**Standard 10.4.3**- Explain imperialism from the perspective of the colonizers and the colonized and the varied immediate and long-term responses by the people under colonial rule.

**Document 1 - O.P. Austin, "Does Colonization Pay" The Forum, 1900**

"Modern progressive nations lying in the temperate zone seek to control garden spots’ in the tropics. [mainly in Africa, Latin America, and Asia] Under [the progressive nations] direction, these places can yield tropical produce. In return, the progressive nations bring to the people of those garden spots the foodstuffs and manufactures they need. [Progressive nations] develop the territory by building roads, canals, railways, and telegraphs. They can establish schools and newspapers for the colonies [and] give these people the benefit of other blessings of civilization which they have not the means of creating themselves."

1. **According to the author, what benefits did the colonies receive from the "modern progressive nations"?**

**Document 2- Analyze the cartoon below.**



Caption: "Learning civilized ways is hard work."

**2. What did colonization mean for the native people?**

**Document 3** *- Imperialism and World Politics*, Parker T. Moore, 1926

"To begin with, there are the exporters and manufacturers of certain goods used in the colonies. The makers of cotton and iron goods have been very much interested in imperialism. Their business interests demand that colonial markets should be opened and developed and that foreign competitors should be shut out. Such aims require political control and imperialism.

Finally, the most powerful of all business groups are the bankers. Banks make loans to colonies and backward countries for building railways and steamship lines. They also make loans to colonial plantation owners, importers, and exporters.

The imperialist business interests have powerful allies. Military and naval leaders believe strongly in extending the white man’s rule over the ‘inferior races,’ To this company may be added another element—the missionary. Missionaries went forth to preach a kingdom beyond this world. But they often found themselves the builders of very earthly empires. . . . Last, but by no means least, let us add politicians to our list of empire builders."

1. **Who are the empire builders described in this passage?**

**Document 4 – Analyze the proverb below.**

"When the whites came to our country, we had the land and they had the Bible, now we have the Bible and they have the land."

--African proverb

**4. How did the Africans feel about the missionaries?**

**Document 5 – Analyze the poem below.**

The White Man killed my father,  
My father was proud.  
The White Man seduced my mother,  
My mother was beautiful.  
The White Man burnt my brother beneath the noonday sun,  
My brother was strong.  
His hands red with black blood  
The White Man turned to me;  
And in the Conqueror’s voice said,  
"Boy! a chair, a napkin, a drink.

*An Anthology of West African Verse*, David Diop, 1957

1. **What were some negative effects of imperialism on Africa?**

**Document 6** - Sekou Toure, West African nationalist, 1962

"Colonialism’s greatest misdeed was to have tried to strip us of our responsibility in conducting our own affairs and convince us that our civilization was nothing less than savagery, thus giving us complexes which led to our being branded as irresponsible and lacking in self-confidence. . .

The colonial powers had assimilated each of their colonies into their own economy.

Our continent possesses tremendous reserves of raw material and they, together with its potential sources of power, give it excellent conditions for industrialization. . ."

1. **In 1962, what was the response of this West African nationalist to years of colonialism?**

**Document 7**

In this excerpt, adapted from O.P. Austin’s “Does Colonization Pay?” in The Forum, January 2/9/00, positive and negative results of imperialism are pointed out.

Modern progressive nations [European colonizers] . . . seek to control “garden spots” in the tropics. Under their direction, these places can yield the tropical produce that their citizens need. In return the progressive nations bring to the people of those garden spots the foodstuffs, and manufacture they need. They develop the territory by building roads, canals, railways, and telegraphs. The progressive nations can establish schools and newspapers for the people of the colonies. They can also give these people the benefit of other blessings of civilization which they have not the means of creating themselves.

**7. According to this author, what are the benefits of imperialism to the colony?**

**7. What are the benefits of imperialism to the colonizer?**

**Document 8**

In this speech, Dadabhai Naoroji, an Indian, describes the effect of imperialism on India.

To sum up the whole, the British rule has been—morally, a great blessing; politically peace and order on one hand . . . on the other, materially, impoverishment . . . . The natives call the British system . . . “the knife of sugar.” That is to say there is no oppression, it is all smooth and sweet, but it is the knife, nevertheless.

In later comments he stresses the negative aspects.

Europeans [the British] occupy almost all the higher places in every department of government. . . . . Natives, no matter how fit, are deliberately kept out of the social institutions started by Europeans. . . .All they [the Europeans] do is live off of India while they are here. When they go, the carry all they have gained.

**8. How is British imperialism both positive and negative for India?**

**Document 9**

This excerpt is adapted from The Economic History of India Under Early British Rule, by an Indian,

Romesh Dutt.

Englishmen . . . have given the people of India the greatest human blessing—peace. They have introduced Western education. This has brought an ancient and civilized nation in touch with modern thought, modern sciences, and modern life. They have built an administration that is strong and efficient. They have framed wise laws and have established courts of justice.

**9. What benefits did India gain during British imperialism?**

**Document 10**

This excerpt, from The Discovery of India by Jawaharlal Nehru, explains how India became a “typical” colonial economy.

This process continued throughout the nineteenth century. Other old Indian industries—shipbuilding, metalwork, glass, paper—and many crafts were broken up. Thus the economic development of India was stopped and the growth of new industry was prevented. . . . A typical colonial economy was built up. India became an agricultural colony of industrial England. It supplied raw materials and provided markets for England’s industrial goods. The destruction of industry let to unemployment on a vast

scale. . . . The poverty of the country grew. The standard of living fell to terribly low levels.

**10. What negative effects of imperialism does Nehru point out?**

**Document 11**

Mohandas Gandhi offers a complaint about imperialism.

You English committed one supreme crime against my people. For a hundred years you have done everything for us. You have given us no responsibility for our own government.

**11. What is Gandhi’s criticism of imperialism?**

**Document 12**

This excerpt is adapted from Imperialism by J.A. Hobson, a British scholar.

The period of imperialism has witnessed many wars. Most of these wars have been caused by attacks of white races upon so-called “lower races.” They have resulted in the taking of territory by force. . . . The white rulers of the colonies live at the expense of the natives. Their chief work is to organize labor for their support. In the typical colony, the most fertile lands and the mineral resources are owned by white foreigners. These holdings are worked by natives under their direction. The foreigners take wealth out of the country. All the hard work is done by natives.

**12. What negative aspects of imperialism does this British scholar point out?**

**Document 13**

Sekou Toure, and African nationalist, pointed out another negative aspect of imperialism.

Colonialism’s greatest misdeed was to have tried to strip us of our responsibility in conducting our own affairs and convince us that our civilization was nothing less than savagery, thus giving us complexes which led to our being branded as irresponsible and lacking in self-confidence.

**13. What criticism of imperialism does this African offer?**

**Document 14**

The resolution of the All-African People’s Conference, held in Accra, Ghana in 1958, “condemns colonialism and imperialism” based on these premises.

Whereas all African peoples . . . deplore the economic exploitation of African people by Imperialist Countries, thus reducing Africans to poverty in the midst of plenty . . . Whereas fundamental human rights, freedom of speech, freedom of association, freedom of movement, freedom of worship, freedom to live a full and abundant life . . . are denied to Africans through the activities of Imperialists.

**14. What are the reasons this group condemned imperialism?**

**Document 15**

George H.T. Kimble, in a 1962 New York Times Magazine article, “Colonialism: the Good, the Bad, the Lessons,” gives his point of view.

. . . they [the colonial powers] failed to provide the African with sufficient [preparation] . . . None of the newly independent countries had enough skilled African administrators to run their own . . . [or] enough African technicians to keep the public utilities working. . . . And no country had an electorate that knew what independence was all about. . . . For all its faults, colonial government provided security of person and property in lands that had known little or either. . . . It was the colonial powers who were largely responsible for the opening of the region to the lumberman, miner, planter, and other men of means without whom its wealth would be continued to lie fallow [uncultivated].

**15. What does this author cite as negative effects of imperialism?**

**16. What does he cite as positive effects of imperialism?**