The Building of Global Empires

Reading Questions

Review the questions prior to reading the assigned section and provide notes from your reading in support of each question.

pp. 909-919

1. How is the story of Cecil Rhodes an example of the modern colonialism taking root in the 19th century?
2. What other factors – political, economic, cultural and technological drove imperial interests? Include Rudyard Kipling in your response.
3. How did the Sepoy Mutiny initially challenge and later establish the British presence in India?
4. What impact did the British Viceroy and his policies have on life in India?
5. What is meant by the Great Game that arose from the decline of the Qing and Ottoman Empires?
6. Identify the colonial powers and their respective territories within Southeast Asia.

pp. 919-927

1. How did the work of Stanley and Livingstone promote the “Scramble for Africa”? How did the Berlin Conference facilitate this scramble?
2. Why was Belgian control of the Congo Free State especially notorious in this period?
3. How did British interests in South Africa put them on a collision course with the Dutch Boers/Afrikaners?
4. How were the French and British models of Imperialism different?
5. In what way was the European settlement of Australia and New Zealand similar to European settlement of the Americas 300 years earlier?
6. How did the buildup of modern naval power impact Western interest in Oceania?

pp. 927-930

1. How did the US become an imperial power and what drew their interest to the Pacific?
2. How did, what seemed to be, regional issues in East Asia actually set the stage for Japanese Imperialism?

pp. 930-934

1. In what was imperialism an extension of the Industrial Revolution taking place in Europe?
2. How did the global economy of the imperial age challenge long-standing economic traditions within the colonies themselves?
3. Identify the differences between the migration of European populations with those of Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

pp. 934-939

1. How did the diaspora created by Imperial demands lead to conflicts? Specifically what was the Maji-Maji revolt?
2. How did Charles Darwin’s *Origins of Species* (1859) help to give rise to the works of scientific racists? Why is Herbert Spencer often referred to as a Social Darwinist?
3. Why does the text compare the Napoleonic legacy throughout Europe to the impact of Imperialism? In your opinion, is Ram Mohan Roy better described as a “Mazzini romantic” or a “pragmatic Bismarck”, why?