**THE UNITED STATES AND THE PACIFIC REGION**

Contest Directions:

The class will be divided into five teams. Play begins with everyone reading question 1 below and choices a, b, c, d, and e. Four of the five choices are correct answers. Fill in the first four boxes at the end of the question with the letters of those answers you believe are correct. Inside box 1, put the letter of the answer you think has the best chance of being correct. Inside of box 2, write the answer you think is the best of those which remain. Do the same for boxes 3 and 4. Put what you believe is the wrong answers inside of box 5.

I (the teacher) will then collect one paper from a volunteer on each team, and write their answers on the board. The four correct responses to question 1 will then be announced. Points will be scored as follows:

0 points if box 1 does not contain a right response

10 points if box 1 contains a right response and box 2 contains the wrong answer

20 points if boxes 1 and 2 contain right responses and box 3 the wrong answer

30 points if boxes 1, 2, and 3 have right answers and box 4 the wrong answer

40 points if boxes 1, 2, 3, and 4 contain right answers and box 5 the wrong answer

The same person cannot submit their paper to the teacher more than twice during the game. Be sure to keep a record of the correct answers as they are announced.

**Purchase of Alaska**

1. In 1867, Secretary of State William H. Seward purchased Alaska from Russia for $7,200,000. It was the first territory acquired by the United States that was separate from the rest of the country. Many people thought Alaska was a worthless piece of land. They called it “Seward’s Folly” and “Seward’s Icebox.” But in time, Alaska proved to be a valuable acquisition. In 1959, Congress admitted Alaska to the union as the 49th state. It is the largest American state, with a land area more than twice the size of Texas. Juneau is the capital and Anchorage is the largest city. **What are the reasons why the purchase of Alaska has turned out to be an incredible bargain for the United States?**
2. In the 1890s, gold was discovered near the towns of Nome and Fairbanks.
3. Huge deposits of silver were found in the Yukon River Valley during the 1920s.
4. Timber and fish are valuable natural resources of Alaska.
5. Alaska’s strategic location near the Soviet Union and countries of the Far East has made it an important place for U.S. military bases and missile sites.
6. Immense reserves of petroleum and natural gas have been found there.

**Annexation of the Hawaiian Islands**

1. The Hawaiian Islands are located in the middle of the Pacific Ocean about 2,400 miles southwest of California. The main islands are Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, and Molokai. A rebellion led by American settlers in Hawaii overthrew Queen Liliuokalani in 1893. Five years later, upon the request of Americans living in Hawaii, the islands were annexed by the United States. Military bases were built there during the early 1900s. in 1959, the territory became the 50th state. **Which of these facts are true about Hawaii today?**
2. The state includes about 1,400 islands.
3. The leading industries are sugar, pineapples processed foods, and tourism.
4. Few places in the world contain as many racial and national mixtures as these islands.
5. The capital and largest city is Honolulu.
6. It rarely rains and never snows in Hawaii.

**Other Pacific Islands**

1. During the late 1800s, the United States acquired about 50 tiny islands in the Pacific region. The islands have been used for commercial air fields, naval and air bases, and radio and radar stations. **The best known of these islands is:**
   1. Guam
   2. Wake Island
   3. The Midway Islands
   4. The Samoan Islands
   5. Java and Sumatra

**The United States and the Far East**

1. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the United States became more involved in events in the Far East. American businessmen hoped to develop new markers for their goods. They also were eager to obtain silk, tea, and other valuable products which could be sold at a profit in the United States. In 1898, as a result of the Spanish-American War, the U.S. gained two new Far Eastern territories, Guam and the Philippines. Many Americans at this time believed that the United States should maintain a policy of “isolationism,” and remain apart from events in the rest of the world. But as Theodore Roosevelt said:

“In foreign affairs we must make up our minds that whether we wish it or not, we are a great people and must play a great part in the world. All we can decide is whether we shall play it well or ill.”

Roosevelt was right. In the years which followed, the United States became increasingly involved in Latin America, Europe, and the Far East. **Which of the countries below are found in the Far East?**

* 1. India and Laos
  2. Japan and Korea
  3. Syria and Jordan
  4. Indonesia and Malaysia
  5. China and Mongolia

1. The Philippines had been a colony of Spain since the days of Magellan’s voyage in the 1500s. Then, in 1898, Commodore George Dewey and American forces seized the islands during the Spanish-American War. When the war ended, some people in the United States urged President William McKinley to allow the Philippines to become an independent nation. These people were called “anti-imperialists.” They were against using force to acquire new lands. Instead, they favored a policy of isolationism. But other Americans said that the Filipinos were not prepared to govern themselves. After listening to both sides, President McKinley recommended that Congress ratify the Treaty of Paris, and annex the islands along Guam and Puerto Rico. **What happened to the Philippines in the years after it became a U.S. possession?**
   1. The United States sent 70,000 troops to the Philippines to put down a bloody rebellion among angry Filipinos who resented the annexation of their country.
   2. The American government spent millions of dollars on roads, schools, hospitals, and water supply and sewage systems.
   3. In 1927, Congress turned down a request by the Philippines to become an American state.
   4. In 1934, the Filipinos were given the right to choose their own president and draw up a constitution.
   5. Following the Japanese defeat in World War II, the Philippines was granted independence on July 4, 1946.
2. During the late 1700s and throughout the 1800s, European nations tried to expand their trade with China. They hoped to sell own goods to the Chinese people, and bring back silk, tea, and other valuable products to Europe. But the government of China tried to limit foreign trade because they did not trust the Europeans. China at this time was the largest country in the Far East, and the most populous nation in the world. Yet it was weak, militarily. Eventually, the Chinese were forced to open a number of ports to the Western nations. **Which of the following describe relations between the United States and China during these years?**
   1. Swift American clipper ships began trading with China in 1784. Missionaries from the United States tried to convert some of the Chinese people to Christianity. Thousands of Chinese immigrants arrived in America and took jobs building the transcontinental railroad. But bad feelings toward newcomers among white laborers resulted in Congress passing the Chinese Exclusion Act in the 1882. These laws virtually ended Chinese immigration to the United States for the next fifty years.
   2. In order to gain the same trade rights given to European nations, the United States fought the Opium War against China from 1839 to 1842. For years, American merchants had made huge profits smuggling opium from China. Opium was a dangerous and destructive drug which caused serious problems for the Chinese people. The U.S. Navy blockaded the east coast of China and forced the government to sign the Treaty of Nanking. This treaty made Hong Kong an American colony and legalized the opium trade.
   3. The United States became increasingly concerned about attempts by European nations to divide China among themselves. These countries wanted “spheres of influence,” wherein each would have trade rights and special privileges. In 1899, Secretary of State John Hay proposed the “Open Door Policy,” which would keep China open to trade with all nations. All of the foreign powers would have equal rights and privileges there.
   4. The Chinese people resented the way foreigners interfered in their country. Many joined secret societies and pledged themselves to drive out the “foreign devils.” Violence erupted and many foreigners were murdered. Troops from eight countries, including the United States, arrived in China and put down what came to be known as the “Boxer Rebellion.”
   5. During the 1930s, the government of Japan decided to ignore the Open Door Policy. Japanese armies invaded Manchuria, a northern province of China. Soon afterwards, they advanced into China itself. The United States demanded that Japan withdraw its forces, but the Japanese refused to do so.
3. In 1853, Commodore Matthew C. Perry led four American warships to Tokyo Bay, Japan. He had been sent by President Millard Fillmore to request that the Japanese end their long-standing policy of isolation from the rest of the world. Under pressure from the United States, the government of Japan signed a treaty in March 1854, opening two Japanese ports to U.S. trade. Soon Japan signed trade agreements with other Western powers. **Which of the following describe the relationship between Japan and the United States during the late 1800s and early 1900s?**
   1. The leaders of Japan made an all-out effort to adapt to Western ways. They borrowed ideas on banking, business, and industry from a number of countries, but mostly from the United States. By 1900, Japan had become a modern world power.
   2. More than 100,000 Japanese immigrants poured into the United States between 1885 and 1900. Most settled in California, where they aroused local opposition because of their willingness to work for low wages. As a result of this public outcry, the U.S. and Japan reached a “Gentleman’s Agreement,” whereby the Japanese pledged to stop issuing passports to Japanese workers. The Immigration Act of 1924 later set a quota on the number of Japanese immigrants who could come to the United States.
   3. Japan took Formosa and Korea away from China, and made other gains on the Chinese mainland. This raised concern in the United States because such actions went against the Open Door Policy.
   4. Japan proved it had become a world power by defeating Russia in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905. President Theodore Roosevelt helped the two sides negotiate a peace treaty ending the conflict. But the treaty did not force the Russians to pay Japanese war costs, and anti-American demonstrations broke out in Japan.
   5. During World War I (1914-1918), a naval squadron under the command of Admiral David Lawrence positioned itself off the coast of China. This prevented the Japanese from taking control of the Chinese mainland President Woodrow Wilson warned the Emperor of Japan that further violations of the Open Door Policy would be considered an act of war.

**The United States and the Pacific Region**

Directions: Use the information gained from the game to help you answer the following questions. Make sure you disregard the incorrect answers to the game.

**Multiple-Choice:**

1. The first territory acquired by the United States that was separate from the rest of the country was
   1. Alaska c. Puerto Rico
   2. Hawaii d. Guam
2. Hawaii’s capital and largest city is
   1. Anchorage c. Juneau
   2. Honolulu d. Maui
3. During the late 1800s, the United States took possession of all of the following islands **except**
   1. Guam and Wake Island c. the Midway Islands and Samoan Islands
   2. Java and Sumatra d. Puerto Rico and the Hawaiian Islands
4. From George Washington’s presidency during the 1790s until the Spanish-American War in 1898, the United States followed a policy of
   1. isolationism c. colonialism
   2. imperialism d. nationalism
5. The country in the Far East which rapidly adapted to Western ways was
   1. Japan c. Korea
   2. China d. India

**Completion**

1. Alaska and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ joined the Union as the 49th and 50th states in 1959.
2. Spain ceded Guam and the Philippine Islands to the United States in a treaty ending the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ War.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ said: “In foreign affairs we must make up our minds that whether we wish it or not, we are a great part in the world.”
4. The United States became concerned when Western nations wanted to divide the country of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into “spheres of influence.”
5. The Philippines was given its independence by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on July 4, 1946.

**Matching:**

1. William H. Seward \_\_\_\_\_\_ a. purchased Alaska from Russia

for $7,200,000

1. Queen Liliuokalani \_\_\_\_\_\_

b. was overthrown during a rebellion

1. George Dewey \_\_\_\_\_\_ by American settlers in Hawaii
2. John Hay \_\_\_\_\_\_ c. helped capture the Philippines
3. Matthew C. Perry \_\_\_\_\_\_ d. opened Japan to American trade

e. proposed the Open Door Policy in

China

**True/False:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The United States became increasingly involved in Far Eastern affairs

during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ “Anti-imperialists” favored using force to acquire new lands.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ The United States defeated China in the Opium War and gained

special trade privileges there.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ In the Boxer Rebellion, the Chinese succeeded in driving out the

“foreign devils.”

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Japan seized Formosa and Korea from China, invaded the Chinese

mainland, and won the Russo-Japanese War.