responded by sending a fleet of ships to invade China.



The Chinese were forced to sign the Treaty of Nanjing:

- Reimburse Britain for costs incurred fighting the Chinese
- Open additional ports to British trade
- Provide Britain with complete control of Hong Kong
- Grant extraterritoriality to British citizens living in China (British citizens accused of crimes would be tried in their own courts and by their own laws).

Questions:

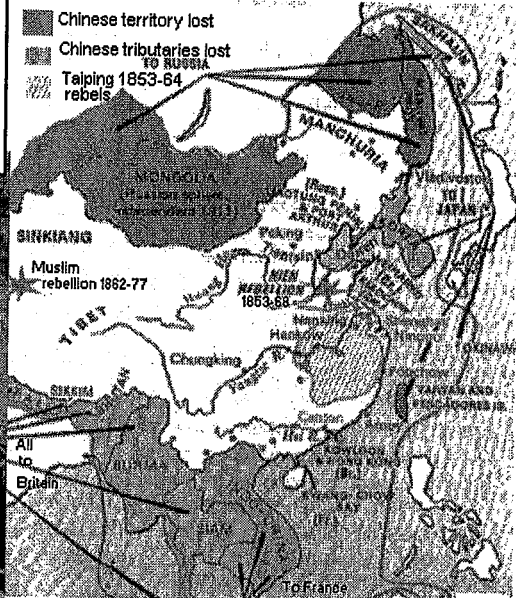
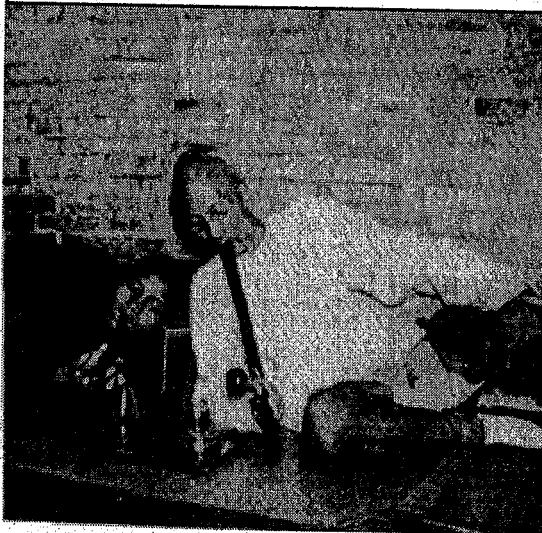
1. Why did the British sell opium to the Chinese?
- 
2. Why did Chinese officials try to stop the opium trade?
- 

3. How did the Treaty of Nanjing affect the Chinese?

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4. Explain extraterritoriality: \_\_\_\_\_

**From imperialism to opium addiction, the Chinese people faced grave dangers. Some reacted peacefully; others violently.**



**Map Showing Effects of Western Imperialism in China**  
 Britain, France, Russia and Japan took over the Qing Empire's tributary sphere, then forced the grant of "treaty ports". At the same time, there were internal rebellions.



**THE BOXERS.**  
 "We're glad to see our precious Boxer. I occasionally do a little boxing myself."

**Some Chinese rebelled against the Qing Dynasty. They hoped to change China. The Taiping Rebellion occurred in 1850. The Chinese government turned to Westerners for help to crush the rebellion.**

**The Boxer Rebellion occurred in 1898. The Boxers or "The Righteous and Harmonious Fists" were a religious society. They wanted to drive all "foreign devils" out of China. The Boxers killed Chinese who supported Western ways. They even killed some foreigners and attacked Western embassies in China. Ultimately, the Boxer Rebellion was crushed by an international force. The Chinese were forced to pay money and give away more privileges.**

**Questions:**

1. Why did some Chinese rebel? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who were the Boxers?  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did the Boxers want?  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**4: How were the Chinese affected by the Boxer Rebellion?**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

The following primary source has been excerpted and adapted from historywiz.com

Mark Twain, The Greatest American Humorist, Returning Home, New York World [London, 10/6/1900]

"You ask me about what is called imperialism. Well, I have formed views about that question. I am at the disadvantage of not knowing whether our people are for or against spreading themselves over the face of the globe. I should be sorry if they are, for I don't think that it is wise or a necessary development. As to China, I quite approve of our Government's action in getting free of that complication. They are withdrawing, I understand, having done what they wanted. That is quite right. We have no more business in China than in any other country that is not ours."

Questions:

1. What are Mark Twain's views on imperialism?

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2. Do his views surprise you? Explain your answer.

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Excerpt adapted from Fei Ch'i-hao, a Chinese Christian. Here he recounts the activities of the millenialist "Boxers" in the Boxer Rebellion (Fordham.edu)

"Early in June my college friend K'ung Hsiang Hsi came back from T'ungchou for his vacation, reporting that the state of affairs there and at Peking was growing worse, that the local officials were powerless against the Boxers, and that the Boxers, armed with swords, were constantly threatening Christians scattered in the country.

From this time we had no communication with Tientsin or Peking. All travelers were searched, and if discovered bearing foreign letters they were killed. So though several times messengers were started out to carry our letters to the coast, they were turned back by the Boxers before they had gone far. It was not long before the Boxers, like a pestilence, had spread all over Shansi. School had not closed yet in Fen Chou Fu, but as the feeling of alarm deepened, fathers came to take their boys home, and school was dismissed before the end of June.

...On the 28th of June all day long a mob of one or two hundred roughs, with crowds of boys, stood at the gate of the Atwater place, shouting: "Kill the foreigners, loot the house...Late in July a proclamation of the Governor was posted in the city in which occurred the words, "Exterminate foreigners, kill devils."

Questions:

1. What did the narrator's friend report when he returned home?

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2. Why were all travelers searched?

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3. What did the mob shout?

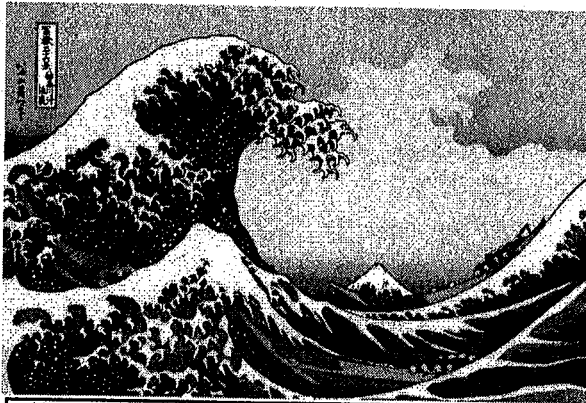
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4. What was stated in the proclamation?

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## Opening Japan

### Global History and Geography II



#### Questions:

1. Describe one geographic feature of Japan.  
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2. Describe one effect of this geographic feature.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Define shogun.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. When did the Tokugawa family rule Japan?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How did the Tokugawa rulers treat foreigners?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. How did the Tokugawa rulers treat Japanese who left Japan?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How long did the Tokugawa rulers isolate Japan?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Why did the Tokugawa rulers isolate Japan?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Who was Commodore Matthew Perry?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Why was he able to "open" Japan?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Japan is an archipelago or a series of islands. By the 1100s, the emperor of Japan had lost his political power. Military dictators or shoguns ruled Japan as feudalism developed.

By 1603, shoguns from the Tokugawa family ruled Japan. In 1612, the Tokugawa rulers began to persecute Christian missionaries in Japan. They also began to restrict the activities of traders. Eventually, a policy of isolationism developed. While one port remained opened to traders from the Netherlands, no foreigners were allowed to enter Japan and no Japanese who left Japan could return.

The Japanese isolated themselves for over 200 years. The Tokugawa rulers had hoped that by pursuing a policy of isolationism, they would increase their power. However, as European and American military strength increased, the Tokugawa's policy of isolationism was threatened.

Finally, by 1853, Commodore Matthew Perry arrived with four ships off the coast of Japan. Commodore Perry was an American and the following year, he returned to Japan with a letter from President Millard Fillmore. In no uncertain terms, Japan was to open its ports. Realizing his inability to defeat the Americans due to a lack of modern weapons, the Tokugawa shogun opened Japan.



The following excerpt is adapted from Columbia.edu

“In 1868 the Tokugawa shogun (“great general”), who ruled Japan in the feudal period, lost his power and the emperor was restored to the supreme position. The emperor took the name Meiji (“enlightened rule”) as his reign name; this event was known as the Meiji Restoration.

#### The Reign of the Meiji Emperor:

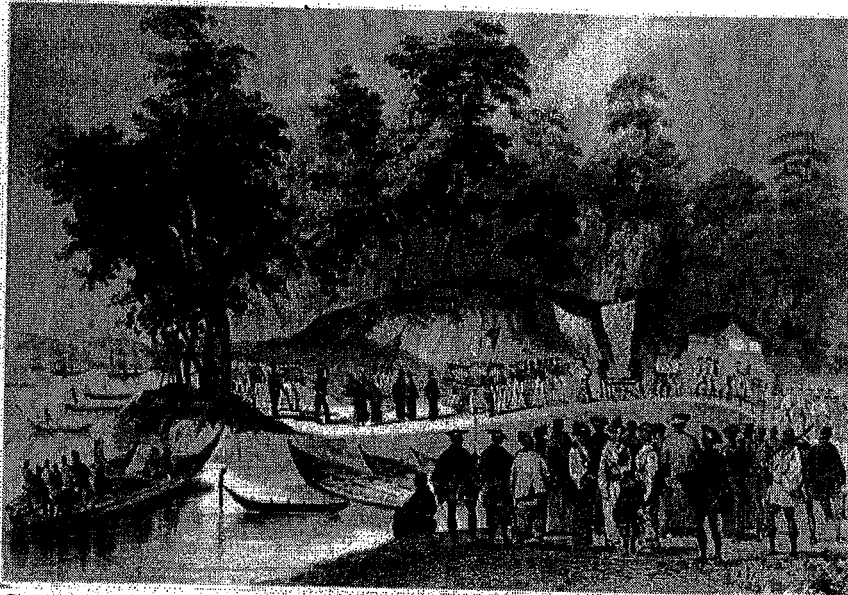
When the Meiji emperor was restored as head of Japan in 1868, the nation was a militarily weak country, was primarily agricultural, and had little technological development. It was controlled by hundreds of semi-independent feudal lords. The Western powers - Europe and the United States - had forced Japan to sign treaties that limited its control over its own foreign trade and required that crimes concerning foreigners in Japan be tried not in Japanese but in Western courts. When the Meiji period ended, with the death of the emperor in 1912, Japan had

- 1- a highly centralized government
- 2- a constitution establishing an elected parliament (diet)
- 3- a well-developed transport and communication system
- 4- a highly educated population free of feudal class restrictions
- 5- an industrial sector based on the latest technology
- 6- a powerful army and navy

#### Questions:

- 1- What happened in Japan in 1868?  
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- 2- Why did the emperor take the name “Meiji”?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3- Describe Japan when the emperor was restored to power in 1868.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4- Describe Japan when the Meiji period ended.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 5- Define centralized government.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6- What is the name of Japan’s parliament?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 7- Why was Japan able to compete with Western powers after the Meiji Restoration?  
\_\_\_\_\_





This excerpt below is adapted from Fordham.edu

The excerpt is adapted from a selection that was compiled by Francis L. Hawks from the notes and journals of Commodore Perry.

Commodore Matthew Perry bidding farewell to the Japanese Imperial Commission after signing treaty opening the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate to US trade.

#### “When We Landed in Japan, 1854”

“For some time after the Commodore and his suite had taken their seats there was a pause of some minutes, not a word being uttered on either side. Tatznoske, the principal interpreter, was the first to break silence, which he did by asking Mr. Portman, the Dutch interpreter, whether the letters were ready for delivery, and stating that the Prince Toda was prepared to receive them;...The Commodore upon this being communicated to him, beckoned to the boys who stood in the lower hall to advance, when they immediately obeyed his summons and came forward, bearing the handsome boxes which contained the President's letter and other documents.

[The letter of the President, Millard Fillmore, expressed the friendly feelings of the United States toward Japan and his desire that there should be friendship and trade between the two countries.]

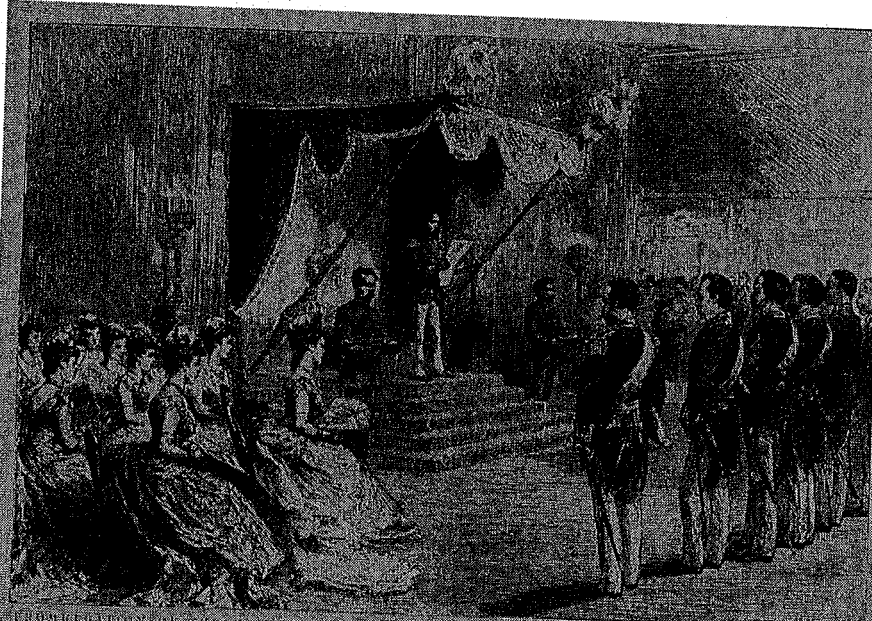
Yezaiman and Tatznoske now bowed, and, rising from their knees drew the fastenings around the scarlet box, and informing the Commodore's interpreter that there was nothing more to be done, passed out of the apartment, bowing to those on either side as they went. The Commodore now rose to take leave, and, as he departed, the two princes, still preserving absolute silence, also arose and stood until the strangers had passed from their presence.”

Questions:

1- What is a surprising aspect of this exchange between American and Japanese officials?

2- What was expressed in President Millard Fillmore's letter?

3- How would you describe this ceremony?



In 1889, the Meiji Emperor gave a Constitution to the people of Japan in a formal ceremony. The ceremony was aimed both at the Japanese population and the United States and Europe, to illustrate that Japan was a "modern nation."

Japansociety.org

Excerpts from the Meiji Constitution  
Columbia.edu

**Preamble**

"Having, by virtue of the glories of Our Ancestors, ascended the Throne of a lineal succession unbroken for ages eternal; desiring to promote the welfare of, and to give development to the moral and intellectual faculties of Our beloved subjects, the very same that have been favored with the benevolent care and affectionate vigilance of Our Ancestors; and hoping to maintain the prosperity of the State, in concert with Our people and with their support, We hereby promulgate, in pursuance of Our Imperial Rescript of the 12th day of the 10th month of the 14th year of Meiji, a fundamental law of State, to exhibit the principles, by which We are to be guided in Our conduct, and to point out to what Our descendants and Our subjects and their descendants are forever to conform."

**Chapter 1                      The Emperor**

**ARTICLE I.** The Empire of Japan shall be reigned over and governed by a line of Emperors unbroken for ages eternal.

**ARTICLE II.** The Imperial Throne shall be succeeded to by Imperial male descendants, according to the provisions of the Imperial House Law.

**ARTICLE III.** The Emperor is sacred and inviolable.

**Questions:**

List three facts about the Meiji Constitution:

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How does the Meiji Constitution differ from the U.S. Constitution?

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\_\_\_\_\_

# Vladimir Putin and the Uses of Imperialism

RUSSIA'S LEADER REKINDLES THE AGE OF EMPIRES IN EUROPE

By Simon Shuster

**M**ORE THAN TROOP MOVEMENTS OR conquests of land, it was a single speech that began Russia's transformation back into an empire in the spring of 2014. Delivered at the Kremlin, inside the gilded hall of St. George (the dragon slayer) on March 18, the Crimea speech marked the moment when president Vladimir Putin claimed a new mandate, one that sought to extend his authority well beyond Russia's borders.

The fall of the Soviet Union, he said, had left much of the Russian nation marooned outside the borders of the motherland, from the Baltic States in Eastern Europe to the steppes of Central Asia. "Millions of people went to bed in one country and awoke in different ones, overnight becoming ethnic minorities in former Union republics," Putin told the assembled Russian legislators. It would become his mission, he said, to correct those injustices. "Russia will always defend" ethnic Russians wherever they lived, he declared.

Those were not empty words. With a stroke of his pen that day, he took the first step in enacting his vision by annexing the region of Crimea, absorbing this lush peninsula of Ukraine into Russia and, in the process, redrawing the borders of Europe. As explanation, Putin claimed that the ethnic Russians living in Crimea were in danger of persecution, a claim that had nothing in common with the reality on the ground. But Ukraine's government, still in turmoil from the early 2014 revolution that unseated president Viktor Yanukovich, had no means to stop the Russian military's occupation of Crimea, and neither did its allies in the West.

Like much of the world, Western leaders were caught off guard by Putin's turn toward imperial expansion, in part because it ran counter to the tide of European history. Since the Age of Discovery began in the early 16th century, one of the prime movers of that history

had been the exploration of the globe by Europe's great powers, followed in many cases by their establishment of colonies or outposts that served as doorways through which they gradually dominated the less advanced societies they encountered and reaped the rewards of their natural resources.

This process of imperialism was not a new force in history—the Romans, the Mongols under Genghis Khan and the Incas in the Americas had built great empires by conquest. But technological advances allowed European nations to exert their economic, political and military power across vast new swaths of the globe and transform millions of indigenous peoples into subjects.

Colonial imperialism made great powers of Spain, Portugal, the Dutch Republic, France and Britain. But in the 20th century, as two great world wars undermined the global order, the process began to run in reverse: colonial peoples around the planet demanded and won their independence from foreign rule.

Putin's annexation of the Crimea thus defied this trajectory of imperial decline. In recent decades the Continent has tended toward the division of nations rather than their fusion. The vicious Balkan wars of the 1990s had shattered southeastern Europe into a tapestry of ethnically distinct republics, marking a bloody post-script to the broader disintegration of the Soviet Union a decade before.

In Western Europe, the global financial crisis has eroded the appeal of unity for millions of people, and "Euroskeptic" parties have become a centrifugal force slowly prying the European Union apart. In the fall of 2014, Scotland was scheduled to hold a referendum on whether to split off from the U.K., which is itself pon-

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*Simon Shuster has covered Russia for TIME since 2010. In 2014 he reported from Ukraine during its revolution and military conflict with Putin's Russia.*

dering a plebiscite to decide whether to leave the E.U.

In this context of fragmentation, Russia began to see its borders as frontiers rather than boundaries, and Putin tapped into an imperial fervor that had served his predecessors well. His Crimea speech invoked the legacy of the first great conqueror of Kievan Rus, Vladimir the Great, Putin's patron saint, who accepted the Orthodox Christian faith while on a trip to Crimea in the year 988. Since then, the Russian Slavs have carried the Orthodox banners in countless wars of conquest, a national obsession that became known as the "gathering of Russian lands" by the end of the 15th century.

The worth of every Russian ruler who followed Prince Vladimir has been measured by the conquest, or gathering, of new dominions. The subjugation of Siberia and its pagan tribes became Moscow's version of manifest destiny in the middle of the 16th century, under the rule of Ivan the Terrible, Russia's first czar. Peter the Great pushed toward the Baltic Sea in the 18th century, establishing a new capital at St. Petersburg on the western edge of his westward-rolling empire.

A half-century later, Catherine the Great looked toward Central Europe and the Caucasus for her place in the canon of conquerors, making Poland her protectorate and extending the Russian Empire to the edge of the Persian and Ottoman empires.

The Soviet rulers, for all their professed hatred of imperialism, continued this tradition after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. With the defeat of the Nazis in World War II, Joseph Stalin came to possess an empire far greater than any of the czars' possessions, and it was consolidated in the years after his death in 1953 under the Warsaw Pact, a military alliance designed to hold the West back from Moscow's new vassal states in Eastern Europe. It held for nearly four decades, throughout the Cold War, evaporating only at the start of the 1990s in what Putin has called the greatest geopolitical tragedy of the 20th century: the Soviet Union fell apart.

Putin's dream of reversing that "tragedy," or at least avenging some of its humiliations, fits Putin squarely into the lineage of leaders who projected Russian strength outward at the West. At home, that role has made him more popular than at almost any point in his reign, with an approval rating that soared to more than 80% after the annexation of Crimea.

A new phrase has entered the Russian vernacular, "At least Crimea is ours," becoming an answer to every complaint and an excuse for all of Putin's domestic failings. Crumbling infrastructure? Paltry medical care? "At least Crimea is ours." The lines of Putin admirers seeking to buy T-shirts with this slogan have stretched for hours



**THE DECIDER** On March 18, 2014, Vladimir Putin strode into a Kremlin hall to announce to the Federal Assembly his decision to annex Crimea to Russia. The bold move was unopposed by Western powers and made the president highly popular with his citizens

outside the old GUM department store on Red Square.

The saying's popularity is a testament to the allure of imperial destiny that Putin has learned to harness. The idea of ethnic exceptionalism—as embodied in Russia's mission to unite the Slavic peoples of Europe—has caused a surge of patriotism unlike any Russia has seen in generations. It helps his cause that, in the arena of international trade, Putin's control of the pipelines that bring oil and gas to Europe has given him a stranglehold over the regional economy.

Putin's raising of the Orthodox Christian banner has meanwhile offered a new vision for society, one based on conservative Christian values that run counter to the decadent liberalism of the West. That moral stricture, as exemplified in Russia's recent laws against "homosexual propaganda" and its repression of the rock group Pussy Riot, has appealed to right-wing forces across Europe and even to the conservative movement in the U.S.

In the new era that began with the Crimea speech, Putin has set his eyes on a legacy no other leader in Europe can claim. He has cast himself as an Orthodox Christian crusader and a gatherer of Russian lands, invoking a kind of imperial destiny that the West has not grappled with for at least a generation. Western leaders will have to find new ways to answer this challenge, for its force within Russia has left Putin's power almost entirely unchecked. Should he win re-election in 2018, which seems likely, and if his vision of Russian greatness is left to roll toward its logical conclusion, it may well awaken the half-forgotten age of empires in Europe.

IMPERIALISM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DUE \_\_\_\_\_

**VLADIMIR PUTIN AND THE USES OF IMPERIALISM BY SIMON SHUSTER**

**DIRECTIONS: TYPE THE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.**

1. According to Putin's Crimea speech in 2014, what is his mission with ethnic minorities in the former Soviet Union?
2. Why were Western leaders caught off guard by Putin's turn toward imperial expansion?
3. What role did technological advances play in European expansion?
4. How did colonialism run in reverse after WWI and WWII?
5. How did Putin's Crimea speech invoke the legacy of Vladimir the Great?
6. How did Peter the Great and Catherine the Great expand Russia?
7. How did Soviet rulers expand Russia after the Russian Revolution?
8. Why has Putin's popularity rating improved after the annexation of Crimea?
9. How has Putin's control of gas pipelines in Europe helped his cause?
10. How has Putin used the Christian Orthodox Church to further nationalism and imperialism?
11. What points in the article do you agree with and or disagree with?