

Consequences of Industrialization

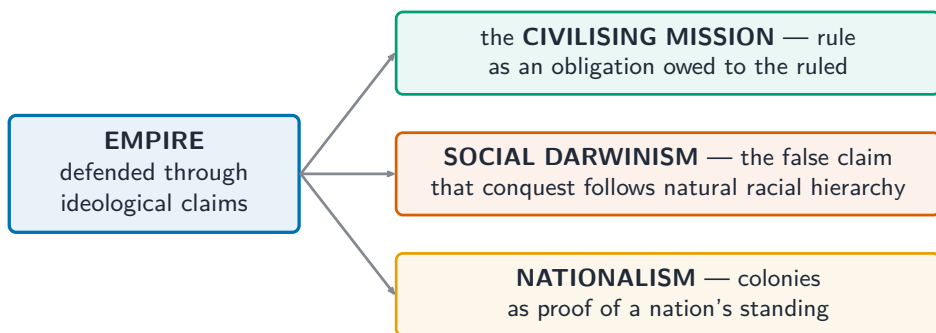
AP World History: Modern

Justifying Empire

Unit 6 covers the **consequences of industrialisation, 1750 to 1900**: why industrial states expanded, how people resisted, how the world economy reorganised, and who moved.

A range of **cultural, religious, and racial ideologies** were used to justify imperialism. The examinable ones are the **civilising mission**, missionary activity, **Social Darwinism** applied to nations and peoples, and **nationalism** - the claim that colonies proved a state's greatness.

These are **justifications**: arguments used to defend empire. Ideologies could also motivate expansion. Distinguish the type of explanation without assuming that belief, profit and strategy operated separately.



Three different claims: a **duty**, a supposed **law of nature**, and a matter of **prestige**. Say which one a source is making

State Expansion

Expansion took several forms, and the CED distinguishes them:

- Some states **strengthened control** over existing colonies, converting trading relationships into direct rule.
- **European states, the United States, and Japan** acquired new territory, showing that imperialism was not only European.
- Many European states used both **warfare and diplomacy** to expand - conquest, but also treaties, protectorates, and partition agreements made in Europe.

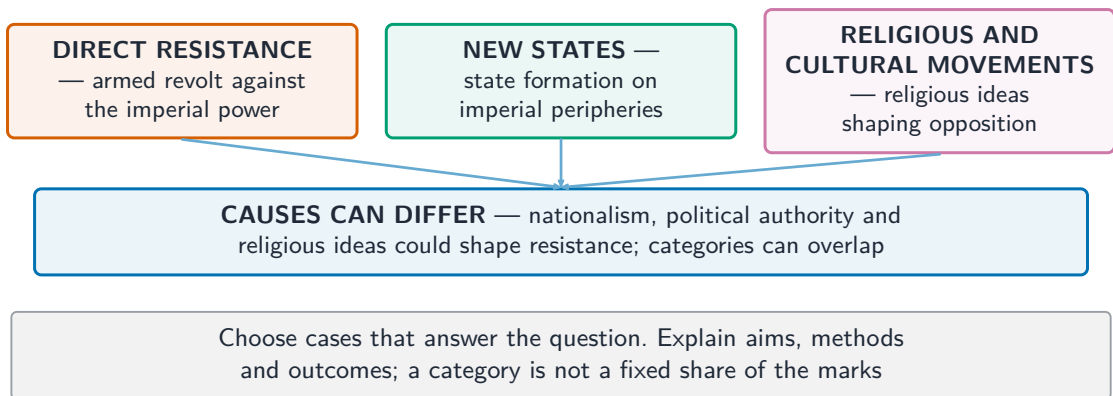
- Europeans established **settler colonies** in some places, which involved settlement and the displacement of Indigenous populations. Other forms of colonial rule could also be highly destructive.
- The **United States, Russia, and Japan** expanded by taking contiguous land rather than overseas territory.

Resistance

Anti-imperial **resistance** took various forms, and the examples must fit the question:

- **Direct resistance** - armed rebellion against colonial authority.
- **Creation of new states** by leaders organising against imperial power.
- **Religious and cultural movements** that reasserted local identity against colonial rule.

Increasing questions about political authority and growing **nationalism** in colonised regions led to rebellions, some of which were sustained enough to change imperial policy. Resistance occurred at different points throughout the period. Its causes, aims and outcomes varied; not every movement was nationalist or successful.



■ The examples the CED names, one per form

An essay needs a case, not a category. These are the ones the CED lists, sorted by the form of resistance they illustrate:

Case	Where	Form it illustrates
Samory Touré's military campaigns	West Africa	direct armed resistance, sustained for years against the French
Yaa Asantewaa War	Asante, West Africa	direct resistance led by a woman, in defence of a sacred symbol of sovereignty
Sokoto Caliphate	modern-day Nigeria	the creation of a NEW state, founded in a religious reform movement

The Congo shows how the argument about empire changed. The territory was first held as the **private property of King Leopold II** of Belgium rather than as a colony of Belgium at all; the atrocities of the rubber regime became an international scandal, and in 1908 ownership was **transferred to the Belgian government**. This illustrates a change from personal to state control under pressure from criticism. The transfer did not end colonial rule; it does not by itself prove that exploitation ended.

The Global Economy

	Political imperialism	Economic imperialism
Who holds power?	the imperial state governs	outside states, firms or lenders gain influence
Through what means?	colonial administration, settler colonies, protectorates	investment, loans, control of trade terms and prices
How does sovereignty change?	formal authority is limited or displaced	formal independence can remain

Formal rule and economic influence can overlap; compare their mechanisms.

Economic imperialism did not always require political control - which is why the two must be distinguished

The need for **raw materials** for factories and increased **food supplies** for growing urban populations reorganised production across the world. Colonies and dependent regions were pushed toward **cash crops** and **extractive industries**, often at the cost of food production for local use.

The commodities are worth knowing by name and origin, because a question usually supplies one and expects you to place it: **cotton** from Egypt and India, **rubber** from the Congo and the Amazon, **palm oil** from West Africa, **sugar** from the Caribbean, **guano** from Peru, and **meat from Argentina and Uruguay** – the last made possible by refrigerated shipping, which turned distant grassland into a supplier for European cities.

Economic imperialism is the examinable distinction. Industrialised states and their businesses exercised control through **investment, loans, and trade dominance** without necessarily taking political control - so a region could be economically dominated while remaining formally independent.

Trade in some commodities was organised so that merchants and firms in industrialised states held **disproportionate power** over producers, setting prices and terms.

Migration

Migration in this period was shaped by demographic change in both sending and receiving societies, and by new **modes of transportation** - steamships and railways - which increased the scale and ease of long-distance movement and made **temporary or seasonal** return more practical. Return migration already existed. Internal and external migration to cities also contributed to urbanisation.

Two kinds must be distinguished:

- Many people **chose freely to relocate**, usually in search of work.
- The global capitalist economy continued to rely on **coerced and semi-coerced labour**, including enslavement, **indentured servitude** and convict labour. Legal restrictions on the slave trade and slavery developed unevenly; they did not end coercion everywhere. A signed contract did not necessarily give a worker freedom to leave.

Effects of Migration

Three effects are named directly in the CED:

- Migrants tended to be **male**, leaving **women to take on new roles** in the home societies they left.
- Migrants created **ethnic enclaves** in destination societies, transplanting and adapting their cultures.
- Receiving societies **did not always embrace immigrants**, and the examinable evidence is legal exclusion - most clearly the restriction of Chinese and other Asian migration in several countries.

FREELY CHOSEN — usually for work, and often temporary or seasonal

COERCED AND SEMI-COERCED — indentured servitude, convict labour

steamships and railways expanded mobility and made return journeys easier; return migration already existed

where flows were mainly **male**, women could take on new roles at home

ETHNIC ENCLAVES
transplant and adapt a culture

receiving societies **did not always embrace** them — the evidence is legal exclusion

Effects varied with the **composition** of a flow, labour status and local conditions. Coercion also shaped migrants' lives

Causation in the Imperial Age

The unit develops comparison, explanation and argument. Topic 6.8 asks for the relative significance of the **effects** of imperialism, so a chain explaining its causes alone is insufficient.

Original practice, not a quoted past-paper question: Explain one way industrialisation contributed to imperialism, 1750–1900.

Worked response: Industrial factories increased demand for raw materials such as Egyptian cotton. States and firms sought influence over supply regions, and export production grew to serve industrial markets. This connects industrial demand with economic influence and production. It does not imply that cotton could not be grown anywhere in Europe, or that every export economy became a formal colony.

■ Evidence workshop: categories become explanations

The following case cards use the CED's named examples. They are original teaching summaries, not historical quotations or authentic exam extracts.

Card A – armed resistance: Samory Touré's military campaigns against the French in West Africa show direct resistance. Explain the opposition to imperial expansion; the category alone does not establish success or a shared nationalist ideology.

Card B – state formation: The Sokoto Caliphate, in modern-day Nigeria, illustrates new state formation associated with religious reform. Do not describe every new state as a successful war of independence from an already established European colony.

Card C – religious resistance: The Ghost Dance in the United States illustrates religious responses within the wider context of Indigenous resistance. Religious motivation and direct resistance can overlap; the three headings are not exclusive boxes.

Attempt 1: Compare Cards A and B. State one similarity in their relation to political power and one difference in their form of action.

Worked check: Both concern challenges to existing political authority. Touré's

campaigns illustrate military resistance to French expansion; Sokoto illustrates the creation of a new political state linked to religious reform. The comparison does not prove that their origins, enemies or results were identical.

Attempt 2: Compare direct colonial rule with economic imperialism. Use the Congo transfer and the CED's example of British firms supporting the Port of Buenos Aires.

Worked check: In the Congo example, control passed from Leopold II to the Belgian state, changing the authority formally ruling the territory. British firms' support for the Port of Buenos Aires illustrates economic influence through investment without making Argentina a British colony. Economic imperialism could involve military pressure too, as the CED's Opium Wars example shows; informal influence is not automatically peaceful or free of coercion.

Attempt 3: Explain how an export economy links an environment to an industrial market. Choose Egyptian cotton, Congo/Amazon rubber, West African palm oil or meat from Argentina/Uruguay.

Worked check: Egyptian cotton supplied raw material for industrial textiles. Suitable production conditions and industrial demand supported export specialisation; export earnings could purchase manufactured goods. Evidence of export trade alone does not prove the same distribution of profits or the same degree of foreign control in every region.

Attempt 4: Explain two different effects of migration. Use one effect in a home society and one in a destination society.

Worked check: Where migration was mainly male, women could take on work and responsibilities previously held by men in home societies. In destination societies, Chinese migrant enclaves in Southeast Asia could maintain and adapt cultural practices. The Chinese Exclusion Act illustrates a different response: state restriction. These patterns were not inevitable for every migrant group; labour status, family composition and local conditions also mattered.

Argument practice: Evaluate whether economic reorganisation was the most significant effect of imperialism, 1750–1900. Compare it with political and social effects.

Possible argument: Export specialisation was a major effect because it linked production to distant industrial markets and could give foreign firms an advantage. However, changes in political control and resistance were also substantial, as the Congo transfer and Touré's campaigns illustrate. Migration changed responsibilities and communities across home and destination societies. The judgement depends on the region, group and timescale examined; evidence from one case cannot rank effects everywhere.

Exam tips

- Separate **justifications** (civilising mission, Social Darwinism) from **causes** (raw materials, markets, strategy). Questions often ask for one and reward not confusing it with the other.

- **Economic imperialism** can operate without formal colonial rule. Explain the mechanism and use evidence; the definition alone is not a full explanation.
- Choose relevant resistance cases and explain their aims and methods. Use a range when the question requires it, rather than a fixed three-category scoring rule.
- Migration questions want the split between **free** and **coerced or semi-coerced** movement.
- For effects, use the CED's own three: **male migration** changing home societies, **ethnic enclaves**, and **exclusion laws**.
- Causation answers must trace a mechanism. An effects question needs effects, and an extent question needs a supported judgement and relevant qualifications.

Sources for this lesson

College Board, *AP World History: Modern Course and Exam Description*, Unit 6, topics 6.1–6.8 (syllabi/ap/ap_world_history_CED.pdf, PDF pages 123–131). The examples above are teacher-authored practice grounded in that framework. No official marks or scoring outcomes are claimed.

Vocabulary card meanings

warfare and diplomacy: Fighting, and the negotiations that accompanied or replaced it. settler colonies: Colonies in which large numbers of migrants from the colonising country settled. Direct resistance: Open opposition, including armed revolt, against colonial rule. Creation of new states: The founding of countries as empires broke up or were overthrown. Religious and cultural movements: Organised revivals of faith or custom that also challenged foreign rule. Samory Touré's: The West African ruler's military resistance to French expansion. Yaa Asantewaa War: The Asante war of resistance, named for the queen mother who led it. Sokoto Caliphate: A large Islamic state in West Africa in the nineteenth century. food supplies: The crops and stores that fed a colony or a metropole. cash crops: Crops grown to be sold rather than to feed the grower's household, even if people nearby also eat them. extractive industries: Mining and similar work that takes raw materials from the ground, whether or not they are sent abroad. disproportionate power: Influence far larger than a group's numbers or formal status. modes of transportation: The different ways people and goods moved, from rail to ship. temporary or seasonal: Lasting only a short time, or returning at the same part of each year. coerced and semi-coerced labour: Work under full force, and work under heavy pressure short of outright slavery. indentured servitude: A contract to work for a term of years, often in a distant colony.