# The Hot ZoneImperialism Assessment

Name:

Date:

## Directions

Write one paragraph in response to each of the following questions. Include who was involved, the main years of imperialism there, and major positive and negative elements.

**All** three paragraphs must:

* use specific examples from the lesson for support
* have an introduction, thorough explanations for your specific examples, and a clear concluding thought to the paragraph

|  |
| --- |
| **What made the story of imperialism in Africa different—what were its unique experiences?** |
| *The history of imperialism in Africa was different because European powers expanded aggressively and brutally within the continent in the late 19th century. Starting circa 1870, European powers including Britain, France, Belgium, and Germany competed to stake claims to much of the African continent. The discovery of the use of quinine to cure malaria made penetration into the interior feasible, which had not been possible due to the disease before. King Leopold II of Belgium ruled the Congo Free State personally and used its rubber wealth to exploit the natives and subject them to inhuman toil in inhumane conditions. While imperialism introduced the continent to such advances as trains and new manufacturing facilities, the ill effects were devastating: Africans were subjected to inhuman toil, cultural suppression, and massive exploitation of resources. The "Scramble for Africa" left the continent fully colonized in 1914 and left a legacy of instability, ethnic violence, and social disruption that haunts Africa to the current day.*  Any outside sources: |
| **What made the story of imperialism in China different—what were its unique experiences?** |
| *Imperialism in China saw multiple foreign powers seeking to exploit China’s resources and wear down its political influence. European powers in the 19th century Britain, France, Russia and Japan sought to establish themselves in China. Britain was a major player in doing so, forcing China to accept opium in return for trading articles such as silk and tea and initiating the Opium Wars. The First Opium War (1838–42) had China defeated and forced to open several ports to international trade. The Second Opium War (1856–58) destroyed China’s sovereignty, and opium entered China in massive amounts and caused widespread addiction. The 1900 Boxer Rebellion was another revolt in China in which a group of nationalists called the "Boxers" rebelled against foreign influence and Chinese Christians. The revolt was suppressed by a combined army of imperialist powers in spite of the nationalists efforts to resist. Though China gained a bit in terms of technological advancements and trade, the effects of imperialism were witnessed in the exploitation of the people, weakening of its government, and long-term social and political disruption that had followed.*  Any outside sources: |
| **What did these two areas of the world have in common during this period?** |
| *Although imperialism in China and Africa had different geographic and political contexts, they shared several similarities in common. European powers (along with Japan in China) utilized extensive natural resources in Africa and China to have economic gains. European powers in Africa were driven to colonize to discover rubber and minerals and other resources, and in China, opium was used to be used as currency to continue doing business and exploit the region. Africa and China were defeated militarily when they attempted to resist colonial rule. The military might and strategy of the Europeans overwhelmed the indigenous populations in Africa to colonize the region and similarly in China where anti-imperialist movements such as the Boxer Rebellion were defeated using military might. Further, both countries were forced to sign unequal treaties that opened up the economies to foreign powers and lost sovereignty and political stability in the process. The impacts of imperialism in Africa and China remain a major cause in the political and social ills in the two regions to date.*  Any outside resources: |