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| **PART A** |

The following documents provide information about the causes of the new imperialism. Examine each document carefully. In the space provided, answer the question or questions that follow each document.

# Document 1

In this excerpt, author Parker T. Moon pointed out which groups were most interested in imperialism.

The makers of cotton and iron goods have been very much interested in imperialism. This group of import interests has been greatly strengthened by the demand of giant industries for colonial raw materials. . . . Shipowners demand coaling stations for their vessels and naval bases for protection. To these interests may be added the makers of armaments and of uniforms. The producers of telegraph and railway material and other supplies used by the government in its colony may also be included. . . . Finally, the most powerful business groups are the bankers. Banks make loans to colonies and backward countries for building railways and steamship lines. . . .

Source: Parker T. Moon, *Imperialism and World Politics*, Macmillan, 1936 (adapted)

Which cause of imperialism is the author discussing? What were some of the main ways that colonies benefitted European countries in this regard according to the author?

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# Document 2

This excerpt suggests another cause for imperialism.

. . . [N]one of the colonial undertakings was motivated by the quest for capitalist profits; they all originated in political ambitions . . . the nations’ will to power . . . [or] glory or national greatness.

Source: Raymond Aron, *The Century of Total War,* Doubleday & Co., 1954 (adapted) What did this author say was the cause of imperialism?

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# Document 3

The following excerpt is a newspaper advertisement (June 24, 1890) reacting to the newly announced “Heligoland–Zanzibar Treaty,” which gave up German territory in Africa to Britain in return for territory elsewhere in Africa.

….With one stroke of the pen---the hope of a great German colonial empire was ruined! Shall this treaty really be? No, no and again no! . . . .The treaty with England harms our interests and wounds our honor; this time it dares not become a reality! We are ready at the call of our Kaiser (*emperor*) to step into the ranks and allow ourselves dumbly and obediently to be led against the enemy's shots, but we may also demand in exchange that the reward come to us which is worth the sacrifice, and this reward is: that we shall be a conquering people which takes its portion of the world itself! *Deutschland wach auf*!

Source: Mildred S. Wertheimer, ed., The Pan-German League, (New York: Columbia University Press, 1923), pp. 31-34, 106-108.

What view does the author have of the treaty? Why?

What reward does the author desire? Which cause of imperialism is most directly implied by this?

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# Document 4

This excerpt suggests another reason for imperialism.

But the economic side . . . must not be allowed to obscure [hide] the other factors. Psychologically speaking, . . . evolutionary teaching [about the “survival of the fittest”] was perhaps most crucial. It not only justified competition and struggle but introduced an element of ruthlessness. . . .

Source: William L. Langer, *The Diplomacy of Imperialism,* Knopf, 1935 (adapted)

What term summarizes the cause of imperialism that Langer is describing? Explain how this served as a cause for imperialism.

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# Document 5

Missionary John G. Paton wrote a letter listing several reasons why Great Britain should take over the New Hebrides islands and “all the intervening chain of islands from Fiji to New Guinea.” The following is his eighth listed reason.

8. The thirteen islands of this group on which life and property are now comparatively safe, the 8,000 professed Christians on the group, and all the churches formed from among them are, by God’s blessing, the fruits of the labors of British missionaries, who, at great toil, expense, and loss of life have translated, got printed, and taught the natives to read the Bible in part or in whole in nine different languages of this group, while 70,000 at least are longing and ready for the gospel. On this group twenty-one members of the mission families died or were murdered by the savages in beginning God’s work among them, not including good Bishop Peterson, of the Melanesian mission, and we fear all this good work would be lost if the New Hebrides fall into other than British hands.

Source: *Accounts and Papers 1883*, (London: HMSO, 1883), Vol. XLVII, pp. 29-30.

Which cause of imperialism is most clearly discussed by John Paton?

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# Document 6

This excerpt gives another reason why Europeans were able to increase their colonial holdings. This is from a letter sent by Phan Thanh Gian, governor of a Vietnamese state, to his administrators in 1867.

Now, the French are come, with their powerful weapons of war, to cause dissension among us. We are weak against them; our commanders and our soldiers have been vanquished. . . . The French have immense warships, filled with soldiers and armed with huge cannons. No one can resist them. They go where they want, the strongest ramparts fall before them.

Source: Phan Thanh Gian, retranslation from *Focus on World History: The Era of the*

*First Global Age and Revolution,* Walch Publishing, 2002 (adapted)

How did this Vietnamese governor explain the cause of French imperialism in Indochina in 1867?

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Based on what you have learned today, rank the causes of Imperialism (economic, nationalism, ideology, technology) with 1 being the most significant cause and 4 being the least significant. Then write a paragraph explaining AND justifying your ranking.

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