



**CALIFORNIA CONTENT
STANDARD 10.4.3**

Responses to Colonialism

Specific Objective: Explain imperialism from the perspectives of colonizers and colonized; explain immediate and long-term responses by people under colonial rule.

Read the case-study chart and summary to answer the questions on the next page.

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, European imperialists claimed and colonized lands throughout Africa and Asia. They brought with them beliefs that profoundly affected the people whose lands they colonized.

European Colonization in Africa: A Case-Study of Colonialism	
European colonists in Africa believed . . .	As a result, Africans . . .
. . . wealth and power gave them the right to claim foreign lands.	. . . lost their lands and their independence.
. . . European economies and technology would benefit colonized people.	. . . had traditional economies replaced by capitalism; lost control of trade networks.
. . . European medicine and education would benefit colonized people.	. . . had longer life spans and higher literacy rates in some areas.
. . . European culture would benefit colonized people.	. . . had their traditional cultures and leaders repressed.
. . . Europeans were racially superior	. . . were treated as inferior.

African colonial resistance was difficult to attempt. European colonizers typically refused to engage in diplomacy with African rulers, and European weaponry made them formidable opponents. However, when European power weakened after World War I, African nationalism rose. Ghana, proclaimed a British colony in 1874, struggled for independence for many years. In 1925 legislative council elections were held. Nationalist political parties formed in the 1940s. In 1952, when Kwame Nkrumah became prime minister, he was the first black African leader in the area in more than 50 years. Ghana achieved independence in 1957. Other African nations tried various forms of resistance.

Form of Resistance	Example
Conflict against colonial invaders	Ashanti battles against British invaders, 1800s; Libya battles against Italian invaders, 1911–1932
Conflict against colonial rulers	Maji Maji uprising in East Africa, 1905
Guerrilla warfare	Mau Mau uprising in Kenya, 1952–1956
Labor unions, strikes, boycotts	Nationalist political parties in Ghana, 1940s–1950s



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Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- 1 European colonists believed they had the right to colonize Africa because**
 - A Europeans had wealth and power.
 - B Africa had no trade networks.
 - C Africans did not resist.
 - D Europeans had no colonies.

- 2 For Africans, European colonization resulted in**
 - A more wealth and power, less education.
 - B expanded control of trade networks and emphasis on traditional economies.
 - C loss of lands, loss of trade, some gains in health and literacy.
 - D more local leadership and stronger traditional cultures.

- 3 What event closely preceded the rise of African nationalist movements?**
 - A The slave trade came to dominate the coast.
 - B African kingdoms were destroyed.
 - C Great Britain claimed West Africa as its colony.
 - D World War I ended.

- 4 The African prime minister who first came to power in Ghana**
 - A was the area's first African leader since the early 1900s.
 - B was appointed by British colonialists.
 - C showed that Ghana had achieved independence.
 - D showed that African nationalism had no effect.

- 5 Ghana achieved independence**
 - A after a long and bloody revolution.
 - B by quickly overthrowing the colonial government.
 - C in a series of steps.
 - D at the same time as many other African nations.