NAME_____   DATE_____

QUESTIONS FOR ZINN CHAPTER 12: "The Empire and the People"

Article can be found at: http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/zinnempire12.html

1. Why might Teddy Roosevelt have thought that the United States needed a war in 1897?

2. In what sense was expansion overseas "not a new idea"? If it was not new, then why did it not begin until 1898?

3. How many times did the U.S. government intervene in the affairs of other countries between 1798 and 1895?

4. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge believed that the United States needed to control the balance of trade in the Pacific. Which island and countries did he believe were key acquisitions toward attaining such a goal?

5. Senator Albert Beveridge argued in 1897 that "the trade of the world must and shall be ours". What might his motivations and reasons have been for making such a statement?

6. U.S. business interests favored an "open door" policy over the conquest of colonies. From this point of view, what were the pros and cons of intervening in the Cuban revolt that began in 1895? Why did intervention ultimately win out?

7. What were labor's arguments against going to war with Spain? Why did most unions not oppose the war once it was declared?

8. Why were the Cuban rebel leaders shut out of the negotiations for peace?

9. What did the American victory in the Spanish-American War allow American business to accomplish in Cuba? What role did the U.S. military occupation force play in the relationship between American investors and Cuban workers?

10. Was the Teller Amendment honored by the U.S. government?

11. How did the Filipinos respond to the U.S. decision to take over their country?

12. How did Senator Beveridge justify American cruelty toward the Filipinos in 1900? Why did the U.S. government resort to such brutality?

13. What explains the heavy opposition to the passage of the Treaty of Annexation? (For example, why was it ratified by only one vote?)