Imperialism Rational

- Definition
  - Empire building
    - Taking over colonies
    - 19th century
      - Mostly in Africa and Asia

- Colonialism
  - 16th-18th Century
    - Mostly in Americas
  - New World
    - Spanish in South America
      - Lost colonies in Napoleonic Era
      - Maintained control of Caribbean territories till 1898
    - French in North America
      - Sold territory to United States
      - Lost to British during Seven Years War
    - Dutch in North American and Caribbean
      - Lost North American holdings in 17th century
      - Held onto Netherlands Antilles till 1950s
    - Portuguese in South America
      - Brazil declares independence in 1822
    - British Dominant
      - Lost United States
      - Dominance in Caribbean
      - Canada main territory
        - United to Britain in 1840
  - Pacific and Indian Ocean
    - Spanish heavy presence in Philippines
      - Lost to United States in 1898
    - British domination in Australia and New Zealand
      - Australia used as penal colony
      - New Zealand approached much more tentatively
    - Russia in control of North Pacific
      - Spanning eastern Asia and Western North America
        - Alaska sold to United States in 1867
    - Dutch struggling for control of straits of Malacca
      - Dutch control of Indonesia
      - British control of Malaysia
      - French control of Indo-China
    - South Asian dominance by British
      - Control of India
        - Maintained control till mid-20th Century

- New Colonial Empires
  - 19th Century
    - Emphasis on Africa and Asia

Reasoning for Imperialism
- Humanist Rational
Spread “Civilization”

- Missionary activity
  - Conversion to “superior” religion
- Medical improvements
- Protect natives from abuse
- Education
- Build up infrastructure
- “White Man’s Burden”
  - Rudyard Kipling

Faults

- Brutal labor practices
- Sale of harmful objects to natives
  - Drugs, alcohol, weapons
- Destruction of native culture
  - Language and religion mostly
- Europeans mostly separate from natives
  - No permanent settlement
    - Exception South Africa

Economic Rational

- Markets, resource and investment
  - Europe coming out of a long term depression
    - 1873-1890s
- Resources
  - Rubber, coffee, palm oil, sugar, cocoa, tea, peanuts
- Faults
  - Still traded with United States
  - Africa got few of economic benefits
    - Britain sent more goods to Belgium in 1890s than they did to all of Africa
  - Costs higher than benefits
    - More expensive to establish, administer, and police than money made from imperialism

Political Rational

- Aggressive nationalism
  - National glory/prestige
  - Military supremacy
    - Maintain balance of power
  - Jingoism
    - Willing to go to war to secure foreign policy
    - Take land to prevent rivals from getting it
- Romantic adventure
  - Game of the rich and powerful
- Excessive populations
  - Principles of Malthus
    - Very few colonies settled
- Scientific Exploration
  - Conquest of exploration
    - David Livingstone and the source of the Nile
    - Race for the Poles
- Domination of Indigenous People
  - Orientalism
    - Right to exploit conquered territories and decide what is best for them
      - Even well-meaning reforms assumed inferiority of natives
  - Social Darwinism
    - Natural superiority of some cultures
      - Europeans believe they could not learn anything from non-western cultures
  - Aggressive
    - Natives were obstacles to progress
      - Led to terrible treatment of natives
        - Ex. Australia and Belgian Congo
  - Technical advantages over natives
    - Industrial advantages
      - Railroads, steamships, telegraphs
    - Military advantages
      - Searchlights, machine guns, artillery, observation balloons
  - Economic Exploitation
    - Exploited natural and human resources
      - With little regard to health and safety of native
      - Forced labor
        - Production quotas
    - Natives lost rights to property
    - Destroyed natural hunting/grazing patterns
    - European monopoly on production
      - Destroyed handicraft industries