

8th Grade American Expansion Inquiry

Was American Expansion Abroad Justified?			
Staging the Question: UNDERSTAND Discuss a recent military intervention abroad by the United States.			
Social Studies Practices	✔ Gathering, Using, and Interpreting Evidence ✔ Geographic Reasoning ✔ Economics and Economic Systems		
Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3	Supporting Question 4
What conditions influenced the United States' expansion abroad?	What arguments were made in favor of imperialism and the Spanish-American War?	What arguments were made in opposition to imperialism and the Spanish-American War?	What were the results of US involvement in the Spanish-American War?
Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
List conditions that influenced US foreign policy in the late 19th century.	Begin a T-chart with arguments in favor of imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Complete a T-chart with arguments in opposition to imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Make a claim and counterclaim that the United States benefited from the Spanish-American War.
<i>Integration of Inquiry Process and Skills</i>			
Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3	Supporting Question 4
Connect: States and verifies what is known and makes connections to prior knowledge about a recent United States military incursion abroad and the connection between historical events and the present. Graphic Organizer: Connect#14	Connect: Uses multiple sources to acquire background information and brainstorms ideas for further inquiry about arguments made in favor of imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Connect: Uses multiple sources to acquire background information and brainstorms ideas for further inquiry about arguments made in opposition to imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Connect: Expresses the big idea and the relation of own topics of interest to that idea through a mind map using pictures and words about the results of US involvement in the Spanish-American War.
Wonder: Assesses questions to determine which can be answered by simple facts, which cannot be answered, and which would lead to an interesting inquiry about what conditions influenced United States' expansion abroad. Graphic Organizer: Wonder#8	Wonder: Determines what information is needed to support the investigation and answer the questions about arguments made in favor of imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Wonder: Analyzes and evaluates what is known, observed or experienced to form tentative thesis or hypothesis about arguments made in opposition to imperialism and the Spanish-American War. Graphic Organizer: Wonder#12	Wonder: Refines questions to guide the search for different types of information about US involvement in the Spanish-American War. Graphic Organizer: Wonder#15
Investigate: Evaluates and paraphrases information that answers research questions while reading a secondary account of the emergence of US global power in the 19 th century, excerpts from a treatise on sea power, and excerpts from the 1896 Republican National Party platform.	Investigate: Uses both facts and opinions responsibly by identifying and verifying them while reading excerpts from speeches by two United States senators in support of the war as well as selections from newspapers at the time. Graphic Organizer: Investigate#71	Investigate: Recognizes the effect of different perspectives and points of view on information while examining sources from Mark Twain, a political cartoon, the Anti-Imperialist League platform, and a William Jennings Bryan speech. Graphic Organizer: Investigate#76	Investigate: Recognizes that own point of view influences the interpretation of information about US involvement in the Spanish-American War while examining maps of the war and excerpts from speeches by Theodore Roosevelt and William McKinley. Graphic Organizer: Investigate#77 C3 Resources
Construct: Lists conditions that influenced US foreign policy in the late 19th century.	Construct: Begins a T-chart with arguments in favor of imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Construct: Completes a T-chart with arguments in opposition to imperialism and the Spanish-American War.	Construct: Draws conclusions based on explicit and implied information. Graphic Organizer: Construct#31
Express:	Express:	Express:	Express: Makes a claim and counterclaim that the United States benefited from the Spanish-American War.
Reflect:	Reflect:	Reflect:	Reflect: Identifies own strengths and sets goals for improvement. Graphic Organizer: Reflect#19
Summative Performance Task: Argument: Construct an argument (e.g., detailed outline, poster, essay) that addresses the compelling question using specific claims and relevant evidence from historical sources while acknowledging competing views. Extension: Stage a debate about the consequences of and justifications for the Spanish-American War, or role-play a debate between William Jennings Bryan and Theodore Roosevelt about whether American expansion abroad was justified.			