

The World at the Beginning of the 20th Century

I. Four Themes to Watch (according to Findley and Rothney)

- A. Global Interrelatedness
- B. Identity and Difference
- C. Rise of the Mass Society
- D. Technology versus Nature

II. It's an Imperialist World – The Coming of the Europeans

A. Methods of Exploitation

1. Loot an occupied country of its treasures (Mexico, Peru)
2. Imposition of "unfair" terms of trade mercantilist (United States and Russia)
3. Transfer of colonial revenues to treasury of home country (French integrated accounts)
4. Extraction of natural resources without compensation (Congo)
5. Investment of capital in colonies for surer profits (Egypt)
6. Transfer of interest on loans, payment for services, and profits of business firms ("drain" India)

III. Crystallizing Moments of the Imperialist World ca. 1900

A. Report of British Consul Roger Casement to the British Parliament on the Administration of the Congo Free State (1903)

1. The Congo: The Story of Rubber and Ivory
2. Leopold II, King of Belgium (1865–1909)
 - a. Commission on the Protection of the Natives
3. Edmund D. Morel – Liverpool shipping agent
4. Joseph Conrad, *The Heart of Darkness* (1902)
5. Congo annexed to Belgium (1908)

recommended book: Adam Hochschild, *Leopold's Ghost* (1999)

video excerpt from: Ali Mazrui, *The Africans: A Triple Heritage* (1986)

B. Incident at Dinshawai (1906)

1. Egypt: The Story of High Finance
2. Ismail Pasha, Khedive of Egypt (1863–1879)
3. Suez Canal opens in 1869
4. Colonel Arabi Pasha leads rebellion in 1881
5. England occupies Egypt in 1882

C. Battle of Omdurman (1898)

1. Sudan: The Story of Military Conquest
2. The Mahdi — Muhammed Ahmed (1848–1885)
 - a. Fall of Khartoum (January 26, 1885)
 - b. Charles George “Chinese” Gordon, 1833–1885
3. Herbert Kitchener (1850–1916)

D. Fashoda Affair, 1898

1. Major Jean-Baptiste Marchand (1863–1934)
 - a. Ubangi River

E. Maji Maji Revolt (1905–1907) — German East Africa

F. Spanish-American War, 1898 (William McKinley, Philippines)

G. Boer War, 1899–1902

1. Cape Colony: The Story of Diamonds and Gold
 - a. Cecil Rhodes (1853–1902) — “Cape to Cairo”
 - b. Lobengula, King of the Matabele (Ndebele) (ca. 1836–1894)
2. Paul Kruger (1825–1904), President of Transvaal Republic (1883–1902)
3. Orange Free State
4. Uitlanders
5. Leander Starr Jameson (1853–1917)— Jameson Raid (1895)
6. Boer sieges of Ladysmith, Mafeking, and Kimberly

H. Boxer Rebellion, 1898–1900

1. China: “Carving Up the Melon”
2. Opium War, November 1839 to August 1842 (Canton, Hong Kong)

I. Battle of Tsushima Strait (Admiral Rozhdestvenskii; Admiral Togo)

1. Opening Up of Japan
2. July 8, 1853 — Matthew Perry and the Black Ships (kurobune) in Edo Harbor
3. War between Japan and China (1894)
 - a. indemnity of \$24 million / steel works at Hirohata
4. Russo-Japanese War, 1904–1905 (General Oyama)

IV. Results: Technology of Progress vs. Technology of Destruction