

“On Anglo-Saxon Predominance”

1. According to Strong, what forces are necessary to lift a civilization up to its highest level?
2. What statistics does Strong use to justify his belief in Anglo-Saxon superiority?
3. What influence has Social Darwinism had on Strong’s beliefs about Anglo-Saxons, and particularly, Americans?
4. Explain how Strong feels the “melting pot” effect helped America’s rise.
5. Would Horatio Alger agree or disagree with Strong’s beliefs about American society? Why?
6. What are Strong’s beliefs about the future and America’s destiny?

“The Rhodes Colossus, Striding from Cape Town to Cairo” and “Colossus of the Pacific”

7. Is this cartoon a fair reflection of Rhodes’ ambitions for Britain in Africa and why?
8. How does this cartoon, which references “The Rhodes Colossus”, express American imperial ambitions? How does it strengthen Strong’s argument?

“The White Man’s Burden”

9. What do you think Kipling means by “the white man’s burden.”
10. To whom do you think the poem is addressed?

11. How does Kipling describe native peoples?

12. What are some difficulties Kipling foresees in taking up “the white man’s burden”?

13. Kipling portrays “the white man’s burden” as a difficult and thankless undertaking, yet urges that it be taken up nevertheless. How does the last verse of the poem reveal why he thinks it should be taken up in spite of all the difficulties associated with it?

“The Brown Man’s Burden”

14. How would you characterize the tone of this poem?

15. What do you think the author hoped to accomplish by publishing this poem?

16. What does the author see as the true motivating force behind imperialism?

Platform of the American Anti-Imperialist League and “The Brown Man's Burden”

17. How, according to the League, was the US occupation of the Philippines anti-American?

18. Under what conditions, according to the League, is disloyalty to the federal government justified?

“The First Open Door Note”

19. How did political conditions in China endanger American interests?

20. Summarize what the US was asking for in China.

21. How would the suggestions made in “The First Open Door Note” strengthen Imperial nations while weakening China?