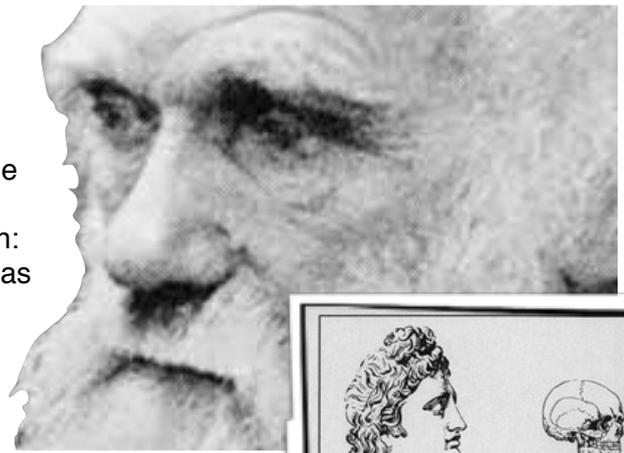
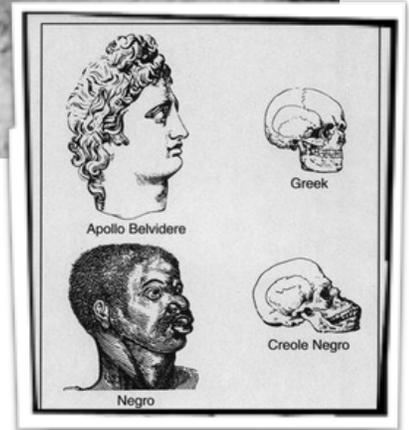


Europe & Social Darwinism

In 1859, Charles Darwin published a revolutionary findings in a book called, "On the Origin of Species." In the book, he detailed his journeys along the coast of South America and the Galapagos Islands. In his discoveries, Darwin concluded that species evolve, or change over time, through natural selection: The strong survive and reproduce, the weak die. Darwin's ideas openly contradicted the dominant Christian views at the time, and led people to further question the existence of a god or supernatural beings.



In following the tradition of the Enlightenment, theories and logic that are first applied to the scientific study of the natural world, begin to be applied to human society. A growing trend of Social Darwinism promoted the idea that humans were not one unified species, but many difference races. The stronger race will survive and thrive, while the weaker races will die off. It is up to each race to protect and strengthen itself, while eliminating competition. While scientifically unfounded, the sweeping trends of Romanticism (truth is personal, emotions are what matters, and quest for Utopia) allowed for these unfounded and untrue ideas to shape the thinking of government, social, and military leadership.



Europe & Australia

By 1830, the Europeans lost the American Colonies to revolution, only holding on to a few islands in the Caribbean. However, with Industrialization sweeping across the continent, there was an unquenchable thirst for resources, as well as markets to buy the products the factories were producing. Adding pressure to the situation was the massively exploding population in Europe, thanks to medicine and tractors keeping more people healthy and well fed.

Australia became a prime location for the new wave of European conquest. Having been "rediscovered" in the early 1800s, the British setup prison colonies, as they could no longer send them to the American colonies for resettlement. Upon finding that Australia had a wealth of resources, the British established trading ports in Sydney and Brisbane. These colonies began to attract migrants from all over Europe, the Middle East and China looking for a fresh start. The Aborigines (native Australians) were initially generous hosts, helping the new colonies adapt to the new terrain and strange animals. However, European greed and diseases resulted in the death of a large number of Aborigines, as they were forced off of the prime lands for farming and resources.

In 1901, the British formally created the Commonwealth of Australia. A British Commonwealth is a semi-independent territory that has authority to make its own decisions, but is still loyal to Britain. Despite the ethnically mixed population, the initial Australian constitution limited the rights and privileges of residents of the Middle Eastern and Asian "races," as well as removed all rights from the Aborigines. Migrants from Europe poured into Australia, which relieved "overpopulation concerns" back in Europe, while further the drive for racial superiority of the Europeans in Australia.



Europe & USA in South/East Asia

Opium Wars & Indian Rebellion of 1857. In the 1500s, China and India had been the most powerful economies and cultures in the world. China produced the finest goods and greatest academic institutions. India was home to the best business men. Between the two societies, they controlled over half the world's wealth through the Silk Road and Indian Ocean Trade. They also controlled over 60% of the world's population. However, when China went into isolation, they missed two massive movements: Exploration and Industrialization. Where China had been the most powerful society and choose not to expand, the Europeans had an unquenchable thirst for gaining resources and profits through conquest. During this time, Industrialization had revolutionized the British ability to wage war: faster steel ships, larger cannons, greater quantities of ammunition and weapons.

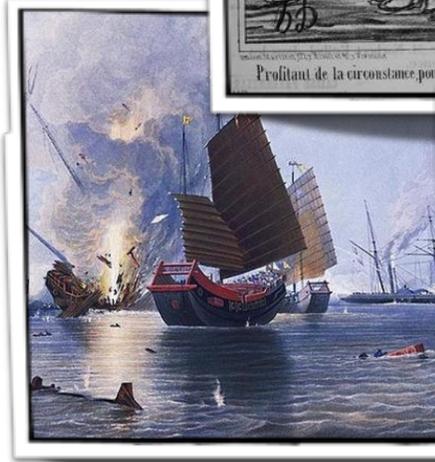
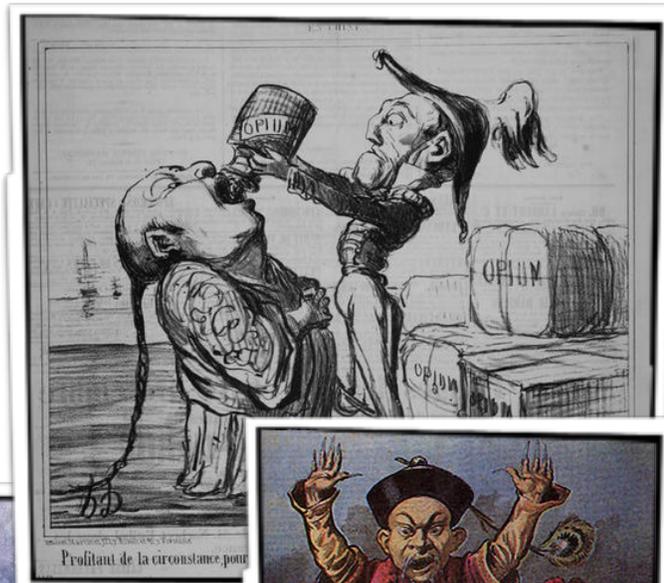
During the early 1800s, the British had been illegally smuggling Opium into China. The British East India Company (BEIC) had used its army to conquer almost all of India, to control its opium supply. The BEIC used a mixture of Indian Opium with North Carolina Tobacco to change the balance of trade with China. By the 1840s, both China and India had had enough of the BEIC's actions. Indians staged a rebellion against the BEIC and the Chinese captured British ships that were smuggling Opium, to stop the illegal drug trade.

The results were disastrous. The once dominant Indians and Chinese faced the wrath of Industrialized weapons. In India, the British Government officially "took over India" from the BEIC, and mercilessly crushed the rebels. In China, their once dominant wooden navy was no match for the steel British fleet. India's natural resources and labor were exploited for British use. China was opened back up to the world, being forced to sign unfair trade agreements with the leading powers in Europe. Now, the Europeans had 60% of the world's population who were "forced" into purchasing of European Industrial goods.

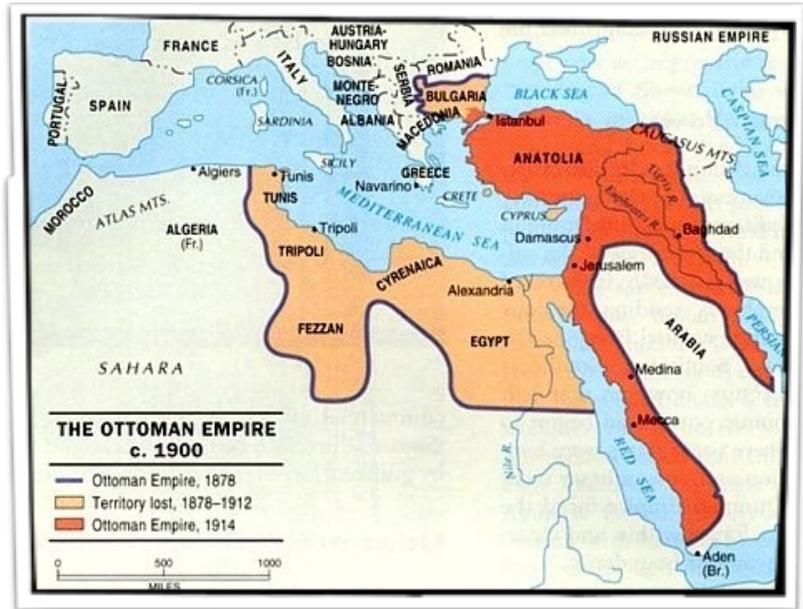
Japan & Gunboat Diplomacy. Across the strait from China, Japan received an equally rude awakening. When Japan had gone into isolation in the 1500s, North America had not yet been discovered. In 1853, the USA steamed into Japan with industrialized, steam powered war ships - whose cannons could fire shells over a mile away. The Japanese and their Samurai were completely unprepared for this new age of warfare. The USA used its gun boats to "convince" Japan to sign unfair trade agreements, forcing Japanese to buy American goods. The Japanese who had existed for over 2,000 years had been humiliated by a country less than 80 years old.

Europe & Middle East

In the 1500s, the Ottoman Turks were one of the most powerful forces in the world. Their army had no rival - controlling the North African coast, the Levant, and much of Eastern Europe. They had defeated the mighty Byzantines at Constantinople. The Ottoman Turks terrified the Europeans into sailing off the edge of the map, so they did not have to trade with them. Istanbul was a critical center for wealth, education, and culture.



By 1900, the Ottoman Empire was referred to as the “Sick Man in Europe.” The once vibrant Indian Ocean and Trans-Saharan Trade routes were gone, causing the Ottomans to struggle financially. They Muslims now had to participate in the British and French global trade networks - importing European industrialized goods, with little available to export. Soon, the Ottomans were in serious debt to European banks and were struggling to make payments. The lack of money and industry made it difficult to hold onto their territories, losing much of Northern Africa to the land-hungry Europeans. Adding to the Ottoman troubles were the Enlightenment ideas that had spread throughout the multi-ethnic empire. Nationalism arose, with small ethnic groups demanding rights, freedoms and independence... In the early 1900s, there was little the Ottomans could do to fix their failing empire.

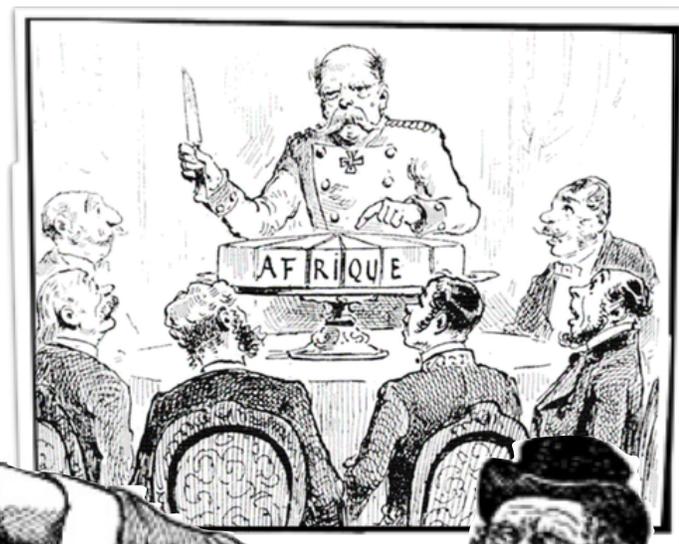


Europe & Africa

For Africa, the 1800s began with a false hope. Between 1500 and 1850, 12.5 million slaves had been shipped from Africa to the New World. This caused unfathomable devastation economically, socially, culturally and politically for Western and Central Africa. With the birth of the Enlightenment and Industrialization, slaves were no longer needed on the farms and plantations. Machines could do better work, faster and cheaper. In 1807, the British abolished the slave trade. By 1850, it was universally illegal to trade slaves. In 1888, Brazil became the last country to abolish the institution of slavery all together. Prospects seemed positive for the continent to begin to recover.

Industrialization changed Africa’s hopes for a brighter future. African diseases has kept Europeans from successfully settling into the heartlands of Africa. The invention of the steamboat allowed explorers to sail against the strong river currents in the protection of their vessel. Advances in germ-based medicine allowed the invention of vaccines and antibiotics, to prevent and cure people from getting the deadly diseases. The removal of this last protection allowed Europeans to flood into Africa with their industrialized weapons. From 1881-1914, countries rushed to conquer and claim territory across the African continent. Following Social Darwinism, the Europeans exploited the resources and labor of the Africans, paying no attention to their humanity or the destruction that was being caused.

In 1885, a conference was called in Berlin, Germany to determine the fate of Africa. The European countries negotiate land and territory boundaries for who would control which parts of Africa. They did not want tensions over African territory to accidentally spark a global war.



ASSIGNMENT

1) Fill out this chart with the the strengths/positives and weaknesses of each region.

Region	Strengths	Weaknesses
Europe		
North America (USA)		
East Asia		
South Asia		
Australia		
Middle East		

2) Create an impact chart. As you read you are to evaluate each area on the level of impact the people in that region had on the world culturally, militarily, and economically.

- Rate each area as to how impactful you believe them to be at the at 1800 AD (■) and at 1918 AD (▲).
- Draw arrows to show whether they grew or shrunk in impact and influence.
- If there is change, ask yourself “What caused them to grow or shrink or stagnate in their influence?” and make note of it on your chart

Example

