



Philippine-American War Political Cartoon (11.4.2)

Background:

As a result of the its defeat in the Spanish-American War and the signing of the Treaty of Paris, Spain ceded the Philippines to the United States. Within the United States there was much debate as to whether or not the United States should become an imperial power by taking possession of these new lands, particularly in the Philippines where local rebels believed that they were to gain their independence.

Prompt:

Why did the United States annex the Philippines after the Spanish- American War?

Task:

In a well-thought out essay:

- Write a thesis in response to the prompt.
- Explain what evidence in the documents led you to this conclusion.
- Be certain to cite at least four pieces of evidence from the documents that support your thesis.