

Colonialism in Latin America, Asia & Africa

Improve your learning

Q. 1. Match the following:

A

- i. Opium war
- ii. Ottoman empire
- iii. Personally owned the colony
- iv. Settling farmers

B

- a) Belgium
- b) Spain
- c) controlled trade before colonisation
- d) China

Answer : 1) Opium war- d) China

The opium war included the First Opium War (1839–1842) and the Second Opium War (1856–1860) between China and British.

2) Ottoman empire- c) controlled trade before colonisation

Most of the trade routes linking Europe and Asia around 1400 were guarded by Muslim kingdoms, especially the Ottoman Empire which was continuously at war with the European Christian powers.

3) Personally owned the colony- a) Belgium

Léopold II of Belgium personally owned the Congo colony and used it as a source of ivory and rubber.

4) Settling farmers- b) Spain

The settled Spanish farmers did not have any role in the supervision of the colonies which were controlled by the Spanish from Europe.

Q. 2. How is the word ‘discovery’ and ‘exploration’ used by Europeans? What did it mean to people who were already living in those geographical locations?

Answer : The words ‘discovery’ and exploration are not the same. The Europeans, who made colonies all over the world, used it in these contexts.

The term discovery means exposure to something, which already existed, but not known by anybody else before. It simply means finding something unexpected. An example is the discovery of America by Columbus.

The term exploration refers to finding something new and helpful, with one's ideas and experiments. It simply means creating something. An example is an exploration of natural resources by colonising country in the weaker country.

These terms have different context with people who were already living in those geographical locations. "Discover" is a specific point of time when they or their land/territory is found by someone or something. "Explore" refers to the whole time of the search by something/somebody and also the time they (colonial country) discovered the territory/country.

Q. 3. What role did trade play in the colonisation?

Answer : Trade had an important part to play in colonisation.

- 1) **Trade helps in Welfare gains** from colonies
- 2) Trade helps in the better rule on the economy of the colony
- 3) Trade promotes increased competition and higher labour productivity
- 4) Trade enhances choice and innovations
- 5) Trade helps in better control of the colonies
- 6) Trade gives enhanced access to new technologies.
- 7) Trade is an incentive to the exchange of ideas and inflow of human capital from the colony.
- 8) Trade allows imports of capital equipment at lower prices from colonies.

Thus, trade made the imperialist country richer and stronger, draining away all the wealth from the colony. The colonies became weaker, and they couldn't throw away the exploitations.

Q. 4. How did the lives of native people in different countries affect the colonisation – write two ideas each in the context of – crops cultivated / religion / use of natural resources – for the three continents.

Answer : It is a fact that America, Africa, Asia, and Australia –all continents other than Europe was colonised by European powers.

No	Continent	Context	Affects of colonisation
1	America	Crops cultivated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sugar cane farms, corn fields, tobacco fields, and cotton fields came up
		Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temples were destroyed • All converted to Roman Catholic
		Use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haciendas (estates of thousands of acres which contained silver and copper mines), agricultural lands and pastures, etc were exploited, and also factories were made.
2	Africa	Crops cultivated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cotton and silk textiles, spices, steel
		Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity was spread widely
		Use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raw materials like copper, tin, rubber, palm oil, tea, cocoa, etc were exploited
3	Asia	Crops cultivated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gold and silver • native people could not grow necessary grains • coffee, tea, cocoa, tobacco, and rubber were introduced
		Religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islam and Hindu religions were neglected • Christianity was spread
		Use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold and silver mines exploited • 'plantations' in which a single crop (like rubber, pepper or sugarcane) was • extensively planted

Q. 5. Compare the nature of colonial rule over China and India and Indonesia. What difference and similarities do you find between them?

Answer : The countries under colonial rule manifest similar contexts of exploitation and misery. The differences and similarities of China, India, and Indonesia under colonial rule are:

Features	India	China	Indonesia
Ruled by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonial rule by British East India Company • First colony by Portuguese in 1502 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China has not ruled actually but was engaged in constant and dominant trade with British 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruled by Europeans from the 16th century
Trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exported cotton, jute, tea, opium 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exported tea, silk, porcelain • Imported silver • Later British gave opium, and it ended up in opium war in the mid 19th century 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exported cloves, nutmeg, pepper, etc.
Freedom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1947 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1943 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1947

Q. 6. Locate the Portuguese, Dutch, British and French colonies in the world map and filled with different colours.

Answer :

