Questions on Bolivar’s Dream for Latin American (pages 200-203 in *The Human Record*)

**Introduction to “Simon Bolivar, “The Jamaica Letter” page 200**

1) What was it about Bolivar’s family situation and education that may have influenced him?

2) How, when, and where did Bolivar begin the struggle for his colony’s independence from Spain? What were some of the roles he filled in pursuit of that goal? What was his greatest contribution towards that cause?

3) What setback caused Bolivar to write “The Jamaica Letter”? What was the reason for writing the letter?

**“The Jamaica Letter” page 201-203**

4) Why does Bolivar believe that Spain’s efforts to hold on to its American territories are doomed?

5) What Spanish policies, according to Bolivar, made Spanish rule odious (hateful) to him and other revolutionaries?

6) In Bolivar’s view, what complicates the task of predicting Spanish America’s political future?

7) Does his letter reveal concern about the economic and social conditions of South America’s non-white population? What are some implications of Bolivar’s attitudes?

8) Based on your reading of this letter, what guesses can you make about the reason why new nations in South America found it difficult to achieve stable republican governments? Explain.