Areas for U.S. Imperialism

1. Latin America
   - T.R.’s “Big Stick”
   - Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine
2. Islands in the Pacific
3. China
   - John Hay’s “Open Door” Policy

Why would the United States become interested in imperialism at this time?

Latin America

The Monroe Doctrine
- Originally conceived in 1823
- States that the United States would not tolerate any more European attempts to colonize in the Americas

Cuba rebels against Spain
Cubans in U.S. urge American involvement
- U.S. refused
- Responded by burning U.S. sugarcane fields

Steps Towards War

Yellow Journalism
- William R. Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer
- Sensationalized stories of Spanish cruelty
- Gained public support (jingoism)

de Lome letter
- Criticized McKinley as “weak” and a “bidder for the admiration of the crowd”
- Teddy Roosevelt said he had “no more backbone than a chocolate éclair.”

U.S.S. Maine explodes in Havana Harbor
- 250 sailors die
- Spain was blamed
The War
- First action in Philippines
  - Admiral G. Dewey in Manila Bay
- Battle of San Juan Hill
  - The Rough Riders
  - Teddy Roosevelt

What we Got
- Treaty of Paris
  - Cuba Independent
    - Teller Amendment promised Cuban Independence after the Spanish left
    - Platt Amendment permitted U.S. to intervene in Cuban affairs in order to ensure "order" and "independence"
  - 20m to Spain for Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam (became territories)
- Why Philippines and not Cuba?

Anti-Imperialist Response
- Diverse reaction against this new American foreign policy
  - Samuel Gompers to Andrew Carnegie
  - William Jennings Bryan
    - McKinley was enslaving the Filipinos
  - William James
    - America "puck[d] up its ancient soul in five minutes without a wink of squeamishness."
- Election of 1900
  - "it is a choice between evils, and I am going to shut my eyes, hold my nose, vote, go home and disinfect myself."

Significance
- "A Splendid Little War"
  - Military successes, and great public enthusiasm
- Created a new, outward looking America
  - Traditional isolationistic views challenged
  - America now viewed increasingly as a world power
- The former colony becomes a colonizer
  - Great debates raged over this new imperialism

“School Begins”

Caption: Uncle Sam (to his new class on civilization) - "Now, children, you've got to learn these lessons whether you want to or not! But just take a look at the class ahead of you, and remember that in a little while, you will be as glad to be here as they are!"

Description: In the back of the classroom students representing California, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Alaska are quietly reading. In the front row are boys representing the Philippines, Porto (sic) Rico, Cuba, and Hawaii looking bored and out of place.
The first step towards lightening
The White Man's Burden
is through teaching the virtue of cleanliness.

Pears' Soap
Is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth, as civilization advances, while enriching the ordered life of all women it holds the highest place of its ideal effort made.