

Name: _____

Imperialism Source Packet

Source #1: Cecil Rhodes quotation

Background: Cecil Rhodes was a famous British imperialist.



“We must find new lands from which we can easily obtain¹ raw materials² and at the same time exploit³ the cheap slave labor that is available from the natives of the colonies. The colonies would also provide a dumping ground for the surplus⁴ goods produced in our factories.”

Review Questions:

1. According to Rhodes, why should the British find new lands?
2. Once they find these new lands, what will the Europeans do to these lands and the people living there?
3. What does Rhodes want to do with the extra goods produced in British factories? Does he actually want to throw them away?
4. How does this quote describe the causes of imperialism?

Source #2: Cartoon of the White Man's Burden

Background: The White Man's Burden⁵ was an idea that helped cause imperialism. Whites (Europeans and Americans) non-whites (Africans, Indians, and other Asians) were uncivilized. The White Man's Burden was the idea that whites had a responsibility to civilize⁶ the non-whites. To do this, the whites would have to teach them their religion, language, and ideas about politics and economics. According to the Europeans, this was a reason to imperialize Africans and Indians.



THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.— *The Journal, Detroit.*

1. The image describes TWO people: a white soldier and a native. The soldier is carrying the native. Why is a soldier carrying the native? What does this say about imperialism?
2. Where is the soldier taking the native?
3. What will the native learn there?

³ Exploit: take advantage of

⁴ Surplus: extra

⁵ Burden: responsibility

⁶ Civilize: educate, to make act correctly