

Instructions: Read ch.12, “The Empire & the People” of Howard Zinn’s *A People’s History of the United States*. For each of the following prompts, indicate where in the text relevant information is located. For assigned prompts, provide thoughtful written responses.

According to Zinn...

1. What led to the rise of expansionism?
2. “There had been much experience in overseas probes and interventions...” How *representative* is Zinn’s sample?
3. How was race a motivation for expansionism?
4. What does Zinn think of Theodore Roosevelt’s beliefs?
5. How was American Imperialism different from European? What was the cornered fight?
6. What were the racial concerns of the US government with respect to the Cuban Revolution?
7. Many histories state that McKinley went to war with Spain because of public opinion. What does Zinn think is the real cause?
8. What was the response of the labor movement to the Cuban intervention?
9. What was the role of Cuban rebels at the end of the Spanish-American War? What does Garcia’s letter show about the view of the Cubans?
10. What were the results of strikes in Havana in 1899?
11. How did McKinley decide to annex the Philippines and why?
12. How was the fight over the Philippines different from the fight over Cuba?
13. How did racism affect conduct of the Philippine war?
14. Name 3 examples of war atrocities by the US.
15. Why did the Philippines create black opposition in the US?
16. Where and how has federal power been used? Where has the failure of the federal government to act been an injustice according to Zinn?
17. What are Zinn’s main arguments? Are they convincing? Well-supported? Who wins the argument, Zinn or Boot?

Howard Zinn, *A People’s History of the United States*, 1980