

Rudyard Kipling, The White Man's Burden, 1899

This famous poem, written by Britain's imperial poet, was a response to the American takeover of the Philippines after the Spanish-American War. Read the poem to yourself THREE TIMES before beginning to answer the questions.

Take up the White Man's burden--
Send forth the best ye breed--
Go bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness,
On fluttered folk and wild--
Your new-caught, sullen peoples,
Half-devil and half-child.

Take up the White Man's burden--
And reap his old reward:
The blame of those ye better,
The hate of those ye guard--
The cry of hosts ye humour
(Ah, slowly!) toward the light:--
"Why brought he us from bondage,
Our loved Egyptian night?"

Take up the White Man's burden--
Ye dare not stoop to less--
Nor call too loud on Freedom
To cloak your weariness;
By all ye cry or whisper,
By all ye leave or do,
The silent, sullen peoples
Shall weigh your gods and you.

Guiding Questions:

1. According to Kipling, what is the 'White Man's Burden'?
2. Based on this poem, how did **imperialists** (people who supported annexation) think of the people in the countries they were taking over (i.e., Cuba, Philippines, etc.)?
3. Kipling supported U.S. annexation of the Philippines. What might someone say who disagreed with Kipling?

Vocabulary

Burden: a heavy responsibility

Breed: children

Harness: boring daily work

Fluttered: unsteady

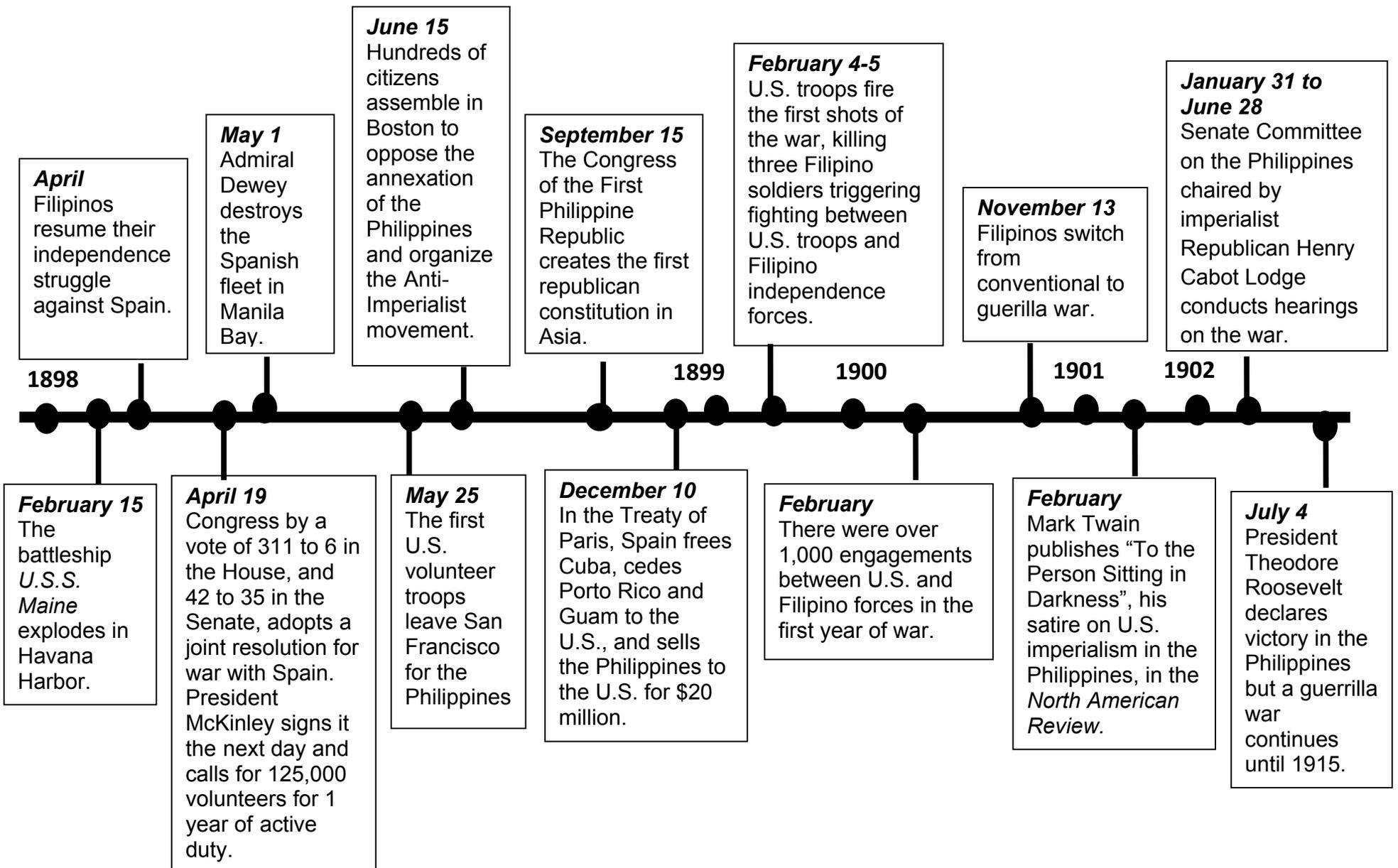
Folk: people

Sullen: bad-tempered; gloomy

Cloak: hide

The United States in the Philippines

1898-1915



The Spanish American War

On the world map below, mark the following locations: Spain, Cuba, Puerto Rico, The Philippines, Hawaii, China, and Guam.



Clues for Cartoon Analysis

Source:

Pro-Imperialism Magazines: *Judge* and *Puck*

Anti-Imperialism Magazines: *Life* and *The World*

Context: Use your timeline and textbook!

Additional clues for Set B:

William McKinley was President at the start of the Philippine-American War. He supported expansion and thought it was his duty to civilize the Filipinos.

Additional clues for Set C:

Columbia is a symbol of American liberty.

Additional clues for Set D:

Uncle Sam is a symbol of the United States.

Additional clues for Set E:

In the 1880s and 1890s, hundreds of African Americans were lynched in the United States.

Additional clues for Set F:

You will need to look at a map of the world to see how close the Philippines are to China.

Philippine-American War Political Cartoons Graphic Organizer

Cartoon	Source: Publication/ Date Is this magazine pro or anti-imperialism?	Context: What else was going on at this time that relates to this cartoon? (Use your timeline and textbook for background information)	Main characters/ symbols: What do you see in this cartoon?	Overall message
Example 1	<i>Judge, 1899</i> <i>Pro-Imperialist</i>	<i>U.S. begins war in Philippines; Rudyard Kipling publishes 'White Man's Burden'</i>	<i>White men (Uncle Sam and the guy who represents England) carrying baskets of people of color towards "Civilization"</i>	<i>America and England are helping to "civilize" people</i>
Example 2	<i>Life, 1899</i> <i>Anti-Imperialist</i>	<i>U.S. begins war in Philippines; Rudyard Kipling publishes 'White Man's Burden'</i>		
SET ____ Cartoon ____				
SET ____ Cartoon ____				