Thanks so much for your purchase! I am so grateful for your support. Please, however do not post this resource on a publicly-accessible website like a blog, Wix, Weebly, or school webpage. This allows any student to find an attached answer key. You are more than welcome to use this editable Google Doc version of the activity to share through a password-protected site like Google Classroom.

Now you can get access to EVERY RESOURCE for World or US History through a Students of History subscription! That’s over 700 amazing resources like interactive notebooks, Google Drive notebooks, warm ups, projects, PowerPoints and more!

Plus:
Daily lesson plans are included for every day of the school year! They’re all available at StudentsofHistory.com!

Additional Resources on TpT:

LET'S CONNECT!
Click on these to find me on social media:

Reasons for American Imperialism

Introduction: Expansion has always been a part of America’s history. At first, expansion headed towards the Pacific within North America. In the 1700’s and 1800’s, European nations began practicing imperialism, which is one people ruling over or controlling others. Initially, Americans did not look to take over other countries. Having been colonists themselves, many Americans were against it. America also feared that foreign involvement would bring the country into a war. However, attitudes began to change in the late 1800’s as America began to look to the Pacific. Use the chart below to answer the questions.

Territorial Expansion of the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory</th>
<th>Date Acquired</th>
<th>Square Miles</th>
<th>How Acquired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original 13 Colonies</td>
<td>1783</td>
<td>888,685</td>
<td>Treaty with Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana Purchase</td>
<td>1803</td>
<td>827,192</td>
<td>Purchased from France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>72,003</td>
<td>Treaty with Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>390,143</td>
<td>Annexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>285,580</td>
<td>Treaty with Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican Cession</td>
<td>1848</td>
<td>529,017</td>
<td>Mexican American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden Purchase</td>
<td>1853</td>
<td>29,640</td>
<td>Purchase from Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td>589,757</td>
<td>Purchase from Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>6,450</td>
<td>Annexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>115,600</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>3,435</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Samoa</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Treaty with Germany and Britain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. What is imperialism? ____________________________________________________________

2. Why was America hesitant at first to get involved in foreign affairs? __________________________________________________________________________________

3. According to the chart, name five places that America acquired. __________________________________________________________________________________

4. What area of the world are most of the areas acquired after 1850 in? __________________________________________________________________________________

5. Why might having these places be useful to America? __________________________________________________________________________________

1. According to the quote, why should Americans look outward?

2. What is the “new link” that joins the Atlantic and Pacific?

3. What is meant by the “growing production of the country demands it?”

4. Who in America would benefit from new markets? Why?

5. What were the circumstances that led Japan to become an “advancing civilization?”

In 1867 US Secretary of State William Seward arranged to purchase Alaska for $7.2 million from Russia.

Seward was ridiculed for the purchase and Alaska was dubbed “Seward’s Icebox” as many believed that nothing existed there except polar bears.

1. According to the cartoonist, what is found in Alaska? __________________________________________
Hawaii was a proud and independent nation for some 2,000 years. In the 1800’s, arriving American missionaries began to be joined by powerful sugar planters and politicians, often serving as advisers to the king.

The monarchy was weakened and the planters' powers were strengthening. America was the biggest market for Hawaii's sugar. The transplanted planters longed for Hawaii to become part of the United States, so they wouldn't have to worry about tariffs.

Sensing this, Queen Liliuokalani was on the verge of imposing a new Constitution shifting power back to the monarchy - but she never got the chance. On Jan. 16, 1893, U.S. Marines landed in Honolulu armed with Howitzer cannons and carbines. A group of 18 men - mostly American sugar farmers - staged a coup (uprising), proclaiming themselves the "provisional government" of Hawaii. Imprisoned Queen Liliuokalani issued a statement: "I yield to the superior force of the United States of America..."

1. Who ruled Hawaii? ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. Why did the US seek to acquire the Hawaiian Islands? _____
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. Describe the main idea of the cartoon. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

The Spanish-American War ended after 6 months when the US defeated the Spanish. The war erupted over the brutal mistreatment of the Cubans by the Spanish. The US declared war after the USS Maine blew up off the coast of Havana, Cuba. As a result, the US acquired the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. It also reserved the right to intervene in Cuba.

1. Why did the US go to war against Spain? _________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. What areas did the US acquire as a result of its win? _______
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. What is the main idea of the cartoon to the left? _________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
1. According to the Platt Amendment above, why is the US intervening in Cuban affairs? 

---

In the back of the classroom, students representing California, Texas, Arizona and Alaska are quietly reading. In the front row, boys representing the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Hawaii are looking as if they would rather not be there.

1. What is Uncle Sam’s role in the cartoon? 

2. Explain the difference in the behavior of the students seated in the back than the ones in the front row. 

---

1. Who does the man in the cartoon represent? 

2. What does the dove on the bottom right side represent? 

3. The foot is labeled “the powers.” What is meant by the powers? 

4. Explain the main idea of the cartoon?
**American Imperialism Notes**

**Directions:** *Use the previous cartoons and quotes to fill out the following chart.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition of Imperialism</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Reasons for Imperialism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Methods Used by the US to Acquire Territory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Places the US Used Imperialism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Effects of Imperialism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reasons for American Imperialism

Introduction: Expansion has always been a part of America’s history. At first, expansion headed towards the Pacific within North America. In the 1700’s and 1800’s, European nations began practicing imperialism, which is one people ruling over or controlling others. Initially, Americans did not look to take over other countries. Having been colonists themselves, many Americans were against it. America also feared that foreign involvement would bring the country into a war. However, attitudes began to change in the late 1800’s as America began to look to the Pacific. Use the chart below to answer the questions.

Territorial Expansion of the United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Territory</th>
<th>Date Acquired</th>
<th>Square Miles</th>
<th>How Acquired</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original 13 Colonies</td>
<td>1783</td>
<td>888,685</td>
<td>Treaty with Great Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana Purchase</td>
<td>1803</td>
<td>827,192</td>
<td>Purchased from France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>72,003</td>
<td>Treaty with Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1845</td>
<td>390,143</td>
<td>Annexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>1846</td>
<td>285,580</td>
<td>Treaty with Britain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexican Cession</td>
<td>1848</td>
<td>529,017</td>
<td>Mexican American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gadsden Purchase</td>
<td>1853</td>
<td>29,640</td>
<td>Purchase from Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td>589,757</td>
<td>Purchase from Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawaii</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>6,450</td>
<td>Annexed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>115,600</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>3,435</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>1899</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>Spanish American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Samoa</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Treaty with Germany and Britain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. What is imperialism? **One people or country exerting control over or another for some gain**

2. Why was America hesitant at first to get involved in foreign affairs? **Because America was once a colony itself, many were hesitant to colonize other people.**

3. According to the chart, name five places that America acquired. **Louisiana, Texas, Oregon, Florida, the Philippines, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, and Samoa**

4. What area of the world are most of the areas acquired after 1850 in? **Most are in Asia or the Pacific.**

5. Why might having these places be useful to America? **Open to student opinion but they should mention military or economic benefits**
"Whether they will or not, Americans must now begin to look outward. The growing production of the country demands it. The position of the United States, between the Old World and the two great oceans, makes the claim, which will soon be strengthened by the creation of a new link joining the Atlantic and the Pacific, by the advancing civilization of Japan, and by the rapid peopling of our Pacific states."


1. According to the quote, why should Americans look outward? Our industries need to look for additional markets because they have advanced so much.

2. What is the “new link” that joins the Atlantic and Pacific? The United States since it now stretched from sea to sea.

3. What is meant by the “growing production of the country demands it?” Mass production has allowed factories to produce more goods than the country demands.

4. Who in America would benefit from new markets? Why? More money would come into the country from overseas and provide jobs for Americans.

5. What were the circumstances that led Japan to become an “advancing civilization?” Its victory over Russia in the Russo-Japanese War suddenly made it a rival to other imperial powers.

In 1867 US Secretary of State William Seward arranged to purchase Alaska for $7.2 million from Russia.

Seward was ridiculed for the purchase and Alaska was dubbed “Seward’s Icebox” as many believed that nothing existed there except polar bears.

1. According to the cartoonist, what is found in Alaska? The region was filled with Russian prisoners and wild animals like polar and black bears.
Hawaii was a proud and independent nation for some 2,000 years. Flocks of American missionaries began arriving along with powerful sugar planters and politicians, often serving as advisers to the king.

The monarchy was weakened, and the planters' powers were strengthening. The United States was the biggest market for Hawaii's sugar. The transplanted planters longed for Hawaii to become part of the United States, so they wouldn't have to worry about tariffs.

Sensing this, Queen Liliuokalani was on the verge of imposing a new Constitution shifting power back to the monarchy - but she never got the chance. On Jan. 16, 1893, U.S. Marines landed in Honolulu armed with Howitzer cannons and carbines. A group of 18 men - mostly American sugar farmers - staged a coup (uprising), proclaiming themselves the "provisional government" of Hawaii. Imprisoned Queen Liliuokalani issued a statement: "I yield to the superior force of the United States of America..."

1. Who ruled Hawaii? _________________ Queen Liliuokalani

2. For what reason did the US seek to acquire the Hawaiian Islands? _________________ Sugar plantation owners wished to avoid tariffs and become part of the US.

3. Describe the main idea of the cartoon. _________________ The US military is holding the Queen hostage with their bayonets.

The Spanish-American War ended after 6 months when the US defeated the Spanish. The war erupted over the brutal mistreatment of the Cubans by the Spanish. The US declared war after the USS Maine blew up off the coast of Havana, Cuba. As a result, the US acquired the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam. It also reserved the right to intervene in Cuba.

1. Why did the US go to war against Spain? _________________ Stories of the Spanish mistreating the Cubans and the USS Maine's destruction.

2. What areas did the US acquire as a result of its win? _________________ The US got Puerto Rico, Guam, the Philippines, and control of Cuba.

3. What is the main idea of the cartoon to the left? _________________ The Spanish were brutal animals that murdered American sailors.
Article III – The Government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property and individual liberty.

Article VII – To enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba, and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defense, the Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary for coaling or naval stations…

1. According to the Platt Amendment above, why is the US intervening in Cuban affairs? The US will only intervene to preserve Cuban independence and maintain the government.

In the back of the classroom, students representing California, Texas, Arizona and Alaska are quietly reading. In the front row, boys representing the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Cuba and Hawaii are looking as if they would rather not be there.

3. What is Uncle Sam’s role in the cartoon? Uncle Sam is the classroom teacher in the cartoon.

4. Explain the difference in the behavior of the students seated in the back than the ones in the front row. The students in the back are well behaved and learning, while those in the front are looking lazy and disinterested.

1. Who does the man in the cartoon represent? China

2. What does the dove on the bottom right side of the cartoon represent? The dove is labeled peace.

3. The foot is labeled “the powers.” What is meant by the powers? America and the powerful European nations

4. Explain the main idea of the cartoon? America and the Western nations of Europe are cracking down on the Chinese and not using peace. The Chinese are very upset by this.
## American Imperialism Notes

### Directions: Use the previous cartoons and quotes to fill out the following chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition of Imperialism</th>
<th>One people or country exerting control over or another for some gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **3 Reasons for Imperialism** | 1. Gaining markets for industry  
                                  2. Obtaining natural resources.  
                                  3. Military benefits (bases, etc)  
                                  4. Nationalism. |
| **3 Methods Used by the US to Acquire Territory** | 1. Purchases (Alaska, Gadsden)  
                                                     2. War (with Spain and Mexico)  
                                                     3. Annexed (Texas and Hawaii) |
| **4 Places the US Used Imperialism** | The Pacific  
                                        The Caribbean  
                                        Asia  
                                        Latin America |
| **3 Effects of Imperialism** | America gained overseas colonies.  
                               America got into wars with Mexico and Spain.  
                               America became a world power.  
                               Colonized people rebelled against foreign control. |