Note Outline for “Causes of Imperialism”

1) Define “imperialism”.

2) What are four causes of imperialism?

3) How was the Industrial Revolution related to imperialism?

4) Why did imperialistic powers compete for colonies?

5) Why does the German historian, Heinrich von Treitschke, say that nations should join this competition?

6) How did Western nations view themselves in comparison to the people they colonized? How does this relate to the bogus pseudo-scientific concept of “Social Darwinism”?

7) What is the justification for Britons acquiring more territories, according to Cecil Rhodes? How does the cartoon reflect this attitude towards Africa?

8) Why was the missionary impulse a justification for imperialism? How does this relate to “paternalism”?

9) Which famous poem best typified the justification to imperialists their rule of native peoples?
Additional Questions on “The Anthem of Imperialism” by Rudyard Kipling

1) How does Kipling justify imperialism?

2) Why does Kipling use the odd sounding description, “the savage wars of peace”?

3) What sacrifice does Kipling imply the “white man” is making? Why?

4) Examine the following 1908 cartoon called “The Kipling Reader” How does the cartoon reflect the tone of Kipling’s poem?