Lesson # 1 US imperialism

- In 1808 the US made it illegal to import slaves. However, they refused to join Britain in naval action to stop captives from being shipped to America. The US refused that ships carrying their flags be searched for captives.

- 1804 the Northern States abolished slavery because European immigrants satisfied the labor market. However, Southern States depended on slave labor and encouraged low tariffs on imported goods. The Northern and Southern States started fighting because of slavery. Northern industrialist wanted high tariffs on manufactured goods to keep rivals out and the believed that free labor was better than slavery.

- The Southern States formed a separate confederacy but Abraham Lincoln (Northern Leader) declared war and it lasted from 1861 to 1865.

- After the war the Northern states experienced an industrial boom (for the first 15 years within the USA). In the 1880s opinions shifted to expansionism (finding new markets and investment opportunities).

- The US experienced a new surge of imperialism from 1880 to 1900s. They saw imperialism as a threat to US interests in the world because they wanted to establish overseas naval bases. The US supported imperialism to protect economic interests.

--Expansionists: persons who wanted the USA to acquire overseas colonies. They looked at new possessions as a chance for missionaries, teachers, and charitable organizations to develop a better life and leaders in colonies. They also found it safer to invest monies in factories, plantations and public works in territories controlled or monitored by the USA. *************************

-Isolationist: persons who thought that the US should not interfere in other nation’s affairs. They believed that ruling colonies conflicted with the spirit of their own political system that focused on “All men are created equal”. They were also fearful of immigration. *************************

Lesson # 2 Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe

--Theodore Roosevelt was an outspoken expansionist. In 1904 the USA declared that they would be policeman of the Americas. They would continue the Monroe Doctrine and not allow Europeans to intervene in American affairs.

-A corollary: a proposition that follows from (and is often appended to) one already proved.

-The USA stated that “Latin Americans managed their affairs so badly that they gave European powers a genuine reason to interfere.”*****

-They told Latin Americans: DO NOT FEAR INTERVENTION if you act DECENTLY but if they showed BRUTAL WRONG DOING or WEAKNESS the USA would intervene. ****

-Panama Canal: the USA boosted its economic strengths in the region, they needed a speedy communication between their colonies and trading interests in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

- A French Company (Philippe Buneau-Varilla) had surveyed the 80 km and started digging. The company was broke and sold their assets for $40 million to the USA.

- The French Company organized a few Panamanians to work towards independence (1903)

- Buneau-Varilla signed a treaty with John Hay (US Secretary of State) *****

- Panama was independent

- USA had the right to build the Canal

- The USA had the right to own a zone of land on each side of the Canal

Lesson # 3 Dollar Diplomacy

- Howard Taft 1908 dollar diplomacy aimed to expand US presence in LA and Caribbean through economic power: providing loans and instigating American investments in the region. They wanted to “help” the economic development of poorer countries.

- BENEFITS OF THE DOLLAR DIPLOMACY TO AMERICANS: 1. Countries within the sphere shall be removed from the jeopardy involved by heavy foreign debt and chaotic national finances. Preventing European influence in the region. 2. The Republics of
Central America and the Caribbean need financial stability and regeneration to bring profit and happiness for themselves and ourselves.

- **EXECUTION OF THE Dollar diplomacy**: 1. Subsidies were given to shipping, public works, mining and construction companies that wished to invest in the Caribbean or Latin America. 2. The USA helped plantations by placing high customs duties on sugar, banana, coffee, and other crops that did not come from areas where Americans had investments.

- **GUNBOAT POLICY**: The pursuit of foreign policy objectives with the aid of conspicuous displays of naval power – implying or constituting a direct threat of warfare, should terms not be agreeable to the superior force.

**Lesson # 4/5 The Big Stick in Nicaragua*** How is Nicaragua an example of the Big stick Policy

- **The BIG STICK IN HONDURAS**: Rival banana companies instigated many of the conflicts (United Fruit Company, Standard Fruit Company, Cuyamel Fruit Company). Each corporation bribed Central American governments for favors, and if that method failed, they paid for coups and conflicts that would give them the desired result.

- The USA mediated between US companies and Zelaya (Nicaraguan President) over the rights over the canal area. Zelaya was restrictive (to maintain control) and the USA went to construct a canal in Panama.

- Zelaya hits back to the USA moving to Panama: Zelaya invited other world powers to build the canal. But the USA considered his action as anti-American: a European-owned canal would threaten its political dominance of the isthmus.

- Americans hit back at Zelaya: They campaigned against Zelaya ARGUING that Zelaya posed a threat to democracy on the isthmus and undermined the wellbeing of his own people. Theodore Roosevelt tried to garner support for an intervention: they supported rebellions.

- Zelaya resigned in 1909 after foreign businesses in the Mosquitia sponsored a conservative party revolt that was aided by the presence of U.S. officers.

- **THE USA INTERVENED**: They placed Adolfo Diaz as a puppet president but was not liked by either liberal or conservatives. So Howard Taft sent the Marines to “keep Peace”, the marines protected the puppet president, and took control of the customs office, national bank and railroads.

- Peace came with the **BRYAN-CHAMORRO TREATY IN 1916**: the treaty declared Nicaragua a US protectorate and gave the USA sole rights over a potential canal and marines occupied up to 1933.

**Lesson # 6 Unrests in Central America**

- The USA increased investment in CA in the 1930s: Businesses doubled investments from 1919 to 1929. Their (US) interests undermined democracy and the distribution of riches to the working class and dictators stayed in power only if they supported the USA.

- Central American Reaction: Protest started in 1917 in banana plantations in Honduras and strikes spread throughout Central America.

- The working class and intellectuals were influenced by international labor movements: Partido Unionista = increase in payments

- In the 1930s the USA’s economy crashed: Coffee and Banana exports declined creating unemployment and wage cuts.

- It showed the failure of liberal policies: single crop dependency and single market (USA)

- Dictators in the 1930s repressing their people: 1. Tiburcio Andino (Honduras) budgeted for the military and payment of US debts. 2. Jorge Ubico (Guatemala) gave concessions to companies and terrorized his own people. 3. Maximiliano Hernandez (El Salvador) killed Agustin Farabundi Marti who lead a peasant uprising.

- **GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY**: Intervention was too costly and dictators cared for US interests more than marines did. So Franklin Delano Roosevelt made the policy stating: “In the field of world policy I would dedicate this nation to the policy of the good neighbour—the neighbour who resolutely respects himself and, because he does so, respects the rights of others.”