

7.1.3 Final Exam: World History Semester 2

Short-Answer Questions

Write a two- to three-sentence response to each of the following items. Remember to use examples and be specific. (6 points each)

1. Identify two of the most successful empires of modern times. Explain their ability to expand and control other peoples.

Both British Empire and the Russian Empire were successful empires of modern times. Both empires had massive militaries and rarely hesitated to expand into new territories. They were both ruthless in their control of other peoples under their control.

2. Where did the idea of socialism come from?

Socialism has its roots in the French Revolution and the changes introduced by the Industrial Revolution. Early Socialist thinkers identified key problems with the industrial society they lived in and started the search for a solution. They concluded that the only way to solve these social problems was to change public opinion, which led to the conception of model societies. The idea was that model societies could provide a moral example for the rest of society.

3. What helped cause the Industrial Revolution?

The current state of technology and science in addition to the scientific mindset at the time helped cause the Industrial Revolution. Without all three of these, the Industrial Revolution would not have been possible.

4. What led Europeans to colonize other parts of the world?

The motives for colonization varied. Common motives included the search for raw materials and captive markets and control of access to spices or other rare materials.

5. What benefits did Britain bring to India as a colonial power?

A public school system was established, a relatively fair and efficient government was set up, and there were numerous advances in transportation and communication. Additionally, British rule brought stability to regions previously divided by civil war.

6. Briefly describe the American empire that resulted by the end of the 1800's?

By the end of the 1800s America had joined in the global trend of colonizing territories overseas, it became known for asserting its power in the western hemisphere, and it became open to the idea of imperialism. Additionally, America acquired Hawaii as a territory in 1898.

7. Who built the Panama Canal and why did they do it?

The Panama Canal was built by the United States under the guidance of Theodore Roosevelt. It was built to allow ships to avoid having to sail around the tip of South America to make it from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans.

8. What were two causes of the world wars in the 20th century?

What finally set the ball rolling with World War 1 was the assassination of Franz Ferdinand. Hitler's campaigns with the Nazi party was one of the causes of World War 2.

Analysis/Commentary (6 points each)

Read each document and write ONE paragraph of commentary for each. Briefly tell what it says and also connect the document to what we have learned in semester two. Make specific observations from the text that give basic historical information in regards dates and make connections with the era. Feel free to ask historical questions within your commentary.

Document One

Title: The American Declaration of Independence.

Excerpt:

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature's God entitle them

Response:

The provided excerpt from the American Declaration of Independence explains that sometimes a group of people need to separate the political ties that they have with another group of people and take the power that is rightfully theirs. As history has shown, this is what creates revolutions. Take the American or

French Revolution, for example. In both revolutions the government didn't fulfill the needs of the people, making it necessary for the people to remove the government and instate their own. If these revolutions didn't happen in 1765 and 1789, respectively, who knows where we'd be today?

Document Two

Title: Adolf Hitler

Excerpt:

On this historic occasion I must once again thank all those millions of unknown Germans, from every class and caste, profession and trade and from all the farmsteads, who have given their hearts, their lives and their sacrifices, for the new Reich. And all of us, gentlemen and members of the Reichstag, hereby join together in tendering our thanks to the women of Germany, to the millions of those German mothers who have given their children to the Third Reich. During these four years every mother who has presented a child to the nation has contributed by her pain and her joy to the happiness of the whole people.

— Adolf Hitler, “On National Socialism and Word Relations”, 30 January 1937

Response:

In this excerpt Hitler emphasizes the role of the people in the Third Reich. Without the people on his side, it would be impossible for Hitler to succeed. Throughout the year, we learned about the importance of people in movements. As Hitler shows, without the people on your side, change is very difficult to create and sustain. Take the Soviet Union, for example. When the people no longer supported the government and took action, the Soviet Union fell. The USSR officially fell on December 26th of 1991.

Essay

Prompt

What was the Cold War and when did it take place?

Response

The Cold War was not a war in the traditional sense. Instead, it was a sustained state of political and military conflict between the Western Bloc and the powers in the Eastern Bloc from approximately 1947 to 1991. The Western Bloc consisted of the United States with NATO and others, while the Eastern Bloc consisted of the Soviet Union and its allies in the Warsaw Pact.

The war was “cold” because there was little actual military conflict. There was substantial amount of pressure from both sides, but little action. The two sides armed heavily for a future nuclear war. One of the things that prevented much conflict from rising was the doctrine of mutually assured destruction (MAD). If one side launched a nuclear attack against the other, the other would launch an equally destructive counterattack, causing both sides to be destroyed and removing any incentive for attack.

The Cold War ended when the Soviet Union formally dissolved in 1991. We look back on the Cold War today as a time of espionage and nuclear warfare.