**Japan**

Japan’s 1894 invasion of China marked its emergence as an imperial power. Just 41 years earlier, Japan had ended its almost complete isolation from the rest of the world. President Milliard Fillmore had sent Commodore **Matthew Perry** to persuade Japan to open its doors to trade with the West. In 1854 Perry’s fleet of even warships sailed into Edo-present day Tokyo- and presented Japan’s rulers with gifts that included a telegraph transmitter and model train.

The Japanese leaders agreed to the Western demands for trade. They reasoned that if they did not, foreigners might seize control of their nation. Japan rapidly transformed itself into an industrial power and built up its army and navy. Japan and Russian had long been rivals for Chinese territories. In February 1904, Japanese troops attacked Russian forces in Manchuria, starting the Russo-Japanese War.

The war worried President Theodore Roosevelt. He feared that if Russia won, it might cut off U.S. trade with Manchuria, and if Japan won, it might threaten free trade in Asia. By May 1905, after winning a series of crucial battles, the Japanese asked Roosevelt to negotiate peace with Russia. In Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Roosevelt and representatives of the two countries hammered out a treaty that granted neither side all it wanted. Roosevelt was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts.

Japan had become a modern world power and a rival to the United States for the influence in China and the Pacific. Concerned by Japan’s growing power, Roosevelt decided to remind the Japanese of US military might. In late 1907 he sent a fleet of four destroyers and 16 battleships, painted a dazzling white, on a 46,000-mile world cruise that included a stop in the Japanese port of Yokohama.

**Questions:**

Who was Matthew Perry?

How did the U.S. help Japan become a World Power?

**Cuba (War with Spain)**

Supporters of U.S. expansion had long been interested in the Caribbean island of Cuba, located just 90 miles for the Florida Keys. In the late 1800s Cuba simmered with unrest. Cuba and its Caribbean neighbor Puerto Rico were the last of the Spanish colonies in the Americas. Since 1868, Cubans had launched a series of unsuccessful revolts against Spanish rule. To put down the rebellion, the Spanish government exiled many leaders of the independence movement.

**Fighting in Cuba** – Victory in Cuba proved difficult. With a regular army of just some 28,000 soldiers, the U.S. War Department was unprepared for land battles. U.S. troops had received little training and were outfitted in heavy wool uniforms – the only ones available- when they sailed for tropical Cuba in mid-June 1898.

On July 1, U.S. troops attacked the Spanish fort at Santiago. Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt had resigned his naval post. In the war’s most famous battle, he led a cavalry unit of 1,000 soldiers toward the garrison on San Juan Hill. Composed largely of college athletes, cowboys, American Indians, and Ranchers, the unit was known as the Rough Riders.

They had to charge on foot under intense Spanish fire. The U.S. Troops controlled the ridge above Santiago by nightfall and on July 3, the U.S. Navy sank the Spanish fleet off the coast of Cuba. Two weeks later, Spanish troops surrendered. Meanwhile U.S. troops defeated Spanish forces in Puerto Rico.

The war proved costly for Spain. By the terms of the peace treaty, Spain gave up all claims to Cuba and ceded Puerto Rico and the Pacific island of Guam to the United States. Spain also gave up the Philippines in return for a US payment of $20 million. By gaining control of overseas territories the United States had moved into the ranks of the imperialist world powers. 5,400 soldiers died during the course of the war.

**Question:**

What or who were the Rough Riders?

What were the terms of the peace treaty after Spain was defeated?

**Philippines (War with Spain)**

The first battle of the war was fought in the Spanish-held Philippine Islands. Before war was declared, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt had cabled secret orders to Commodore George Dewey in Hong Kong. In the event of war between the United States and Spain, Dewey was to attack the Philippines.

Dewey’s fleet easily defeated the small Spanish fleet guarding the Philippine city of Manila. To capture the city, Dewey obtained the support of a rebel army of Filipino patriot. The Filipinos had been fighting for independence from Spain for two years. Cut off by Dewey’s warships and surrounded by the rebels, Spanish forces in the Philippines surrendered on August 14, 1898.

Some Americans questioned whether it was proper to annex a foreign territory and rules its government and its people. Expansionists argued in favor of annexation. Businesspeople wanted the islands to serve as a trading post for goods from Asian as well as a place for merchant ships to refuel. Opponents of annexation felt that by denying the Philippines independence, the United States would violate its own ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence. After a fierce debate, the Senate narrowly approved the treaty, annexing the Philippines on February 6, 1899.

Emilio Aguinaldo, the leader of the rebel movement, had already set up a provisional government and proclaimed himself president of the new Philippine Republic. He warned that Filipinos would go to war if American troops attempted to take forcible possession of the Philippines. For the next three years, Filipino independence fighters battled U.S. soldiers for control of the Philippines. By the time U.S. forces crushed the rebellion in 1902, hundreds of thousands of Filipinos and more than 4,000 soldiers had lost their lives.

US took possession of the Philippines and established a governor and a two-house legislature to rule. In 1916 the jones Act allowed the Filipinos to elect the members of both the houses of legislature and on July 4, 1946 the United States finally granted independence to the Philippines.

**Questions:**

How did the U.S. get the Philippines from Spain?

What happened to the Philippines after the Spanish American War?

**Dollar Diplomacy**

William H. Taft, Roosevelt’s successor, expanded U.S. influence in Latin America. Taft favored “substituting dollars for bullets” – economic influence for military force- as a means of protecting U.S. interests in Latin America and Asia. This policy came to be called **dollar diplomacy**. Taft suggested replacing European loans with American ones. He argued that increasing U.S. economic power would reduce the chances of European intervention. By 1914 American capital in Latin America had grown to over $1.6 billion, invested mainly in mines, railroads, and banana and sugar plantations.

Taft tested dollar diplomacy in Nicaragua. In June 1911 the U.S. government agreed to help Nicaragua obtain private loans from American banks. In return, Nicaraguan leaders gave the United States the right to send troops into their country when U.S. leaders thought it necessary to protect American investments.

President Woodrow Wilson, Taft’s successor, believed that democratic governments, not U.S. dollars, would keep European powers out of Latin America. To keep Germany from taking control of strategic Caribbean territory, Wilson sent marines to several countries to put down rebellions and establish constitutional governments. In 1915, when revolution shook Haiti, Wilson sent in marines. Haiti was forced to accept a treaty that gave the United States power to run its government. U.S. marines stayed until 1934. Some 1,500 Haitians died resisting U.S. control.

**Questions:**

What is “Dollar Diplomacy”?

How did dollar diplomacy change U.S. relations with Latin America?

**Governing Cuba and Puerto Rico**

In 1899 General Leonard Wood was appointed as governor of Cuba and oversaw the drafting of a new constitution that limited Cuba’s independence. Congress agreed to remove U.S. troops from the island only if Cuba made the Platt Amendment part of its constitution. The amendment limited Cuba’s freedom to make treaties with other countries and authorized the United States to intervene in Cuban affairs as it saw necessary. It also required Cuba to sell or lease land to the United States for naval and fueling stations. This last clause led the establishment of the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo bay. In effect, the Platt amendment made Cuba a U.S. protectorate. This meant that the United States promised to protect Cuba from other nations but reserved the right to intervene in Cuba’s affairs. In 1902, after Cuba reluctantly accepted the Platt Amendment, U.S. troops withdrew. The following year the United States and Cuba signed a trade agreement that brought Cuban sugar and minerals to the U.S. and sent American industrial products to Cuba. U.S. –Cuba trade jumped from $27 million in 1897 to more than $300 million in 1917.

U.S. Policy in Puerto Rico followed a different course. The United States ruled the island as a territory, like Samoa or the Philippines in the Pacific. The Foracker Act of 1900 established that Puerto Rico’s governor and upper house of the legislature would be appointed by the U.S. According to the act, Puerto Ricans would elect a lower house. The Jones Act of 1917 granted Puerto Ricans U.S. citizenship and gave them the right to elect both houses of their legislature. In 1952 Puerto Rico became a self-government commonwealth of the United States, with continuing ties of citizenship and trade with the mainland.

**Questions:**

How did the United States Govern Cuba?

How did the United States Govern Puerto Rico?

**Open Door Policy/Boxer Rebellion**

1843 – China officially opened five ports to trade with the U.S. and Europe. For the next 50 years, China’s rulers struggled to keep foreign interests from overrunning the country. Ion 1895, however, the Chinese government faced threats from Japan. Japan attacked and defeated China, seizing China’s Liaotung Peninsula, the large island of Taiwan, and Korea. European powers quickly took advantage of china’s weakened position. Britain, France, Germany, and Russia carved out **spheres of influence**- regions where a particular country has exclusive rights over mines, railroads, and trade.

The United States was in danger of being forced out of the china trade. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge declared, “We ask no favors; we only ask that we shall be admitted to that great market upon the same terms with the rest of the world.” In 1899 secretary of State John Hay called for an **Open Door** **Policy**, which would give all nations equal access to trade and investment in China. In September Hay sent Open Door notes to European powers and Japan that asked them to agree to three principals. 1. Keep all ports in their spheres open to all nations. 2. Chinese officials are allowed to collect tariffs and duties.

3. Guarantee equal harbor, railroad, and tariff rates in their spheres to all nations trading in China. Wasn’t accepted or rejected so Hay announced it had been approved.

Chinese resentment of foreigners continues to grow. A secret society called the Fists of Righteous Harmony – known by westerners as Boxers-circulated foreigners and missionaries for their troubles.

In Spring of 1900 the boxers attacked Western missionaries and traders in northern China, killing more than 200 people. Known as the **Boxer Rebellion**, this uprising was supported by some Chinese government officials. John Hay feared that Japan and other nations would use the Rebellion as an excuse to seize control of additional territory. Hay pressured foreign powers to observe open trade throughout China and to preserve China’s right to rule its own territory. China retained its sovereignty as a nation but was forced to pay the European powers $333. Million for damages.

**Questions:**

What was the Boxer Rebellion?

Define Open Door Policy.

Define Sphere of Influence.

**Yellow Journalism/USS Maine**

Perhaps no American journalist was more interested in the Cuban situation than **William Randolph Hearst.** He ran the San Francisco Examiner for his father which eventually became his. His growing newspaper empire made him a wealthy man. He believed that newspapers should shape public opinion and policy, and so Hearst pressed for U.S. intervention in Cuba. In 1897 he sent artist Frederic Remington to Cuba to create drawings showing Spanish cruelty, which Hearst could use to increase U.S. support for war with Spain. Many of the articles and pictures published to encourage the U.S. to fight Spain were not accurate and in fact presented little or no legitimate research, instead Hearst used eye catching pictures and headlines. This is called **Yellow Journalism**.

President William McKinley, however, was a veteran of the Civil War and resisted that calls for war. “I have been through one war. I have seen the dead piled up, and I do not want to see another,” explained.

Events soon changed McKinley’s stance. On February 9, 1898, the Journal published a letter written by Spain’s minister to the United States, Enrique Dupuy de Lome, that had been intercepted by a Cuban spay and sold to Hearst. In this letter de Lome ridiculed McKinley as “week and a bidder for the admiration of the crowd.” Americans were outraged at the remarks, which the journal classed “the worst insult to the United States in its history.

The nation teetered on the brink of war until a tragedy in Cuba pushed it over the edge. The battleship **USS Maine** had been sent to Havana to protect U.S. lives and property. On February 15th the Maine blew up, killing 260 sailors. “Destruction of the warship was the work of an enemy!” screamed the Journal’s headline, although there was not proof of this. Some historians believe that a fire in a coal bin caused the explosion. At the time, however, many Americans blamed Spain. “Remember the Maine!” became the rallying cry of war supporters. On April 25th Congress declared war on Spain. The Spanish-American war had begun.

**Questions:**

Who was William Randolph Hearst?

How did the USS Main explosion spark the Spanish-American War in 1898?

**Hawaii**

Hawaii had tropical climate, fertile soil, and a good place to build a naval base. Some viewed Hawaiians as uncivilized people who needed to be introduced to modern industrial society and Christianity. During 1800s ships began arriving in Hawaii bringing missionaries, settlers, and traders. The diseases they brought reduced the Hawaiian population from 300,000 in 1778 to fewer than 150,000 by 1819.

Pacific whaling ships and trading ships stopped at the islands for supplies and protestant missionaries and their families settled and began raising crops, particularly sugar. By 1870 Americans controlled most of the Island. Many Chinese and Japanese laborers were brought to work on the plantations.

1875 treaty exempted Hawaiian sugar from US tariffs in exchange Hawaii promised not to grant territory or special privileges in the islands to any other country. In 1886 US officials demanded control of Pearl Harbor in exchange for renewing Tax-free status. 1886, Secret group of 400 American business people called the Secret Hawaiian league wanted to gain power in Hawaii and annexation with the US to facilitate trade. This group made the king sign a new constitution.

Queen Liliuokalani wanted to overturn the constitution forced upon Hawaii. Wanted one that would return power to the native Hawaiians. 1893, Supporters of annexation forcibly occupied government buildings, and declared an end to the monarchy. Guns and Cannons were facing the Palace and Liliuokalani. Revolutionaries established Sanford B. Dole as president. New government petitioned US for annexation. Cleveland recognized the Dole government but refused annexation. July 7, 1898 despite opposition from most of Hawaii’s population, the U.S. annexed Hawaii as a territory of the United States when McKinley becomes president of the US.

**Question:**

What lead to the expansion of Hawaii?

It was a place that was desirable, mostly for economic reasons.

-Desirable location for a military base

-fertile soil and tropical climate ideal for growing products that could not be grown in the US

Events that lead to it were: Formation of secret Hawaiian League in 1886; Tariff; 1893 rebellion, McKinley becomes president.