



Tucker H.S.
U.S. History
Dr. J. Davis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class: _____

The Spanish-American War: History Channel Documentary

Directions: Answer the questions below while watching the documentary on the Spanish-American War.

1. What happened on the date of February 15th 1898?
2. Explain the political campaign ideology behind “Subjugation on Death?” taking place in Cuba.
3. Describe the U.S.S Maine. Why was this ship such a “proud” representation of American when it set sail to the Havana Harbor?
4. Why was the ship noted as being cursed by “voodoo?”
5. Who was Charles Sigsbee?
6. What did the island nation of Cuba represent for America?
7. How did a potential American conflict with Spain fuel a journalist’s war between newspaper tycoons William Hearst and Joseph Pulitzer?
8. From Jan 25th to the date of the explosion, how did Sigsbee order his troops to behave while docked in the Havana Harbor?

9. What was the De Lôme letter? How was it released to the American public and why were they so outraged at the contents of the letter?

10. How did Spanish officials react to the explosion of the U.S.S Maine?

11. Despite Sigsbee's advisement NOT to publish any additional info concerning the explosion until after an investigation, how did American newspapers react to the news of the explosion?

12. Why was it questionable to believe the Spanish actually blew up the Maine? Why would one question the possibility of blaming Cuban rebels?

13. What was a "jingo"? What important political figure on the rise during this time identified himself with the jingo policies?

14. Explain President McKinley's tough position on war with Spain following the explosion.

15. What were the alternative explanations to the reasons behind the Maine's explosion?

16. Why was President McKinley personally opposed to war? What did he convince Spain to do as a compromise to war? Why did this not work?

17. Why was the Spanish-American war nicknamed "a splendid little war"? (Benefits)

18. Why was the U.S.S. Maine resurfaced in 1908?