Imperialism Study Guide

**Imperialism –** one countries domination of the political, economic and/or social life of another country

**Reasons for Imperialism**:

* Economic – raw materials for industrial revolution, trade, cheap labor, new markets
* Political – nationalism (pride and prestige), national security/border protection, military bases & source of troops
* Social –
  + missionary (spread Christianity)
  + social Darwinism (survival of the fittest applied to society; European society “the fittest)
  + racism/cultural superiority
  + white man’s burden (duty to civilize non-whites)

**Forces enabling** – maxim gun, railroad/steamships, cure for malaria, internal divisions, industrial revolution

**Types of Imperialism**

* **Colony** – Imperialist country installs its own government; most direct form of control (Vietnam)
* **Protectorate** – territory maintains its own government with strong foreign influence (Egypt)
* **Sphere of Influence** – exclusive trading rights (China)

***Africa-* Berlin Conference 1884:**

* Partitioned Africa – cultural/ethnic/tribal lines disregarded
* Two countries remained independent
  + **Liberia**
  + **Ethiopia**

**Resistance:** Emperor Menelik II led resistance against Italy which

ended Italy’s conquest of Ethiopia until after his death

**Effectives of Imperialism in Africa:**

**Positives:**

Modern technology

Modern medicine

Schools

Development of infrastructure – roads, ports, railroads (used to transport

raw materials to Europe)

**Negatives:**

Decline in traditional culture with increased European influence

Ethnic & tribal lines disregarded causing long-term warfare

Slave Trade effected African economy by depleting able bodied labor source

Natural resources depleted

Natives forced to work for low wages under harsh conditions

**India**

**Colonizer:** Britain

**Motives:** Trade, natural resource (pepper, cinnamon, opium, indigo, cotton, textiles (muslin, calico), social - cultural superiority and missionary

**Major Events:**

**East India Company –** Rich, powerful trading company set up trading posts and ports in India. Created a monopoly on Indian trade. Expanded control in India through wars and commercial activity. Gradually controlled military and government functions.

**Sepoy Rebellion –** Indian soldiers (Sepoy) rebel against British East India Company who imposed Christianity and European customs on them. Massacres on both sides lead British Parliament to end East India Company’s control.

**Indian Nationalism –** movement by Indians to gain more control and eventually independence from Britain

**Indian National Congress –** Indian business and professional leaders who are upset about food shortages, discrimination and other problems. Goals: democracy, equality, self-rule.

**Effects of Imperialism in India**

* **Positive:**
* Infrastructure – roads, railroads, telegraph cables, canals – used to transport raw materials out of Idian
* Tried to eliminate some perceived problems of Indian culture – child brides, caste system, burning alive of widows
* Universities and schools
* Medical and technology advances
* **Negative:**
* Discrimination
* Increased influence of European customs and religious practices
* Forced labor
* Setback economic progress – still one of the poorest countries in the world

**China**

**Before Imperialism:**

Ming and Qing Dynasties – hereditary rulers

1500s – superior culture

Limited trade with Europe

European goods considered inferior

Corruption, weakened military, internal rebellion lead to decline

Confucianism – moral and ethical teachings of Confucius that became the basis for Chinese education

**Colonizer(s)**

Britain

Later – France, Germany, Japan & Russia , along with Britain set up spheres of influence

**Motives:** Trade, missionary

**Major Events:**

**Opium Wars –** (1839-1842) and (1856 -1860) – British win

* **British want:** To break the trade barrier and to avoid cash payments of goods British smuggled Opium (highly addictive drug from India)
* **Chinese want:** To end destruction to Chinese society caused by Opium which is weakening the country
* **Hong Kong –** Chinese give up to Britain. Signed a 99 year lease (1898-1997)

**Spheres of Influence –** Areas of exclusive trading rights

**Open Door Policy –** Equal trading rights

* **U.S. –** wanted open door policy because were late to imperialize and did not get a sphere of influence

**Boxer Rebellion –** internal Chinese rebellion against foreign influence (similar to Sepoy Rebellion in India)

**American Imperialism**

**Manifest Destiny –** term used to explain continental expansion by the United States. Gave the US a sense of national destiny or purpose, and justification to expand its borders and push into territory it did not control. A belief that North America should be under the control of Americans.

**Monroe Doctrine –** Warned European powers not to interfere in countries in Western Hemisphere

**2 major points:**

**1.** American continents can’t be colonized

**2.** US would prevent any attempt at colonization

**Spanish American War –** war over Cuban independence from Spain

**Jose Marti –** led Cubans in a revolution against Spanish rule

**U.S. motives –** wanted Spanish out of western hemisphere and remaining overseas colonies

**“Remember the Maine” –** 266 American’s died on board the Battleship Maine in the port of Havana – U.S. declared war on Spain (believed to have caused the explosion)

**U.S. Territorial gains from Spanish American War:** Philippines, Guam, Puerto Rico

**Panama Canal**

**Motives:**

**1.** Trade

**2.** National security – needed to be able to quickly move US navy between Pacific and Atlantic ocean

**Mexican American War –** cause was the US annexation of Texas

**Motives:** U.S. expansion in West

**Results:** California, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada

**Imperialism in Southeast Asia**

**Colonizers:**

East Indies (Indonesia) – Dutch

Philippines – Spain, US

Indochina (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia) – French

Burma (Myanmar), Malaysia – British

Siam (Thailand) – remained independent

**Motives:**

Economic – raw materials: spices, tin, rubber, rice, copper, hardwood trees

Social – White man’s burden, Missionary, Social Darwinism

Political – military

**Conflicts:**

Dutch East Indies

* Natives felt Dutch were using them as forced labor to benefit European economies
* Diponegoro led revolt against Dutch that ended in failure

Philippines

* Filipinos worked for low wages to benefit Europeans
* Emilio Aguinaldo led a revolt against Spanish, and then US
* US promised to free Philippines in return for help against Spanish in Spanish American War

French Indochina

* Ho Chi Min led a revolt after Japanese occupation in WWII
* Resulted in conflict first with the French, then US

WWI Study Guide

**Causes of WWI**

**M.A.I.N. started WWI**

**M. M**ilitarism – glorification of war and the military

* Competition for military power and strength
  + Arms race – competition to build up armed forces and weapons
  + Standing armies – soldiers trained and ready to fight
  + Conscription – mandatory participation of civilians in the military
  + Increase in military spending
  + Increasing influence of military in the government
* Example: Germany expanded its navy, Britain soon followed with a bigger and better navy

**A. A**lliances – Partnership agreement to go to war in the event one country in the partnership is attacked. Aim was to discourage other countries from attacking members of the alliance

* Triple Alliance
  + Germany
  + Austria-Hungary
  + Italy
* Triple Entente
  + Russia
  + France
  + Great Britain

AND/OR

**A. A**ssassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria

**Spark** – immediate cause that creates a chain of diplomatic failures setting WWI in motion

* **Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria assassinated**
  + Heir to the Austrian throne in Bosnia-Herzegovina (territory annexed by Austria, containing many Serbian-Slavs)
  + **Black Hand** – secret Serbian nationalists group with ties to the Serbian government
    - Gavrilo Princip - leader of the black hand assassinates Franz Ferdinand and his wife

**I. I**mperialism – One country’s domination of the economic, political and social life of another country

* Competition for colonies – countries had some and wanted more, others had none and wanted some
  + Economic growth – countries wanted to new markets to sell products
  + Power and prestige of expanding global empires

**N. N**ationalism –

* Extreme love and devotion for one’s country
  + determination of European nations to show power and strength
* Freedom from foreign rule
  + France wants Germany to return Alsace and Lorraine lost in Franco-Prussian war
* People of the same nationality wanted to form their own nation-state
  + **Pan-Slavism** – Slavs had a long-term goal to develop their culture and unite into an empire
    - Serbian nationals wanting to unite Bosnia with Serbia
    - Russia – protector of the Slavs

Triple Alliance until WWI

* Austria-Hungary
* Germany
* Italy

BECAME

Central Powers

* Austria-Hungary
* Germany
* Ottoman Empire (Turks)
* Bulgaria

Triple Entente until WWI

* Great Britain
* Russia
* France

BECAME

Allied Powers

* Great Britain
* Russia (dropped out due to Russian Revolution)
* France
* Belgium
* Later – Japan, Montenegro
* Italy – initially remained neutral (felt A.H. and Germany had acted aggressively, rather than defensively), but later entered on the side of the allies
* US joins (April 2, 1917)

**Key Leaders during WWI**

**William II - Germany**

* Emperor of Germany in World War I.
* 1890, he broke off the old ties with Russia, causing Germany to have to fight a two-front war. This blunder led Germany to defeat.

**Czar Nicholas II – Russia**

* last czar of Russia, Absolute Monarch

**George Clemenceau – France**

* Prime Minister of France during WWI
* Nicknamed ‘Tiger’ for his ruthless and bold leadership

**Woodrow Wilson – US**

* the 28th President of the United States
* At the outbreak of the WWI, he tried to maintain American neutrality as long as possible

**David Lloyd George – Great Britain**

* Prime minister of England

**Schlieffen Plan** – war plan for Germany, created by Alfred von Schlieffen

* Germany had to fight a war on two fronts (east with France/Great Britain and west with Russia)
* Plan to reach Paris and defeat French in 6 weeks before Russia can mobilize, then attack Russia
* Problems:
  + Belgium fought back- didn’t let them simply more through Belgium
  + Strong resistance from France
  + Russia mobilized more quickly than anticipated
  + Britain attacked from the north
* French and German troops collide in Marne (NE France) just outside of Paris
  + German’s forced to retreat
  + Hunkered down in the trenches establish the western front and ending the Schlieffen plan

**Western Front:**

**1. Stalemate** – a state of deadlock where neither side gains an advantage

**2. Trench warfare** - a type of armed combat in which the two opposing sides fight from trenches that face each other to protect soldiers from the onslaught of machine gun fire and other weaponry

* A series of trenches stretched from the North Sea to Switzerland
* No man’s land – the desolate area that separated the two sides of trenches
* Barbed wire and land mines protected the area in front of each trench
* Attacks – soldiers charged “over the top” of their own trenches, through no man’s land to enemy trenches, facing heavily artillery, machine guns, barbed wire, and land-mines
* Soldiers lived in the trenches for several weeks
  + Disease, cold, mud, rats, rain

**Eastern Front**

* Fought in Russia
* More mobile than Western Front (ground too hard to dig trenches)
* Front much longer, covered more territory
* Battle lines moved often
* Forced Germany to fight on two fronts
* Russia had more soldiers but lacked supplies, weapons, food
* Russians were defeated at Tannenberg and later pulled out of war

**New Weapons**

* Machine guns – allowed one man to kill hundreds of men in seconds
* Poisonous gas – German army was first ever to used
  + Chlorine gas – caused blindness, choking, vomiting, torn lungs, and death
  + Mustard gas – most deadly, caused skin blisters, sore eyes, vomiting, internal and external bleeding, a long slow death
* Tanks – allowed for movement across rugged terrain, eventually designed to cross trenches
* Airplanes – first used for reconnaissance work (spying), later in war to deliver bombs and fight enemy aircraft in they air
* Submarines – German u-boats destroyed warships, supply ships, and commercial and passenger ships

**War on the Seas**

* Great Britain blockade all ports under German control to stop supplies from reaching Germany
* Germany could only get goods through neutral countries
* Britain stopped ships carrying **contraband** (prohibited goods such as weapons and ammo)
* German’s use u-boats to blockade Great Britain and stop supplies from reaching allies

**U.S. Entry into the War**

**Reasons did not enter in 1914**

* Policy of neutrality – policy of not choosing sides
* U.S. late entry – believed war was a European conflict and had nothing to do with the US
* Economic Reasons – keep trade open with both sides
* **Reasons U.S. Enters – April 2, 1917**
  1. **Lusitania** – British passenger ship torpedoed by German u-boats; 1,200 die including 128 Americans
  2. **Zimmerman note** – message from Arthur Zimmerman (German Foreign Minister) to his ambassador in Mexico. Info. Intended for Mexican President:
     + Germany to reinstate unrestricted submarine warfare
     + Germany wanted alliance with Mexico
       - Germany would help Mexico regain New Mexico, Texas and Arizona from the US, if Mexico would start a war with US to keep them “occupied” and out of the war in Europe
       - Mexico promised money
     + Suggested Mexico get Japan involved in 2 front war against US
  3. **Un-restricted submarine warfare** – German U-boats continue to sink American merchant ships
  4. **Economics** – without Russia, the Allies might lose the war and thus not be able to repay the US for their war loans

**Effects of WWI**

* 9 Million soldiers dead- 21 Million soldiers wounded- 13 Million civilians were dead of disease or starvation
* Absolute Monarchies in Europe destroyed
* Increased political and social instability

**WWI different from other wars:**

* Number of casualties and destruction
* Use of new technologies
* Scope of war – number of countries involved
  + Colonies participated in hopes of gaining their independence
    - Asian and African colonies expected citizenship or independence
    - Arabs wanting freedom from Ottoman Turks helped the British

**Fourteen Point Plan**

Woodrow Wilson’s (US President) 14 points – peace plan

* Freedom of the seas and trade
* Arms limitations
* End to secret alliances
* Self-rule for all nations
* No punishments to Germany
* League of Nations – an organization of world nations to settle future problems peacefully

**Paris Peace Conference** – delegates from 27 nations signed the Treaty of Versailles

* “Big Four” - George Clemenceau (France), David Lloyd George (Britain), Vittorio Orlando (Italy), Woodrow Wilson, (US)
* Central Powers not invited
* Russia not invited
* Each nation had differing goals, Wilson had to compromise on his 14 Points
* Wilson called for Peace while the other Allies called for punishment
* Treaty of Versailles with Germany

**Treaty of Versailles** – the treaty was a **R.A.W.** deal for Germany

R. Reparations were forced on Germany

* German war reparations – $33 B

A. Allies Punish Germany - took German land/limit German military

* German army reduced,
* German weapons - can’t manufacture or buy weapons, no air force
* German to return Alsace-Lorraine to France
* France gets control of Saar Basin (rich in coal deposits)
* Occupation of the Rhineland
* Germany stripped of Colonies

W. War Guilt was forced on Germany

* Germany must sign “war blame” clause

**Further study recommendations:**

* standards based test practice in text
* classzone quizzes and flashcards
* note taking worksheets from videos
* cartoon analysis activities
* Roaring 20s packet