

# AMERICAN IMPERIALISM

Do the exercises in yellow,

AFTER YOU FINISH, I will ask you:

- How did USA policy change?
- What is a Banana Republic? Dollar Diplomacy? Open Door Policy?
- What happened with Hawaii? Cuba? Philippines? Panama?

*Harried? Hurried? Hungry?*

**EATABANANA!**



**Bananas . . . wholesome—and then some!**



I'm Chiquita Banana and I'm here to sing  
That you should eat more bananas —  
They've got everything!  
They give you vitamins, minerals  
And energy, too —  
Bananas taste so good  
And are so good for you!  
You can put 'em in a milkshake,  
In a salad or a pie—oye!  
And bananas make a nice team  
With a cereal or ice cream.  
Every member of the family loves bananas.  
Every single way you try 'em —  
They are so nourishing and tasty —  
So hurry up and buy 'em!

To be sung to the tune of Chiquita Banana











**LA HUELGA DE 50,000 TRABAJADORES**  
HONDUREÑOS EXPLOTADOS POR MAS DE 50 AÑOS POR EL MONOPOLIO DE LA  
UNITED FRUIT CO. ES UNA CAUSA JUSTA.

The United States changed from isolationist to interventionist.

Before the Civil War, the United States was isolationist. It didn't want to get in the business of other countries. It wanted to be left alone.

During the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, the United States became interventionist. It wanted to get involved in the business of other countries, especially if the government wasn't stable. This BFU will explain why.

## Rewrite

1. The United States always interfered in the business of other countries
2. The United States remained isolationist for its entire history.



# IMPERIALISM

THE FINE ART OF CONQUERING THE WORLD



*"Rule the world in  
this strategy game  
with style."*

*— GameSpot*

Windows® 95 &  
Mac OS® 7.5.5 or later

**RED**



The economy expanded during the Gilded Age. US factories began to produce too many goods. There weren't enough consumers. Now, they needed markets for their goods. They needed new consumers.

And they needed raw materials. You can't make rum without sugar; you can't make cars without iron and rubber; you can't make houses without wood.

So, the United States became interventionist. It messed in the business of other countries, so that US businesses could have an advantage there.





There are several names for this:

- Imperialism, which means making other countries your colonies.
- Dollar diplomacy, which means changing your foreign policy to make things better for US businesses
- Big Stick policy, which means using the army, if necessary, to protect US businesses, especially in Latin America



“Speak softly and carry a big stick” = use force to get what you want



## Rewrite

1. Imperialism means leaving other countries alone.
2. The US Big Stick policy refers to using the army to protect foreign companies.
3. Dollar diplomacy is a change in US policy to become more isolationist.
4. The US businesses wanted new producers for goods in foreign countries.

US businesses wanted a few things to happen in other countries:

- They wanted a stable government; no wars
- They wanted a friendly government; no taxes or regulations
- They wanted raw materials

The businesses could take the raw materials back to the USA, use them in factories, and then sell them for much more than they bought them.

With no taxes and regulations, and no wars, there was no danger or cost of doing business!



*Bananas*



**United Fruit Co**







The best example of this is Central America.

In Central America, the American fruit company UFCO, which sold bananas and other fruits, got the US government to help overthrow any leader who didn't do what UFCO wanted. They ended up supporting corrupt dictators.

They became known as Banana Republics.

Fruit also led to the end of the Hawaiian monarchy. Hawaii was ruled by a monarchy for a long time. An American businessman named Dole support the deposition of this monarchy. Deposition means “firing” the king. After the monarchy was over, the US annexed Hawaii. Dole made a fortune selling pineapples. Later, Hawaii became the 50<sup>th</sup> State.





## Rewrite

1. Banana Republic refers to the great democracies of Central America.
2. US businesses wanted democracy for foreign countries.
3. US businesses liked revolutions and instability in foreign governments.
4. US businesses wanted Central Americans to keep their raw materials.
5. The US conquered Hawaii and made it a state.









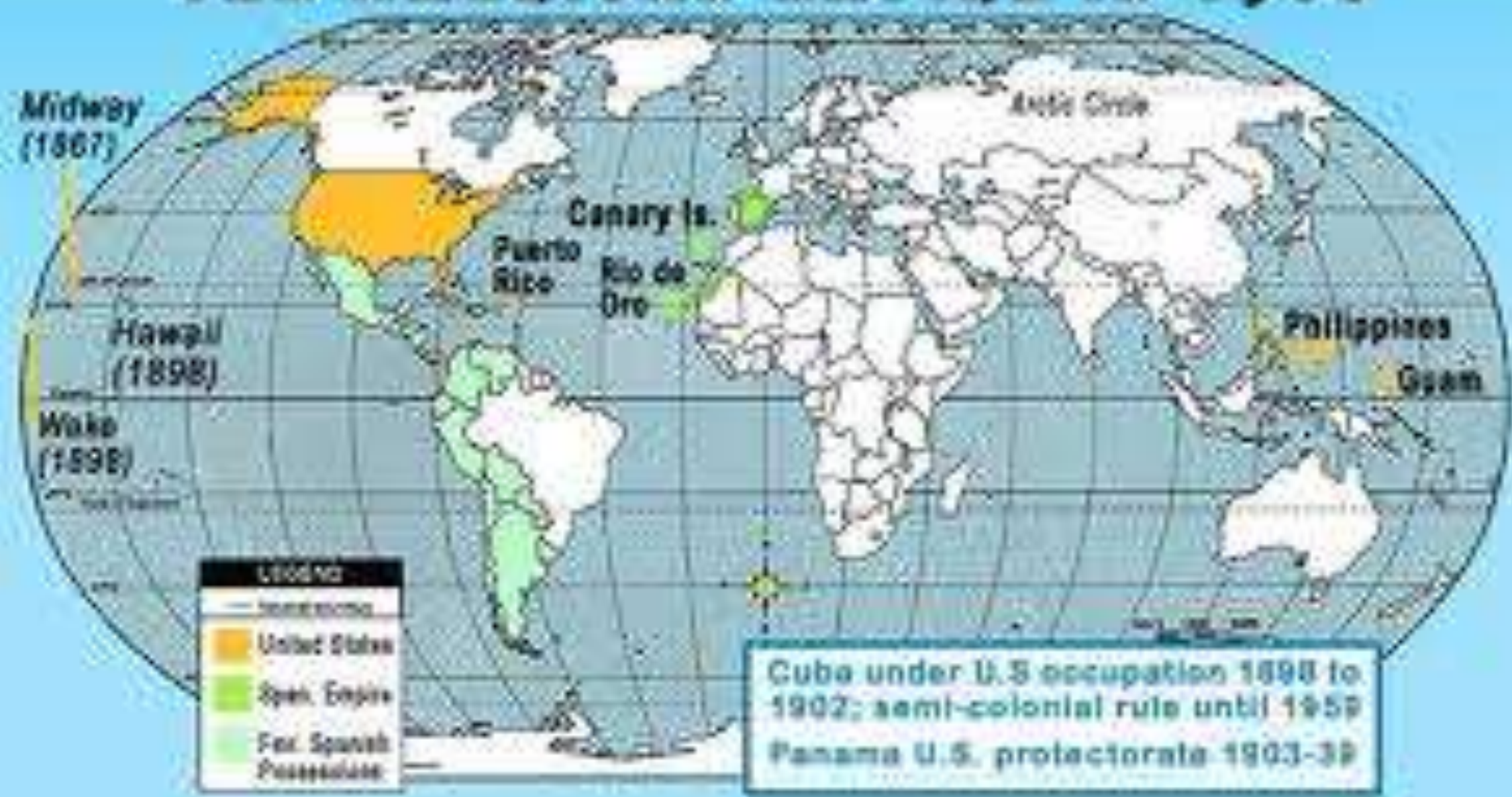
LA FATLERA DEL ONCLE SAM (per M. Motinè).



Guardarse l' isla perque no 's perdi.



# THE AMERICAN EMPIRE IN 1903



The US intervened in Latin America the most.

They started a war with Spain. The Spanish Empire still owned Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. But the Cubans were fighting a war against the Spanish. The Americans supported the Cubans at first; then, they “invented” a war and punished Spain. This is the Spanish-American War.

They accused Spain of destroying a US ship called the USS Maine. Nowadays, we believe it was an accident, not an attack. Back then, the newspapers called for war.



The US attacked Spain in Cuba and kicked them out. They made Cuba and Puerto Rico territories. The USA got the island of the Philippines from Spain, also. They had to fight a war against the Filipinos, but they eventually won.

Later, Cuba will rebel against US interference. This is the time of Fidel Castro.

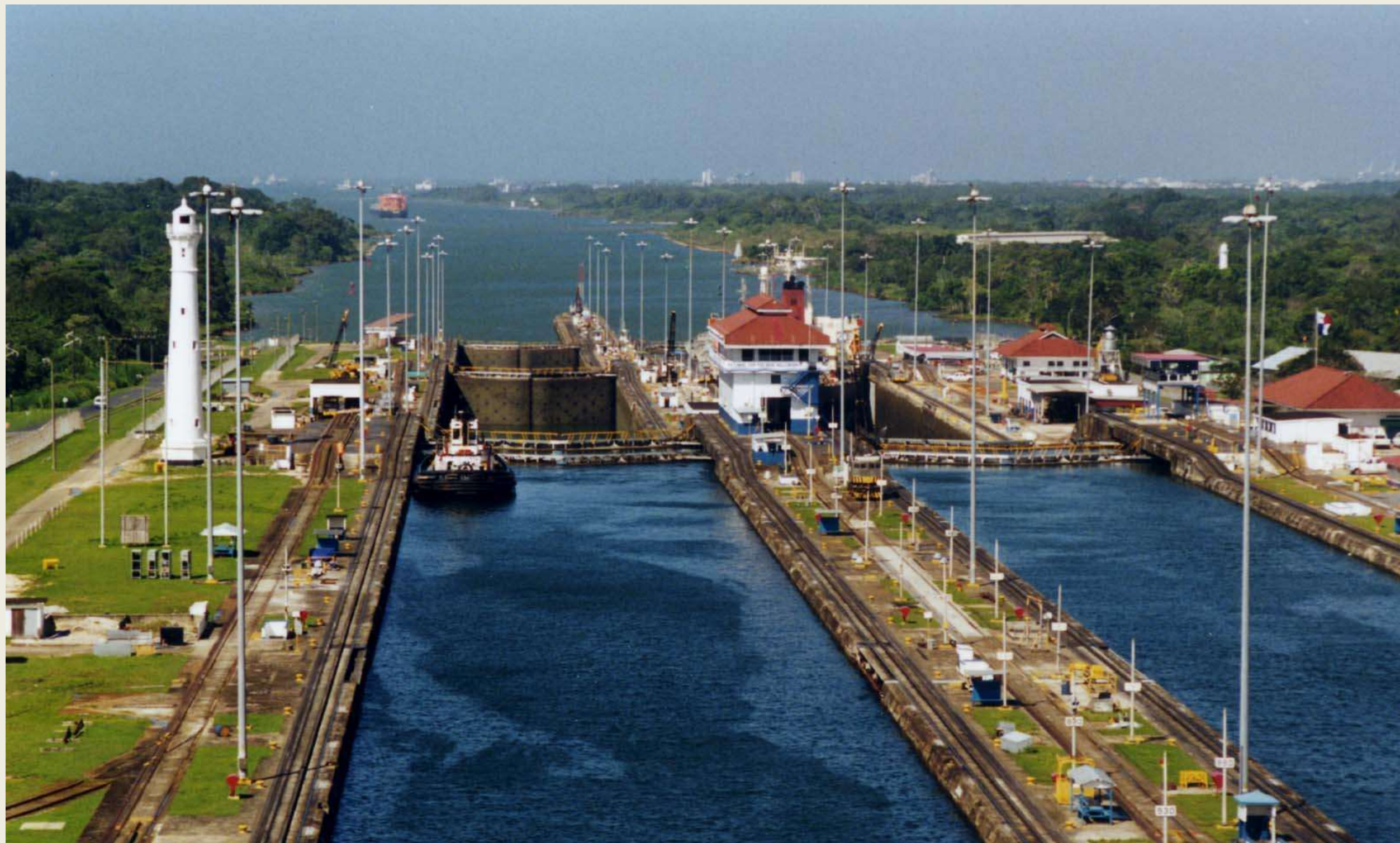
The USA now had a little Empire.

## Complete

1. Where did the US intervene the most?
2. How did the USA start a war with Spain?
3. What did the USA get from Spain?
4. What does this mean “THE USA had a little Empire?”







The great imperial project of the USA was the Panama Canal. This was a canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Panama Canal wasn't possible at first. Panama was part of Colombia, and Colombia didn't want the USA to do whatever it wanted. So, the Americans supported a revolution. Panama got its independence. The US sent soldiers and workers to build the canal, which expanded trade.

### Rewrite

1. Colombia wanted to build a canal in Panama.
2. The Panama Canal decreased trade.



Many of the names of US foreign policy from this time reflect opening the world for business.

- The Open Door policy was a strategy to open China and its huge population to US companies
- Dollar Diplomacy refers to using the army to help business
- Globalization or the beginning of a global economy starts at this time



## Complete

- Open Door policy
- Hawaii
- Spanish American War
- Panama Canal
- Dollar Diplomacy
- Banana Republic

(LOOK DOWN)

US deposes monarchy, annexes the land, later becomes state...

US supports dictators who are friendly to businesses

US diplomatic policy to help businesses in China

US diplomatic policy to help businesses around the world; shares name with US money

US encourages independence; makes a big project there to increase trade

US supports Cuban rebels; then invents a war with the USS Maine



### Highlight the correct answer

#### 1) Why did the United States change from isolationist to interventionist?

A) The United States produced more goods than they could consume. They needed new markets for their goods. They accomplished this through negotiation and peace. By making friends overseas, they were able to bring back tons of new goods and money.

B) The United States produced more goods than they could consume. They needed new markets for their goods. This is the era of the first “global economy” and the United States was one of the leaders, until World War I. It’s also the era of Big Stick Policy.

#### 2) Why did the United States intervene so much in Latin America?

A) America believed Latin America was its own backyard. President Roosevelt added a corollary to the Monroe Doctrine. It said that the United States had a right to intervene in Latin America. President Taft came up with dollar diplomacy. He encouraged American banks to invest in Latin America. He promised that the US army will back them up, if needed.

B) America believed Latin America should govern itself. President Roosevelt added a corollary to the Monroe Doctrine. It said that the United States should never intervene in Latin America. President Taft came up with dollar diplomacy. He encouraged American banks to invest in Latin America. He promised that if the countries stole their money, he would pay them back.

#### 3) What is the best example of US imperialism?

A) The best examples are from Latin America. The United States encouraged Panama to leave the country of Colombia. Then, they provided soldiers and workers to build the Panama Canal. The Panama Canal connected the Atlantic and the Pacific, and made it easier to trade.

B) The best examples are from Africa. The United States encouraged Guinea to leave the country of Ghana. Then, they provided soldiers and workers to build the Suez Canal. The Suez Canal connected the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean, and made it easier to trade.

#### 4) What is a Banana Republic?

A) Banana Republic refers to Central American dictatorships that are supported by the USA. They include El Salvador and especially Honduras. Most Banana Republics were controlled by the US government and UFCO, which is the banana company that ruled Central America for most of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

B) Banana Republic refers to a democracy in Latin America that depended on the sales of bananas in the USA. They include El Salvador and especially Honduras. Banana Republics were controlled by the people of Central America. The United States worked respectfully with them for most of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 5) Did United States imperialism ever lead to war?

A) No. Although imperialism from Europe led to many wars, the United States version didn't. The reason was that the United States was primarily interested in economic gain, so it didn't want to mess up its economic relationships by sending the military. The one exception is the war against Hawaii.

B) Yes. The United States fought Spain over control of Cuba in the Spanish-American war. After this, Cuba was like a United States colony, until Fidel Castro. After this war, the US annexed Puerto Rico, which is a US territory. Also, the US fought a war in the Philippines, which is why July 4th is a national holiday there.

#### 6) How did the United States expand into the Pacific?

A) The United States deposed Hawaii's king and annexed the islands. They later became a state. The US fought a war in the Philippines. Finally, the US was very interested in Chinese markets. The Open Door policy attempted to "open up" China for trade.

B) The United States deposed Hawaii's king and annexed the islands. They later became a state.

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