

BECOMING A WORLD POWER

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WHY?

The United States, since its founding, had been a nation that neither desired nor required any "entangling alliances" with foreign countries. However, the late 19th century brought a new race by Europeans to conquer much of the globe, and for a variety of reasons the U.S. followed suit. The expansion of American influence in Asia, the annexation of Hawaii, Alaska, and other territories, and the Spanish-American War made the U.S. a world power with world responsibilities and a new imperialist legacy.

Outcomes: Students will

- A. analyze the motives for American imperialism
- B. develop a chronology of America's growth as a world power
- C. identify imperialist policies of presidents McKinley, Roosevelt, and Taft
- D. identify results of U.S. imperialism
- E. acquire knowledge of the geography of expanding American power in the late 19th century
- F. evaluate moral issues and varying viewpoints of American imperialism

Resources

- A. text: chapter 9, p. 306-335

Outline

- I. Origins of American Imperialism
 - A. def. IMPERIALISM
 - B. Reasons for expansion
 - 1. impact of world events
 - 1. economic
 - 2. military/strategic
 - 3. religious/ideological
 - 4. social
 - C. Early examples
- II. The Spanish-American War, 1898
 - A. relations with Latin America
 - B. Reasons for war
 - 1. Problems in Cuba
 - 2. role of the press: yellow journalism & jingoism
 - 3. *U.S.S. Maine*
 - C. "A Splendid Little War"
 - D. results & new territories
 - 1. (NOT Cuba)
 - 2. Puerto Rico
 - 3. Guam
 - 4. Philippines
- III. Imperialist Presidents
 - A. Theodore Roosevelt: Big Stick Diplomacy

1. background
 2. Latin America
 - a) Intervention: Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
 - b) Panama Canal
 3. Far East
 4. Europe
 - B. Taft & Dollar Diplomacy
- IV. The Dark Side of American Imperialism
- A. *The White Man's Burden*
 - B. Cuba and the Platt Amendment
 - C. war in the Philippines
 - D. Hawaii
 - E. China
 1. Open Door Policy
 2. Boxer Rebellion
 - F. Anti-imperialism
 - G. Imperialism's appeal

Vocabulary

annexation
 banana republic
 Big Stick Diplomacy
 Boxer Rebellion
 Culebra Cut
 de Lome letter
 Dollar Diplomacy
 guerilla
 imperialism
 jingoism
 Lake Gatun
 Monroe Doctrine
 most favored nation status
 Open Door Policy
 paradox of power
 Platt Amendment
 Roosevelt Corollary
 Rough Riders
 San Juan Hill

Seward's Folly
 sphere of influence
 Teller Amendment
U.S.S. Maine
 yellow journalism

 "Butcher" Weyler
 Alfred Thayer Mahan
 Albert J. Beveridge
 Emilio Aguinaldo
 George Dewey
 Joseph Pulitzer
 Rudyard Kipling
 Theodore Roosevelt
 William Howard Taft
 William McKinley
 William Randolph Hearst
 Woodrow Wilson