





3 - 2 - 1

Take a look at this picture:

Think of

3 things you notice

2 questions you have

1 guess about how this may connect to our novel study

THERE IS NO WRONG ANSWER

What is Neo Imperialism?

- the specific historical period between 1750-1914 when expansionism of European nations accelerated.



Imperialism:

Policy of extending a country's power over other nations through diplomacy, economic dominance or military force.

Empire:

An extensive group of states or countries under a single supreme authority, especially an emperor or empress (e.g. The British Empire).



Reasons for Imperialism

- Moved by greed and competition: several industrial countries engaged in imperialism (i.e., Britain).
- The empires exploited the colonies (they took land and resources).
- There was a set of ideas that supported imperialism (e.g. racism)





Causes of Imperialism

1. **Exploitation of natural resources.**

Coffee, sugar, palm oil, tea, timber, tin, rubber, spices, etc.



2. Opening of new markets for trade.

Industrialized nations needed new consumers for their increasing production of goods.

Causes of Imperialism

- ### 3. Geopolitics: competition among empires

European nations were engaged in a heated rivalry over resources, markets and strategic territories.

For example, over the control of channels, rivers, mines, ports, islands, etc.



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

1. Military power

Industrialized countries were able to produce more and better technology to dominate other nations.

- a) Machine gun: allowed strong defensive positions against a multitude.
- b) Telegraph: allowed improved communications.
- c) Steamboat: allowed faster, safer transportation.



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

2. Trade control

By imposing tariffs, the metropolis controlled commerce from and to the colonies. A key element for this control was maritime power.



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

3. Economic superiority

Industrialized countries produced more, better and cheaper manufactured goods than their colonies.

E.g. Great Britain imported cotton from India, manufactured clothes with it, and then sold the clothes back to the Indian people.

Manufactured goods are more valuable than raw materials.



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

4. Alliance with local elites

The imperialists offer positions of power to the local elite, as a form of securing their control over the population of the colonies ("Divide and conquer").

Why did Europeans allied with the elites of their colonies? Why did the elites choose to ally themselves with the Europeans?



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

5. Racism

The colonizers (Europeans) thought that they belonged to a superior race.



5. Racism

Social Darwinism:

Theory that indicated that individuals are subject to the same **laws of natural selection** as in Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution, hence it proclaimed that the most fit individuals will succeed and dominate the weaker. Although **it is currently discredited**, it was used during the 19th century by supporters of imperialism and racism.



THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN.

BY RUDYARD KIPLING.

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.

Take up the White Man's burden—
In patience to abide,
To veil the threat of terror
And check the show of pride;
By open speech and simple,
An hundred times made plain,
To seek another's profit,
And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—
The savage wars of peace—
Fill full the mouth of Famine,
And bid the sickness cease;

The ports ye shall not enter,
The roads ye shall not tread,
Go, make them with your living
And mark them with your dead.

Take up the White Man's burden—
And reap his old reward—
The blame of those ye better,
The hate of those ye guard—
The cry of hosts ye humor
(Ah, slowly!) toward the light—
"Why brought ye us from bondage,
Our loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden—
Ye dare not stoop to less—
Nor call too loud on Freedom
To cloke your weariness,
By all ye will or whisper,
By all ye leave or do,
The silent, sullen peoples
Shall weigh your God and you.

Racism in the context of New Imperialism

- Misinterpreting Darwin, imperialists promoted their own European culture and race as superior to the native people in their colonies.
- Eugenics was a popular conception during the height of New-Imperialism. Many countries, like the United States, adopted laws benefiting one specific racial/ethnic group over others.



How did the empires exercise their hegemony?

6. Cultural hegemony

The imperialists tried to change local traditions by imposing their own culture, form of government and religion. They were motivated by "civilizing" inferior countries.



Analyse This:

"When the missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land.

They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes.

When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land."

***What are your views on the following statement?
Do you agree or disagree?***
