

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

British Empire Expansion



The British Empire, known for its phrase "the empire on which the sun never sets," was the largest empire in history. At its peak, it covered over a quarter of the _____'s land surface. The empire began to grow in the late 16th century, with _____ explorers and traders expanding their reach. The first successful English overseas settlements were in North America and the Caribbean. By the 19th century, the British Empire included large parts of _____, _____, Australia, and Canada.

The British used various methods for their expansion. In some areas, they established _____ through settlement. In others, they used economic control and political influence, creating a system of _____ and _____. The Royal Navy played a crucial role, as it was the most powerful navy in the world, ensuring the safety of trade routes and _____ possessions.

One of the key reasons for the empire's expansion was trade. The British established _____ networks around the world, importing goods like tea from China, spices from India, and sugar from the Caribbean. Another reason was the spread of _____, with missionaries accompanying traders and settlers.

However, the empire's expansion wasn't always peaceful. It involved wars, such as the Opium Wars in China and conflicts with other European powers. The empire also faced _____ from local populations in various colonies, leading to uprisings and conflicts.

The impact of the British Empire is still felt today. English is a global _____, and legal and political systems in many former colonies are based on the British model. While the empire brought infrastructure and trade, it also caused displacement, cultural erosion, and exploitation. The legacy of the British Empire is complex, intertwining achievement with controversy.

India colonial mandates Africa trade colonies resistance Christianity
Earth protectorates language English