

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING YOUR LECTURE ON AFRICAN COLONIZATION

You should be looking at the different readings and/or your own sources to answer the following questions:

1. How was the slave trade conducted, and who was involved?
2. What sort of economy resulted in West African nations as a result of the slave trade? (How did the focus on guns change the nature of international relations in West Africa? For example, how did it affect Yoruba-Igbo relations?)
3. What natural resources (besides manpower and human lives) were transported to England and the Americas? How, and why?
4. What was the Berlin Conference? When did it happen, why, and to what effect? Who participated?
5. What economic principles motivated, shaped, and guided the colonization of Africa in the late 1800s?
6. How did African colonization come to be challenged in the 1960s?
7. What was the PanAfrican movement, when did it start, and what ideas fueled the movement?
8. What role has the IMF and the World Bank played in African economic “redevelopment” and “development?” (What are structural adjustment programs? What have they specifically done to stimulate/deter industrialization? How has the debt problem plagued African nations seeking independence?)
9. What role do military dictatorships play in the maintenance of first world power? Which dictatorships have the G7/G8 supported in Africa? (esp. sub-Saharan Africa)

You may want to also make a list of terms that you need to define for students (e.g., Sub-Saharan, First world/second world/third world, G7/G8, IMF, World Bank, PanAfricanism, extractive economies, etc.)

After you have answered these questions to your own satisfaction – the world history teacher should have a good sense of what’s going on in the world, right? – distill the key elements of African colonization beginning with slavery and leading up to the economic chains that still figuratively bind the continent today. You may want to simply focus on a comparison of slave trade and the policies of the G7/G8, or you may want to look at resistance movements during the partitioning of Africa and current efforts to reformulate national boundaries. It’s entirely up to you!