Unit 4 Glossary (Spanish American War)

**1898**- The Spanish-American War was triggered by the explosion of the Maine on February 15, 1898, in Havana harbor. American officials refused to accept the Spanish report that the cause of the explosion was internal and accidental. On April 11, 1898, President William McKinley asked Congress to authorize armed intervention against Spain to free the oppressed Cubans. The Navy, commanded by Commodore George Dewey, sailed into Manila Bay in the Philippines on May 1 and with the assistance of military troops, captured it on August 13, a day after the armistice was signed. Hawaii was annexed by the United States on July 7 to secure a coaling and supply station in the Pacific Ocean. The “Rough

Riders,” led by Theodore Roosevelt, rushed San Juan Hill, Cuba, on July 1, and the American fleet destroyed Spanish ships in Santiago Harbor, Cuba, on July 3. Disease ravaged U.S. forces; 400 died in battle or due to injuries while more than 5,000 succumbed to malaria, typhoid, dysentery, and yellow fever. In peace negotiations late in 1898, the Cubans received their freedom from Spanish rule, and the United States acquired Puerto Rico, the island of Guam, and the Philippines.

**Annexation**- The formal act of acquiring something (especially territory) by conquest or occupation. (See term, **1898** for territory U.S. annexed after the Spanish-American War.)

**Chinese Exclusion Act**- A [federal law](http://www.answers.com/topic/chinese-exclusion-act-of-1882) passed in response to complaints by workers on the West Coast that competition from Chinese immigrants was driving down their wages and threatening white “racial purity.” It suspended Chinese immigration for ten years and declared Chinese immigrants ineligible for [naturalization](http://www.answers.com/topic/naturalization) as American citizens. The law was renewed in 1892 for another ten years, and in 1902 Chinese immigration was permanently banned. Chinese immigrants did not become eligible for citizenship until 1943.

**Sanford B. Dole**- (1844-1926) When U.S. President McKinley came into office in 1897; Dole led renewed negotiations for annexation. The Republic of Hawaii offered a treaty of annexation, which the U.S. accepted by joint resolution in 1898. Dole drove a hard bargain, in which the U.S. paid off the accumulated national debt of the Kingdom and Republic (paying more than the market value of the ceded lands at that time). Dole also successfully demanded that although the public lands of Hawaii would be ceded to the U.S. control, those lands would not become part of the U.S. land inventory but would be held as a public trust for the benefit of all the residents of Hawaii. Dole wrote the Organic Act whereby annexation was implemented. In 1900, he became Hawaii’s first Territorial Governor. In 1903 he became president judge of the U.S. District Court for Hawaii where he served for 12 years until retiring at age 72. Following ten more years of charitable works, he died in 1926.

**Dollar Diplomacy**- A policy adopted by President Howard Taft (who served from 1909-1913) to encourage investment by American banks and businesses in Latin America and the Far East. As part of the policy he promised military protection to those who invested abroad. World War I reoriented the priorities of the emerging world power, and U.S. foreign policy makers returned to a goal of isolationism.

**Imperialism**-The policy of extending the rule or authority of an empire or nation over foreign countries, or of acquiring and holding colonies and dependencies.

**Henry Cabot Lodge**- (1850-1924) A senator from Massachusetts, Henry Cabot Lodge supported American expansion as a way to increase national pride, spread civilization, and thereby gain world power. He and Theodore Roosevelt, drawing upon the theories of naval historian Alfred Thayer Mahan, favored the “large policy.” This depended on world trade and ship transport. An American-controlled canal through Central America was necessary as were coaling stations and naval bases in the Pacific, on Hawaii, Guam, Wake Island, and in the Philippines. A strong navy was required to protect the merchant marine as it sailed from North America to the Far East and points in between.

**Alfred T. Mahan**- (1840-1914) Alfred Thayer Mahan was an admiral and naval historian whose theories on the relationship of sea power and world commerce influenced foreign policy development in the 1880s and 1890s. His theories were published in *The Influence of Sea Power upon History* (1890).

**Missionaries**- One who is sent on a mission, especially one sent to do religious or charitable work in a territory or foreign country. One who attempts to persuade or convert others to a particular program, doctrine, or set of principles; a propagandist.

**Open Door Policy**- In an effort to protect U.S. trade with China, Secretary of State John Hay opposed the increase of British, German, Russia, French, and Japanese trade with China. He wrote letters to the respective governments requesting that they support an Open Door Policy in China (1899-1900). His policy stated that all nations would have equal trading rights in China. Most nations abided by the agreement and worked to suppress the Boxer Rebellion in 1900, a Chinese uprising against foreign influences including business and missionary interests.

**Panama Canal**- In 1901 the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty gave the United States the right to construct and defend a canal through Central America. The idea to build a canal was not new in 1901. Many nations sought quicker, safer access to the east from the west, and the narrow isthmus of Panama offered a link. Once the 50-mile long canal was completed in 1914, it changed the world’s systems of transportation, communication, and economics.

**Platt Amendment**- (1901) An amendment to the military appropriations bill, constrained by the earlier [Teller Amendment](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teller_Amendment) that forbade annexation of Cuba. It dictated the conditions for the withdrawal of United States troops remaining in [Cuba](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuba) at the end of the [Spanish-American War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish-American_War) and defined the terms of Cuban-U.S. relations, until it was abrogated by the 1934 [Treaty of Relations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Relations). The Amendment, whose clauses were incorporated into the 1903 Treaty of Relations verbatim, allowed unilateral U.S. involvement in Cuban affairs and mandated negotiation for military bases on the island including [Guantanamo Bay Naval Base](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guantanamo_Bay_Naval_Base).

**Propaganda**- Information, ideas, or rumors deliberately spread widely to help or harm a person, group, [movement](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/movement), institution, nation, etc. The deliberate spreading of such information, rumors, etc.

**Protectorate**- A relationship of protection and partial control assumed by a superior power over a dependent country or region.

**Roosevelt Corollary**- A declaration made by President [Theodore Roosevelt](http://www.answers.com/topic/theodore-roosevelt) in December 1904 and based on the [Monroe Doctrine](http://www.answers.com/topic/monroe-doctrine). It authorized U.S. intervention in the affairs of neighboring American countries in order to counter threats posed to U.S. security and interests. After [Woodrow Wilson](http://www.answers.com/topic/woodrow-wilson) used it in an attempt to establish a democratic government in Mexico, it was challenged by Republicans in a memorandum of December 17, 1928, and later by Democrats, in favor of a policy of non-intervention.

**Rough Riders**- The name bestowed on the 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, one of three such regiments raised in 1898 for the [Spanish-American War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish-American_War) and the only one of the three to see action. The [United States Army](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Army) was weakened and left with little manpower after the [American Civil War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Civil_War) roughly thirty years prior. As a result, President [William McKinley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_McKinley) called upon 1,250 volunteers to assist in the war efforts. Despite being a [cavalry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cavalry) unit they ended up fighting on foot as [infantry](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infantry). The second in command was former assistant secretary of the [United States Navy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Navy), [Theodore Roosevelt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodore_Roosevelt), a man who had pushed for American involvement in [Cuban](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuba) independence. The Rough Riders were mostly made of college athletes, cowboys, and ranchers.

**Spanish-American War**- (1898) The Spanish-American War began when the United States intervened in Cuban affairs in opposition to Spanish rule. The explosion of the U.S.S. Maine on February 15, 1898, in the harbor in Havana, Cuba, contributed to the start of the war. In his message to Congress on April 11 President William McKinley urged Congress to approve armed intervention in Cuba. Another factor which prompted the war was U.S. interest in another Spanish possession, the Philippines. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt urged Commodore George Dewey to invade the Philippines in the event of war with Spain. Dewey acted on May 1, 1898, and quickly destroyed the Spanish navy in Manila Bay. Although limited fighting occurred on the two fronts, more than 5,000 U.S. troops died from disease. The United States emerged as a world power as the treaty ending the “splendid little war” ceded the Philippines and Guam in the Pacific, and Puerto Rico in the Caribbean, to the United States.

**U.S. Expansion**- The United States has always been involved in foreign affairs, but the degree of involvement has changed over time. After the War of 1812, those involved in foreign commerce sought peaceful negotiations with trading partners, but others looked inward, seeing national development as providing the greatest economic opportunity. In the 1850s this began to change. Interest in strategic ports of call and shorter routes from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans prompted diplomats to negotiate with foreign powers over access to routes and trade. Thus the United States began to change its foreign policy from one of isolationism, avoiding involvement with other countries, to one of imperialism or expansionism, seeking control of foreign trade to bolster the domestic economy. The effort to expand into foreign markets caused American diplomats to “look outward” in the 1890s. Islands in the South Pacific including Hawaii were important depots for ocean-going trade and military vessels. The perception of unfair treatment of the inhabitants of Cuba and the Philippines, two colonies of Spain, led to the Spanish-American War (1898). The territory secured in the treaty ending the “splendid little war” angered those who opposed imperialism. Regardless, U.S. officials continued to seek foreign markets and to support American investment abroad. Trade with China began in 1784. In an effort to protect that trade, Secretary of State John Hay opposed the increase of British, German, Russia, French, and Japanese trade with China because of the competition it posed to American interests. He wrote letters to these governments requesting that they support an Open Door Policy in China (1899-1900). His policy stated that all nations would have equal trading rights in China. Many of these countries participated in suppressing the Boxer Rebellion in 1900, an uprising of Chinese against foreign influences including business and missionary interests. Japan was another country strategically positioned as a supply stop for American trading and whaling vessels. Efforts to open it to foreign trade began in the 1850s. Securing a passage through Central America to link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans also affected U.S. foreign policy beginning in the 1850s. Latin American relations involved negotiations with imperial powers controlling Latin American countries as well as the governments of countries which gained their independence. Dollar Diplomacy was a policy adopted by President Howard Taft (who served from 1909-1913) to encourage investment by American banks and businesses in Latin America. He promised military protection to those who invested. World War I reoriented the priorities of the emerging world power, and U.S. foreign policy makers returned to a goal of isolationism

**U.S. As a World Power**- Several factors contributed to the rise of the United States as a world leader. In the 1880s the United States experienced an industrial revolution which allowed the country to compete with Britain for dominance of the world economy. Increased transportation and ports-of-call in major trading areas increased the economic and military strength of the United States around the world. Following World War II, the United States surpassed Britain as a world power. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R) and the United States were considered world powers because their foreign policy impacted world decisions. The United States remains a prominent nation in the world system in spite of a staggering national debt. The U.S. economy is strong, the standard of living is high, and the nation remains a hub of world trade and diplomacy.

**Yellow Journalism**- Journalism that exploits, distorts, or exaggerates the news to create sensations and attract readers. Shortened from the phrase *Yellow Kid journalism,* referring to the *Yellow Kid,* a cartoon (1895) in the *New York World,* a newspaper having a reputation for sensationalism.