Imperialism

What is Imperialism?
Imperialism is the practice of one country extending its control and influence over other countries or territories, usually for economic and political gain. This happened a lot between the 19th and early 20th centuries, when powerful countries like Britain, France, and the United States expanded their empires around the world.

Why Did Countries Practice Imperialism?
There were many reasons why countries wanted to expand their territory:

- Resources: Many countries wanted access to natural resources, like rubber, oil, and minerals, to fuel their growing economies.

- Markets: Expanding their empires allowed countries to sell their products to more people, making more money in the process.

- Power: Some countries believed that having a large empire made them more powerful and respected on the world stage.

- Cultural Beliefs: Many people in powerful countries thought that their culture and way of life were superior, and they wanted to spread their ideas to other parts of the world.

How Did Imperialism Affect People?
Imperialism had a huge impact on the people living in the countries that were taken over:

- Loss of Independence: Many people lost their freedom and had to live under the control of a foreign country.

- Cultural Changes: People were often forced to adopt the language, religion, and customs of the ruling country.

- Economic Exploitation: The imperial powers often took advantage of the local people and resources, making themselves richer while leaving the conquered countries poorer.

- Resistance: Some people fought back against imperialism, leading to wars and conflicts.

Example: In India, the British took control of the government and economy, forcing many Indians to adopt British customs and language. This eventually led to a struggle for independence, which was achieved in 1947.

The End of Imperialism
By the mid-20th century, many people around the world began to reject the idea of imperialism. They believed that all countries should be free to govern themselves and make their own decisions. This led to a wave of independence movements, where countries fought to regain their freedom from imperial powers.

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Questions | Use information from the text to support your answer

1) What is imperialism? Why did countries practice imperialism?

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_____
_____
_____

2) What impacts did imperialism have on people?

_____
_____
_____
_____

Multiple Choice | Circle the best answer

1) Which century had a lot of imperialism?	18th	19th
2) Countries participated in imperialism for more	Respect	Peace
3) Some countries lost their…	Independence	Economy
4) When countries fought back, it led to…	Peace	War
5) Imperialist countries wanted…	Money	Slaves

Opinion | What do you think about imperialism? Explain.

_____
_____
_____
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