**2009 Revised AP Euro DBQ- Causes of Expansion**

1. Using the documents and your knowledge of world history, analyze at least two causes of European expansion in Africa from 1861 to 1910.

**Document 1**

Machine generated alternative text:
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Document I 
Source: Prince Leopold, heir to the throne of Belgium and future king, conversation, 
1861. 
Surrounded by the sea, Holland, Prussia and France, our frontiers can never be extended in 
Europe.... [But] the universe lies in front of us; steam and electricity have made distances 
disappear, all the unappropriated lands on the surface of the globe may become the field of 
our operations and of our resources.. 
. Since history teaches that colonies are useful, that 
they play a great part in that which makes up the power and prosperity of states, let us 
strive to get one in our turn ... let us see where there are unoccupied lands ... where are 
to be found peoples to civilize, to lead to progress in every sense, meanwhile assuring 
ourselves ... the opportunity to prove to the world that Belgians also are an imperial 
people capable of dominating and enlightening others. 
Document 2 
Source: Benjamin Disraeli, British prime minister, speech to the House of Commons 
regarding the Suez Canal, February 1876. 
I have never recommended, and I do not recommend now, this purchase either as a 
financial investment or as a commercial speculation. I have always and do now 
recommend it to the country as a political transaction, and one which I believe is 
calculated to strengthen the empire. 
Document 3 
Source: Chancellor Otto von Bismarck of Germany, speaking to a countryman back from 
exploring Africa, 1888. 
Your map of Africa is very nice, but my map of Africa is in Europe. Here is Russia and 
here is France, and we are in the middle. That is my map of Africa. 
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**Document 2**

Machine generated alternative text:
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Document 4 
Source: Joseph Chamberlain, British industrialist, politician, and reformer, speech, 1888. 
We have suffered much in this country from depression of trade. We know how many of 
our fellow-subjects are at this moment unemployed. Is there any man in his senses who 
believes that the crowded population of these islands [the British Isles] could exist for a 
single day if we were to be cut adrift from the great dependencies which now look to us 
for protection and which are the natural markets for our trade? ... If tomorrow it were 
possible, as some people apparently desire, to reduce by a stroke of the pen the British 
Empire to the dimensions of the United Kingdom, half at least of our population would be 
starved. 
Document 5 
Source: Cecil Rhodes, British imperialist, speech at the chartering of the British South 
Africa Company, 1889. 
Philanthropy is good, but philanthropy at 5 percent is even better. 
Document 6 
Source: George Washington Williams, Baptist minister, lawyer, historian, and legislator, 
"An Open Letter to His Serene Majesty, Leopold Il, King of the Belgians and Sovereign of 
the Independent State of Congo," Stanley Falls, Congo Free State, 1890. 
Great and Good Friend, 
I have the honor to submit for Your Majesty's considerations some reflections respecting 
the Independent State of Congo. There were instances in which Mr. Henry M. Stanley* 
sent one white man, with four or five Zanzibar soldiers, to make treaties with the native 
chiefs. All the sleight of hand tricks had been carefully rehearsed and he was now ready 
for his work. A number of electric batteries had been purchased in London and when 
attached to an arm under the coat, communicated with a band of ribbon which passed over 
the palm of the white brother's hand, and when he gave the black brother a cordial grasp of 
the hand, the black brother was surprised to find his white brother so strong that he nearly 
knocked him off his feet. By such means as these, and a few boxes of gin, whole villages 
have been signed away to Your Majesty. 
*British-American journalist and explorer sent to Congo by King Leopold of Belgium 
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**Document 4**

Machine generated alternative text:
Source: Edward Linley Sambourne political cartoonist for the British magazine Punch, 
depicting Cecil John Rhodes, a famous British explorer, after he announced plans for 
a telegraph line and railroad from Cape Town to Cairo, 1892 
Caption: "The Rhodes Colossus Striding from Cape Town to Cairo" 
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The Rhodes Colossus#/media/File:Punch Rhodes Colossus.png 

**Document 5**

Machine generated alternative text:
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Document 7 
Source: William Clark, "The Genesis of Jingoism," Progressive Review, London, 1897. 
Although in its essence capitalism is international, and although it will prove in the long 
run to be one of the leading factors in breaking down nationalism, for the present it is 
accustomed to find in exaggerated forms of nationalism its most potent ally. The music 
hall patriot is encouraged to howl for Jameson* or any other hero of the hour, when in 
reality he is howling for the financiers who are making Jameson their tool. 
*British military officer who led an unsuccessful raid in 1895 into Boer-controlled 
territory in southern Africa 
Document 8 
Source: Archibald Philip Primrose, Lord Rosebery, British politician and foreign 
secretary, letter to the London Times, 1900. 
An Empire such as ours requires as its first condition an imperial race—a race vigorous 
and industrious and intrepid. Health of mind and body exalt a nation in the competition of 
the universe. The survival of the fittest is an absolute truth in the conditions of the modern 
world. 
Document 9 
Source: Resolution of the German Social Democratic Party Congress, 1900. 
World and colonial policy is pursued for the purpose of capitalist exploitation and for 
displaying military force ... [11t corresponds first and foremost to the greedy desire of the 
bourgeoisie for new opportunities to invest its ever-increasing capital which is no longer 
content with exploiting the home market, and to the desire for new markets which each 
country tries to usurp to itself. 
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**Document 7**

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Document 10 
Source: Eugene-Melchior de Vogüé, French diplomat, The Master of the Sea, Paris, 1903. 
Diplomacy used to be concerned with the Mediterranean and the Bosporus; now it has to 
do with China, the Niger, and the Congo ... The great states of Europe are dividing up the 
other continents of Africa and Asia in the same manner they would divide such countries 
as Italy or Poland ... What used to be a European balance of power is now a world 
balance of power, but it is subject to the same laws, and any country that does not wish to 
become less important must obtain as much new territory relatively as our rivals are doing. 
Document 11 
Source: Martial Henri Merlin, governor general of French Equatorial Africa, speech, 
1910. 
We went to new territories. We went there by virtue of the right of a civilized, fully 
developed race to occupy territories which have been left fallow by backward peoples 
who are plunged into barbarism and unable to develop the wealth of their land. What we 
exercised is a right, and if anyone denies this, you should firmly maintain that it is a right. 
We are entitled to go out to these peoples and occupy their territories; but, when we 
exercise this right, we, at the same moment are charged with a duty towards these peoples, 
and this duty we must never for one instant forget. 
Document 12 
Source: Louis Bernard, French colonial official, memoir, Paris, 1936. 
I found [in Algeria before the First World War] the image of a victorious and conquering 
France, which allowed me to forget the humiliated France on the other side of the water. I 
was in a country of empire, an empire in which I participated instead of submitting, as it 
was in our annexed provinces, Alsace and Lorraine. 
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