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**Effects of Imperialism on India**

**Directions:**

1. Read the essay question.

2. Then, read and analyze the following documents using the guided questions, keeping in mind the essay question.

3. Categorize the documents into Graphic Organizer #1, and create a claim statement.

4. Finally, answer the essay question in a four or five paragraph essay using a minimum of 7 documents. (There should be 2-3 documents per body paragraph in a 5 paragraph essay and 3-4 documents per paragraph in a 4 paragraph essay, for a total of 7 documents).

**Essay Question:** **Analyze how the lives of Indians were affected by British rule.**

**Document 1:**

Author (s) or source

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Think about point-of-view. How does the author or people in the article feel about imperialism? Are they for or against it? Why? What bias could the person have?

**Document #1**

**Source:** Carol E. Henderson, "British Imperialism in India: Colonialism and the Quotidian." *World History: The Modern Era*. ABC-CLIO, 2014. Web. 15 Jan. 2014.

Colonial policies protected British industry by limiting technology imports and encouraged production of commodities such as cotton, jute, opium, and sugar cane…  
  
The colonial power regarded India as a cheap source of raw materials and as a market for British manufactured goods. Bales of Indian cotton, shipped to England, returned to India in the form of cloth, saris, and other goods, while Indian industry stagnated. Hence Gandhi's call to Indians to boycott British goods, to buy Indian-made cottons, and to consume their own, not government-monopoly, salt.

**Document 2:**

Author (s) or source

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**Document #2**

**Source:** Romesh Dutt, *The Economic History of India Under Early British Rule,* K. Paul, Trench,Truber & Co. Ltd, 1902.

Englishmen . . . have given the people of India the greatest human blessing—peace. They have introduced Western education. This has brought an ancient and civilized nation in touch with modern thought, modern sciences, and modern life. They have built an administration that is strong and efficient. They have framed wise laws and have established courts of justice.

**Document 3:**

Author (s) or source

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**Document #3**

**Source:** Dadabhai Naoroji (1825-1917), *Essays, Speeches, Addresses and Writings*, Caxton Printing Works, 1887.

In these excerpts from speeches, Dadabhai Naoroji, an Indian, explains his thoughts on imperialism…

“To sum up the whole, the British rule has been—morally, a great blessing; politically peace and order on one hand . . . on the other, materially, impoverishment . . . . The natives call the British system . . . “the knife of sugar.” That is to say there is no oppression, it is all smooth and sweet, but it is the knife, nevertheless.”

“Europeans [the British] occupy almost all the higher places in every department of government. . . . .Natives, no matter how fit, are deliberately kept out of the social institutions started by Europeans. . . .All they [the Europeans] do is live off of India while they are here. When they go, the carry all they have gained.”

**Document #4**

**Source:** J.A.R. Marriot, *The English in India*, Clarendon Press, 1932.

British brains, British enterprise, and British capital have changed the face of India. Means of communication have been developed. There are great numbers of bridges, more than 40,000 miles of railway, and 70,000 miles of paved roads. These testify to the skill and industry of British engineers. Irrigation works on a very large scale and have brought 30 million acres under cultivation. This has greatly added to the agricultural wealth of the country. Industrialization has also begun. India now has improved sanitation and a higher standard of living. It has a fine transport system and carefully thought-out schemes for relief work. Because of these things famines have now almost disappeared.

**Document 4:**

Author (s) or source

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Think about point-of-view. How does the author or people in the article feel about imperialism? Are they for or against it? Why? What bias could the person have?

**Document #5**

**Source:** Sir Reginald Coupland, *India: A Restatement*, 1945.

British rule brought with it from the West certain standards of humanity that Indian society had not yet reached. Early action was taken to stop infanticide [the killing of girl babies]. . . . The slave trade was ended and the owning of slaves was forbidden. . . . One result of the new order was a steady rise in the value of India’s export trade.

**Document 5:**

Author (s) or source

Title

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**Document #6**

**Source:** Mohandas Gandhi offers a complaint about imperialism.

You English committed one supreme crime against my people. For a hundred years you have done everything for us. You have given us no responsibility for our own government.

**Document #7**

**Source:** Jawaharlal Nehru, *The Discovery of India*, The John Day Company, 1946.

This process continued throughout the nineteenth century. Other old Indian industries—shipbuilding, metalwork, glass, paper—and many crafts were broken up. Thus the economic development of India was stopped and the growth of new industry was prevented. . . . A typical colonial economy was built up. India became an agricultural colony of industrial England. It supplied raw materials and provided markets for England’s industrial goods. The destruction of industry let to unemployment on a vast scale. . . . The poverty of the country grew. The standard of living fell to terribly low levels.

**Document 6:**

Author (s) or source

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**Document 8:**

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**Document 9:**

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**Document #9**

**Source:** Dadabhai Naoroji, “An Indian Weighs the Advantages and Disadvantages of British Rule (1871)." Edited by Joyce E. Salisbury and Andrew E. Kersten. *World History: The Modern Era*. ABC-CLIO, 2014. Web. 15 Jan. 2014.

**The Benefits of British Rule for India…**

*In the Cause of Civilization:* Education, both male and female. Though yet only partial, an inestimable blessing as far as it has gone, and leading gradually to the destruction of superstition, and many moral and social evils. Resuscitation of India's own noble literature, modified and refined by the enlightenment of the West.

*Materially:* Loans for railways and irrigation. Development of a few valuable products, such as indigo, tea, coffee, silk, etc. Increase of exports. Telegraphs…

**Document #8**

**Source:** John F. Riddick, "British Imperialism in India: British Impact on Daily Life was Limited." *World History: The Modern Era*. ABC-CLIO, 2014. Web. 15 Jan. 2014.

British racial practices proved to be their least endearing impact on daily life in India. Emanating [Originating] from the sense of superiority rooted in the thinking of the European Enlightenment and cemented into place by the English class system, white superiority reigned. In the early years of contact some interracial marriages and relationships occurred, but… this largely ended [during the Victorian era]. When English women and children were slaughtered by raging sepoys during the Indian Rebellion of 1857, the racial barriers became nearly insurmountable and remained so until independence.