Note Outline on “Imperialists Divide Africa”

1) What was the nature of African society before the arrival of the imperialists? Which religion has spread throughout north and east Africa?

2) Examining the map of Africa’s topography, which part of Africa seems the most arid? Which seems the best area for growing crops?

3) Examining the map of major African languages by country boundaries, what is the implication of having several different language groups represented in one country?

4) How large was the slave trade between the 14th and 15th centuries? Why did most Africans become slaves? Where were most slaves sold to the Europeans? Describe the “Triangle Trade”.

5) Who was the most famous of the European explorers of central Africa? Why did he engage in exploration?

6) What were the motives of Europeans in establishing colonies in Africa? Which external forces did they use? Which internal forces facilitated their conquest?

7) What was the purpose of the Berlin Conference of 1884-85? What agreement did they come to? Significantly who was not represented at this conference?

8) Which two imperial powers had the greatest amount of African territories? Which of those two had the better regions for developing cash crops? Why?

9) Examining the map of European colonies in Africa, which two large colonies were controlled by the Portuguese?

10) Why did Africans suffer as a result of Europeans pursuit of raw materials in Africa?
11) Which European monarch had the most brutal colony in Africa? Where was it? Why was it so infamous? What forced some change there?

12) How did Europeans exercise indirect control of some colonies? Give some examples of this.

13) How did Britain come to colonize Nigeria? What was the ethnic make up of that area? Why did Britain adopt the indirect form of rule there?

14) How did Europeans exercise direct control of some colonies? Give some examples of this.

15) How did France come to colonize Algeria? What was the result in the unfairness of their colonial rule?

16) What were some “positives” of colonial rule?….some “negatives”?

17) Which Europeans initially settled in South Africa? When? Why did many British settlers arrive in South Africa? Which natives did they come into conflict with? What was the result?

18) Why did the Boer War start? Why is the Boer War often referred to as the first modern “total war”? What was the result of that war?

19) Which African nation was the only one to successfully resist European invasion? Who was the king who made this happen? Which country’s invading army did his forces defeat in which famous battle?