

Summer Assignment AS Level International History

Introduction:

Welcome to AS-Level International History. This course covers International Relations from 1871 to 1945, taking an in depth look at specific, historic developments, such as the “Age of Imperialism and Causes of World War I”, “Failure of Peace Agreements following World War I”, and the “Rise of Extremism, Totalitarianism and Militarism”. The course also includes a study of developments in China and Japan from the 1870’s to the Second World War. Finally, we’ll explore the successes and failures of the League of Nations and creation of the United Nations in the “The search for International Peace and Stability, 1919 – 1945”. Student will complete the course by taking two (2) AS Level History Papers (or Exams), provided by CIE - Cambridge International Examinations, in May, 2019.

Because there are so many different topics to cover, this summer assignment covers most of Unit 1 - “International Relations in an Age of Imperialism, 1871 – 1918”, in a condensed format. Students will not need the textbook to complete this four (4) Part Research based project. Some background information is provided, concerning Imperialism.

***Copy and Save this handout – Bring it to class – it should include answers for Assignment #3 and your three (3) Charts (see Assignments 1,2 and 4)**

To complete this Summer Assignment, use information found on line. Encyclopedia-like sites can provide all of the information you need to complete this assignment, however, students are warned to avoid (DO NOT USE) “wiki” - anything!

CHART REQUIREMENTS (Assignments 1, 2 and 4):

Charts must be **TYPED**; **Font Size: 14 or 16**; **Standard** font style (not fancy and *hard to read*)

Use Landscape mode/style.

You MUST following these directions for all Charts.

See the last page for Due Dates and Assignment Rules.

PART 1 – “International Relations in an Age of Imperialism – Causes of World War I”

Background Information:

DEFINITION: *Imperialism* is the policy of expanding a nation’s power by gaining economic and political control over more territory. Imperialism is sometimes referred to as colonialism.

This period of expansion, the Age of Imperialism, followed more than fifty years of upheaval in Europe, from the French Revolution and Napoleonic Era (1789-1815) to widespread Revolutions in 1848, and culminating in the creation of two new nations: Italy and Germany by 1871. The Unification of Germany and Unification of Italy altered International Relations, resulting in a new Age of Imperialism.

REASONS FOR IMPERIALISM:

1. SCIENTIFIC and TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

- Improved transportation, communications
- medical breakthroughs
- superior weapons and military strength

2. SOCIAL DARWINIST BELIEFS:

applied ideas of Charles Darwin to societies (Evolution, Natural Selection, Survival of the Fittest)

- more advanced nations had a duty to civilize and educate “natives”
- a more cynical view: use superiority to your advantage (to survive)

3. POLITICAL FACTORS:

- Nations used colonial expansion to increase their prestige and national pride.
- Groups, private and commercial (industrial) pressured governments to increase colonies
- new rivals for colonies caused an intensified scramble to claim concessions and territories
- commercial competitors and domestic pressures

4. STRATEGIC MOTIVES – protecting the “Empire”

- Securing Trade Routes (for Trade and Military)
- Strategic Expansion from established or new colonies into neighboring territories

5. ECONOMIC REASONS - new markets and raw materials

- potential new customers: needed by nations with over-production problems
- new customers needed: an alternative to markets closed due to protectionist policies
- demand for raw materials: for increasing industrial expansion (2nd Industrial Revolution)

PART 1 – Wars and Conflicts during the Age of Imperialism (prior to WWI)

Between the 1870 and 1910, a number of wars were fought throughout the world. This assignment looks briefly at three (3) of those wars.

Assignment #1:

Research the following three (3) wars that occurred during the time period 1870-1910:

The Spanish American War

The (1st) Sino-Japanese War

The Russo-Japanese War

Create a chart, that lists the name of the war, dates fought, the nations involved; major causes of the war; and the results of the war (winner/loser, Treaty information).

Example, using American Revolutionary War:

<u>Name of War</u>	<u>Dates Fought</u>	<u>Nations Involved</u>	<u>Major Causes of the War</u>	<u>Results of War: Winner/Peace Treaty</u>
American Revolution	1776-1783	Am. colonies + France vs. Great Britain	Self-Rule; Independence	USA (+ France)/ Treaty of Paris, 1783

Be prepared to share your findings – and your chart on Wars during the Age of Imperialism during the first week of school.

Part 2 – The emergence of the USA as a World Power and The Alliance System in Europe

Assignment #2- Directions: Complete this section, using information from internet sources, other textbooks and your ‘charts’.

A. The Emergence of the United States as a World Power Define:

1. Isolationism –

2. Tariff –

3. Protectionism –

4. Identify:

a. The Monroe Doctrine -

5. The Spanish American War:

a. Why did the USA declare war on Spain in 1898?

b. The United States gained the following territories from Spain, following the war:

B. The Alliance System in Europe – Causes of World War I

Many alliances were signed prior to World War I. Some are associated with Otto von Bismarck, architect of German Unification, and were aimed at protecting Germany, while maintaining a balance of power in Europe. Other alliances divided Europe; many historians cite these treaties as one of the causes of the First World War.

Assignment #3:

Look up the following eight (8) Alliances and create an “Alliance Chart” with the name of the Alliance, the year it was signed, and the names of the nation’s involved. (see “Chart Requirements” on p. 1). Include a blank, fourth column for reasons the treaty was created. We will add these “reasons” in class. Note that some alliances are ‘extensions’ of an earlier agreement. It usually involves adding another nation and new terms. Treat each alliance separately.

Alliances:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Dual Alliance | 5. Anglo-Japanese Alliance |
| 2. Triple Alliance | 6. Entente Cordiale |
| 3. Reinsurance Treaty | 7. Anglo-Russian Entente |
| 4. Franco-Russian Alliance | 8. Triple Entente |

Example:

<u>Alliance:</u> _____	<u>Date:</u> _____	<u>Nations:</u> _____	<u>Reasons for Alliance:</u> _____
The Three Emperor’s League (Dreikaiserbund)	1873	Germany, Russia Austria-Hungary	(leave blank) (to isolate France & reduce disputes btw A/H & Russia)

The assignment is due The **Monday or Tuesday AFTER** we return from break (the first full week of school)

This due date applies equally to ALL students, regardless of when you received this assignment.

*****SAVE THIS HANDOUT**BRING IT TO CLASS**SAVE THIS HANDOUT**BRING IT TO CLASS*****