

Sample essay from a student this year who earned all available points on this essay.

During the 18th century, the Industrial Revolution stemmed from Britain and expanded throughout Europe creating a turning point in history. The Industrial Revolution changed the way goods were produced and traded among countries, as the advancements of fossil fuels helped introduce factories and the introduction of steam power gave way to machines and technology, such as the steam engine, that could both manufacture goods and transfer these goods quickly. Since this revolution started in Europe, it gave them the upper position in military, political, and commercial terms, and made them the most powerful force in the world at that time as they furthered their technology and practices. On the other hand, other countries such as India began to decrease in their assembly of goods as Europeans interfered with their processes. The Industrial Revolution ultimately paved the way for Europeans' interest in colonizing other areas as they now had the ability and tools to back up this operation. European Imperialism in Africa was caused by the competition between European powers, the Europeans' feelings of superiority since they were more advanced, and the abundant amount of readily available natural resources in Africa that could be used to benefit the Europeans.

**Commented [BWA1]:** The student begins the context just before the events that are the subject of the essay

**Commented [BWA2]:** Making sure there is specificity in his/her context

**Commented [BWA3]:** Another bite at the context apple

**Commented [BWA4]:** Uses the exact format I taught; gives each category (bucket) some explanation, but not too much. This leaves room for him/her to use details in the body para

One reason to why the Europeans imperialized Africa is because of the feelings of competition between the different powers. For example, the Partition of Africa 1884-85 map created by various sources asserts that many European powers were able to gain and acquire land in Africa by the end of the 19th century. (Doc A) The map asserts that both the British and the French were able to create the biggest foothold onto Africa and gain the most territory from their imperialism process. Therefore, by seeing these two major powers and the impact on land territory they had in Africa, it shows the sense of rivalry between these two, the British and French, as they both tried to strive to gain more land over each other. The growth of nationalism experienced in the individual different countries in Europe contributed to the struggle for colonies in other areas. The unification of Italy and Germany by 1871 especially increased this sense of wanting to acquire the most land and territory for your nation, as the previously isolated countries were now becoming increasingly more powerful and players in the competition. As each of the different European countries experienced this nationalism, it caused a rivalry between them since these colonies established abroad were considered symbols of power and status. Freidrich Fabri, a major player in the colonial achievements of the Germans, asserts that because their neighbors in Britain had started this process of imperialism, the people of Germany needed to not only join in this operation, but succeed more than the British in order to remain in the number one spot between the Great Powers. (Doc B) His words directly show the rivalry that the Germans felt with the English, and how seeing their neighbor complete imperialism urged the Germans to join this effort and try to acquire more land than them. Both these documents illustrate the competition between European powers which led to the want of imperializing in Africa.

**Commented [BWA5]:** Pulled right from the thesis

**Commented [BWA6]:** This is the most powerful phrase you can use to improve the quality of your essays

**Commented [BWA7]:** Uses the exact evidentiary format I taught you. Is it the only way? No. But it is the way that avoids costly mistakes.

**Commented [BWA8]:** Effective use of outside info to support the thesis. Notice that he/her brings it straight back to the topic of the para, competition.

Another reason imperialism in Africa took place by the Europeans, is because of their feelings of superiority over other people, specifically over the Africans, since they were more advanced. Because the Industrial Revolution ultimately was founded in Europe, this process allowed for them to be the first to introduce new technologies that the other world had not known about yet.

**Commented [BWA9]:** No judgement, just compelling analysis

The various sources asserts that different technological inventions made during the Industrial Revolution had a greater significance into the reason behind why Europeans were now able to breach the exterior of Africa in order to establish colonies. (Doc C) Different inventions from transportation, to opposition of disease, to military advancements allowed for the Europeans to technologically be superior over the native Africans who had not underwent industrialization yet. Therefore, this feeling of superiority created by their advancement of technology further gave rise to the Europeans ability to imperialize Africa because they knew that their different inventions, especially military inventions like the machine gun, would overpower those of other colonies. Rudyard Kipling asserts that a duty of the Europeans was to look upon and take care of the native Africans. (Doc F) His statements show how the Europeans believed themselves to be in a higher position than the native people of Africa, as it was their job to make sure that the Africans had all the necessary means in order to survive, even if it was considered a hindrance for them. This sense of superiority and being higher than their African counterparts influenced the Europeans to look after those people and influenced these powers to imperialize.

**Commented [BWA10]:** Not super specific, but specific enough for analytical statements. Transportation vs. steam engine, not the vaguer "technology"; disease vs. malaria, not the vaguer "medicines"; military vs. machine gun, not the vaguer "technologies".

**Commented [BWA11]:** Now he/she is being specific where it's needed. One specific example is enough

**Commented [BWA12]:** Leads the reader right back to the thesis

A final cause that made Europeans want to imperialize Africa lay in the fact that Africa had an abundant amount of available resources that the Europeans could extract on to be used to benefit their economy. The various sources asserts that resources found in the African colonies that the Europeans colonized were then used economically to produce more goods in Europe. (Doc D) Therefore, the content in this chart shows the plenty of different available resources that lay in the different African colonies that were then exported back to Europeans to use for industrialization and for the manufacturing of products. By extracting these resources found in Africa, the Europeans economy benefited as they were able to produce more and more goods. Trevor Own Lloyd asserts in his bar graph that the amount of exports to Africa increased significantly from 1854 to the 1900s. (Doc E) This shows how the Europeans were able to pull a bunch of resources in Africa to be brought back to Europe to then be used to produce more goods that they could send back to Africa, although not in equal amounts with the amount they were exporting. The different resources that could be found in Africa was another incentive that the Europeans found for acquiring land in the continent.

**Commented [BWA13]:**

**Commented [BWA14]:** Demonstrates understanding of the doc

**Commented [BWA15]:** Uses the doc to support thesis (see the official rubric)

After the Industrial Revolution, the Europeans made the move to expand their territory and move towards imperializing Africa. The competition and rivalries between these European powers, the sense of superiority that overwhelmed these people as they were becoming more advanced than their counterparts, and the plentiful resources that could be found in Africa that could then be used to benefit the Europeans and their economy were all causes to why they imperialized and established colonies in Africa.

**Commented [BWA16]:** A smart move, a much more thorough explanation of the thesis