

Sample: 1C

Circle the question number for Part B that you are answering on this page.

Part A — Mandatory 1	Part B — Circle one 2 or 3
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The Spanish American war brought about a slew of questions in the United States. ~~As a~~ The nation was torn between whether it was a spreader of goodwill, or an imperialist like Spain. The overseas expansion of the United States cause controversy because government officials felt it necessary and good to expand, while the people saw no benefit to these imperialist campaigns. As a nation we wanted to seem good and just, spreading liberty and democracy; however, we also wanted to compete with imperialist powers such as Spain.

Government officials saw it necessary to conquer "savage" nations so that the U.S. could civilize them with the ideas of liberty and freedom. This is seen most clearly in the case of the Philippines, which we conquered from Spain during the Spanish American war. William McKinley explained that for keeping the Philippines would be the only option after the war, he believed them unfit to govern themselves. (1a3) There was still a great racial prejudice in the United States and the leaders of the nation believed the Filipinos to be inferior savages. This is also reflected by McKinley's successor, Theodore Roosevelt. He believed that the Filipinos may in time be able to govern themselves, but at the moment they needed firm guidance from the U.S. (Doc 9) He called all those who opposed the plan cowards, because he believed the U.S. should civilize the Philippines.

~~The~~ Some people in the U.S. believed the war had done more harm than good in the U.S. They believed the war bred barbarism and that expansion would lead to an overreach of the United States' ambitions. Jane Addams

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1

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believed that the Spanish American war bred barbarism in the streets of the country, (Doc 4). She believed that the war and the subsequent expansion was causing everyone to behave aggressively and brutally. As a social reformer, she would have wanted to change this. ~~The~~ Puck magazine held the view that the war was causing the U.S. to overreach. In an issue published in 1904, the cover was an eagle stretching its wings far over the Pacific to the Philippines, and stating "See, but this is an awful stretch!" (Doc 7). As a satirical magazine, their goal would be to criticize the U.S. for expanding so far out of its reach.

This view was also held by many who believed the U.S. was starting to lose Imperialist ambitions. William Graham Sumner believed that the U.S. was using the guise of democracy & liberty so that it could be imperialistic. (Doc 2). He believed that the U.S.'s claims

that the ~~Spanish~~ Philippines was not fit for self governance was ~~the same as~~ a ploy that made us no better than the Spanish. William Jennings Bryant also mentioned that the U.S. was trying to be

Imperialistic. He stated a country cannot be an empire and a republic because a republic requires consent of the governed, something an empire does not give. (Doc 6)

As someone running for president, he would promise to the people that he would end the new Imperialist policy of the U.S., and focus

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1

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on the country itself.

While the saying the country believed
Colonization or the Philibinding was the United States duty
those living in the US believed that there was no benefit
to this clearly imperialist campaign.