



Kwame Nkrumah illustrated on the cover of *Time* magazine, 1953

Questions:

- 1: Who was Kwame Nkrumah?  
leader of Independent Ghana
- 2: What was the first African colony to gain independence?  
Ghana
- 3: Why do you think the leaders of the newly independent "Gold Coast" changed the country's name?  
To Strike their Colonial Past
- 4: According to the primary source, how did European imperialism harm Africa?  
Robbed Africa's Resources
- 5: According to the primary source, what potential does Africa possess?  
Rich in Resources
- 6: What could be Africa's greatest contribution?  
Political Unity

Excerpt from fordham.edu

"Kwame Nkrumah (1909-1972) was the leader of Ghana, the former British colony of the Gold Coast and the first of the European colonies in Africa to gain independence with majority rule. Until he was deposed by a coup d'état in 1966, he was a major spokesman for modern Africa."

Primary Source: *I Speak of Freedom*, 1961

"For centuries, Europeans dominated the African continent. The white man arrogated to himself the right to rule and to be obeyed by the non-white; his mission, he claimed, was to "civilize" Africa. Under this cloak, the Europeans robbed the continent of vast riches and inflicted unimaginable suffering on the African people...

Although most Africans are poor, our continent is potentially extremely rich. Our mineral resources, which are being exploited with foreign capital only to enrich foreign investors, range from gold and diamonds to uranium and petroleum...

The greatest contribution that Africa can make to the peace of the world is to avoid all the dangers inherent in disunity, by creating a political union which will also by its success, stand as an example to a divided world. A Union of African states will project more effectively the African personality."



Excerpt adapted from [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)

“Jomo Kenyatta spent most of his life campaigning for Kenya's independence. His efforts cost him seven years in prison when he was convicted - in a trial now generally regarded as rigged - of being a member of the rebel Mau Mau group by the British colonists in Kenya.

But the African Union leader kept up his fight on his release in 1960 and finally led his country to independence in 1963. He was made president and remained in office until his death on 22 August 1978.

Kenyatta - the name he adopted in the 1920s - is Swahili for “the light of Kenya” and he is widely seen as the founding father of the nation.

Questions:

1: What did Jomo Kenyatta spend most of his life campaigning for?

Kenya's Independence

2: Why was Kenyatta sentenced to seven years in prison? Accused of being Rebel Mau Mau

3: When did Kenya gain its independence?

1963

4: For how many years did Kenyatta lead Kenya as its president?

15 years

5: What does “Kenyatta” mean?

Light of Kenya

6: Why do you think Kenyatta adopted this name?

Positive

7: List several ways imperialism harmed Africa:

No leadership Experience

8: List several reasons Africans wanted independence:

Self Rule

9: Why were Kenyatta and Nkrumah nationalists?

Red the Colonists

Excerpt from Kenyatta speech in 1952:

“We feel we are dominated by a handful of others who refuse to be just. God said this is our land. Land in which we are to flourish as a people. We are not worried that other races are here with us in our country, but we insist that we are the leaders here, and what we want we insist we get. We want our cattle to get fat on our land so that our children grow up in prosperity; we do not want that fat removed to feed others.”

Questions:

1: Why, according to Kenyatta, must the original inhabitants of Kenya lead an independent Kenya?

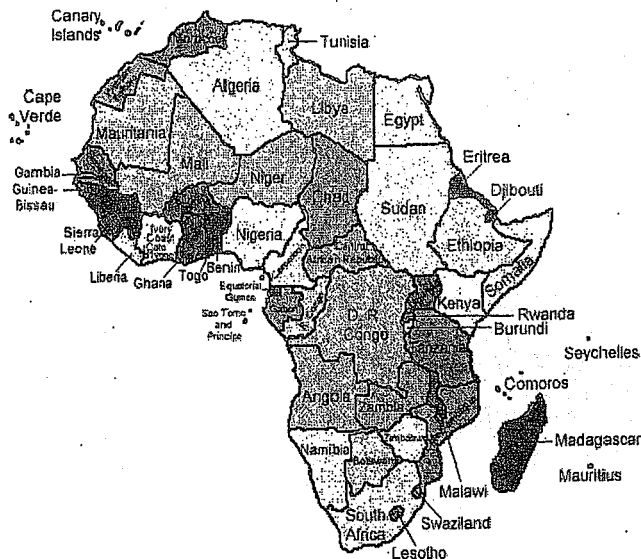
They are the True leaders

2: What does Kenyatta want for the children of Kenya?

Prosperity

3: White settlers lived in Kenya. According to Kenyatta, how will their lives change at independence?

Control their own destiny



Excerpt from  
globalissues.org

“European colonialism had a devastating impact on Africa... The artificial boundaries created by colonial rulers as they ruled and finally left Africa had the effect of bringing together many different ethnic people within a nation...”

In the 1870s European nations were bickering over themselves about the spoils of Africa. In order to prevent further conflict between them, they convened at the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 to lay down the rules on how they would partition up Africa between themselves.”

Questions:

- 1: How did European colonialism harm African?  
Artificial Boundaries.
- 2: Why were the boundaries created by the Europeans in Africa “artificial”?  
Brought together many ethnic groups
- 3: What problems can result when a nation is home to many different ethnic groups?  
Conflict
- 4: Why does the possibility of civil war increase when many different ethnic groups are forced to belong to one nation?  
lack of compromise
- 5: When were these “artificial boundaries” created?  
Berlin Conf. 1884
- 6: Why were these “artificial boundaries” created?  
Stop Further Conflicts
- 7: When did the Berlin Conference occur?  
1884
- 8: What was the Scramble for Africa (from previous lesson)?  
European Nations Competing For Africa
- 9: What difficulties faced leaders of newly independent African nations?  
Debt  
Civil War  
Corruption  
Poverty

Excerpt from National Anthem of Ghana:

“God bless our homeland  
Ghana,  
And make our nation great  
and strong,  
Bold to defend forever  
The cause of Freedom and of  
Right.  
Fill our hearts with true  
humility  
Make us cherish fearless  
honesty,  
And help us to resist  
oppressors' rule  
With all our will and might  
evermore.”



Excerpt adapted from dfa.gov.za

“The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was established on 25 May 1963 in Addis Ababa...

The OAU aims to promote the unity and solidarity of African States; co-ordinate and intensify their co-operation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa; defend their sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence; eradicate all forms of colonialism from Africa; promote international co-operation, giving due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and co-ordinate and harmonize members' political, diplomatic, economic, educational, cultural, health, welfare, scientific, technical and defense policies...”

Excerpt from Haile Selassie's Speech on African Unity:

“Africa has been reborn as a free continent and Africans have been reborn as free men. The blood that was shed and the sufferings that were endured are today Africa's advocates for freedom and unity. Those men who refused to accept the judgment passed upon them by the colonizers, who held unswervingly through the darkest hours to a vision of an African emancipated from political, economic and spiritual domination, will be remembered and revered wherever Africans meet. Many of them never set foot on this continent. Others were born and died here. What we may utter today can add little to the heroic struggle of those who, by their example, have shown us how precious are freedom and human dignity and of how little value is life without them. Their deeds are written in history...

Africa's victory, although proclaimed, is not yet total, and areas of resistance still remain. Today, we name as our first great task the final liberating of those Africans still dominated by foreign exploitation and control... Our liberty is meaningless unless all Africans are free.”

Questions:

1: What is the Organization of African Unity (OAU)?

Promote Unity + Solidarity

2: What is the aim of the OAU?

Achieve Better Life

3: How can cooperation among African states benefit all Africans?

Promote International Cooperation

4: According to the primary source, what are “Africa's advocates for freedom and unity”?

Those who fight Imperialism

5: According to the primary source, why is Africa's victory not yet total?

Areas of Resistance Remain