

GIII- Imperialism

Imperialism

- The Europeans began to take over places in Africa and Asia during the 1800s
- They had a superior military and were able to conquer these areas easily
- The Europeans wanted raw materials, natural resources and new markets for products
- Examples of countries effected: Africa, India, China, and Southeast Asia

Berlin Conference

- 1884-1885: Conference held between European nation (Britain, France, Germany & 5 others)
- Called the Scramble for Africa
- These countries divided up Africa without any concern for ethnic or cultural traditions

“White Man’s Burden”

- Poem by Rudyard Kipling
- Stated that it was the duty of the Europeans to introduce culture and technology to weaker nations

Sepoy Mutiny

- Britain controlled India for centuries
- 1857: India staged a rebellion to remove foreign and western influence
- India wanted to be independent but lost

Chinese Imperialism

- China was closed to Europe until 1830’s
- China opposed Western opium
- Opium Wars (1839-1842): Britain won and forced Chinese ports to open
- China became spheres of influence to European powers
- Boxer Rebellion was a failed attempt to remove western and foreign influence

Sample Questions

1. Which statement best expresses the Western perspective regarding Kipling’s “white man’s burden”?

- (1) Europeans should preserve traditional cultures in Africa and Asia.
- (2) Europeans must protect existing African and Asian economies.
- (3) Europeans suffered great hardships in exploring new trade routes to Asia.
- (4) Europeans had a duty to introduce the benefits of their civilization to non-European peoples.

2. One of the most important motives for the European “Scramble for Africa” in the late 1800s was that Africa provided a source of

- (1) raw materials used in industry
- (2) religious inspiration
- (3) free labor for the Americas
- (4) technologically innovative practices

3. The White Man’s Burden

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.
— Rudyard Kipling, 1899

3. The message of this poem was used by many Europeans to justify
- (1) industrialism
 - (2) feudalism
 - (3) imperialism
 - (4) fascism

4. During the 19th century, one effect of European imperialism on Africa was the
- (1) exploitation of African natural resources by colonial powers
 - (2) improvement of working conditions in Africa
 - (3) African dependence on exportation of manufactured goods
 - (4) African acceptance of the doctrine of the “White Man’s Burden”
5. The borders that were established for many African nations during the late 1800’s were based primarily on
- (1) natural geographic barriers
 - (2) easy access to natural resources
 - (3) territorial claims of colonial rulers
 - (4) cultural differences between ethnic groups
6. The Sepoy Rebellion was to India as the Boxer Rebellion was to
- (1) Russia
 - (2) China
 - (3) Japan
 - (4) Italy
7. One similarity between the Sepoy Mutiny and the Boxer Rebellion is that they
- (1) opposed European imperialism
 - (2) ended an established dynasty
 - (3) resulted in the redistribution of land
 - (4) instituted communist governments
8. What was a direct result of the Opium War in 19th-century China?
- (1) Japan gained control of Hong Kong.
 - (2) Kublai Khan rose to power in China.
 - (3) Chinese ports were opened for trade with European powers.
 - (4) Jiang Jieshi (Chiang Kai-shek) fled to Taiwan.
9. One result of the Opium War was that China
- (1) adopted democratic reforms
 - (2) gained control of Hong Kong
 - (3) regained control of Manchuria
 - (4) was divided into spheres of influence
10. One way in which the Boxers in China and the Islamic fundamentalists in revolutionary Iran were similar is that each group attempted to
- (1) encourage cultural and economic ties with Western nations
 - (2) eliminate foreign influence in their nation
 - (3) establish national religious movements
 - (4) expand overseas colonies