The British Raj: a Webquest

Name:_____

As an introduction to imperialism in India you will be looking at **the PBS website *The Story of India***. You will need to use the following links to answer the questions.

1. Look for information about Queen victoria's reign , the British empire and its colonies (how many?) http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/victoria_queen.shtml

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Empire

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/empire_seapower/britain_empire_01.shtml

What does the word « raj » mean ? What is its origin?

1. By looking at the map online :answer the following question with predictions of your own:

    a. Why would any European colony want to colonize India?

    (Think resources, location, etc.)

    here is some help:

    http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_India_Company

    2. why was India called Britain's "Jewel in the Crown"?

3. By clicking on this link and looking at **"Explore the Topic"** answer the following questions:

    a. What allowed Europeans to colonize India?

    b. What measures did Great Britain take to maintain dominance in the area?

    c. The British thought they brought some "positives" to India? Can you name a few?

4. On "**Explore the Topic"** drag down there is a link title **"The Great Rebellion."** Use these readings to answer the following questions.

    a. What is the other name of the The Great Rebellion ?

    b. Why were the sepoys rebelling (long-term and short-term)?

    c. How did the British respond to the rebellion? (Immediately)

    d. How did the British reorganize the military?

e. What were long term effects of the rebellion?

5. On **"Explore the Topic"** drag down there is a link title **"British Raj."** Use these readings to answer the following questions.

a. What was the British Raj? What does the word « raj » mean? What is its origin?

Some more information here :   http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Raj

b. How was the British Raj set-up in terms of the government officials?

c.   What was significant about the Indian railway system?

d. What were positive and negative effects with the British crown taking control in India?

6. Why did the British push the development of railroads in India? What was the practical and symbolic nature of a British controlled railroad system in India? Look at this map :

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_railways1909a.jpg

LEARN MORE ABOUT LIFE IN INDIA AND ANGLO-INDIAN RELATIONSHIPS HERE!

About British civil servants in India :

http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/exhibits/e-exhibits/india/intro.htm

http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/exhibits/e-exhibits/india/chap2.htm

http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/exhibits/e-exhibits/india/chap2.htm

http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/exhibits/e-exhibits/india/chap5.htm

About their Indian servants :

http://oldphotosbombay.blogspot.in/2010/06/typical-english-bungalow-see-bombay.html