# Introduction SS406

This unit is designed to acquaint students with the history of Africa. It emphasizes vocabulary as well as historical content.

The unit is made up of 14 pages of text. Each page is supported by excercises in vocabulary, comprehension, writing and using evidence.

We recommend that the unit be copied with the exercise page facing the text page to form a small booklet.

There are two short tests on content and two crosswords.

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A Short History of Africa by Lawrence Stevens

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# Imperialism

During the 19th Century European countries began to divide up Africa. Great Britain, France, Germany and Portugal laid claim to various parts of Africa. There were conflicts among these countries. To avoid war, a conference was called.

The European countries met in Berlin in 1884 to decide what the boundaries of Africa would be. The lines they drew on a map became the boundaries of modern African countries. France and England came out the winners. Germany lost its African colonies when it lost World War I. They were turned over to Britain and France. Italy and Spain also claimed parts of Africa.

European countries ruled much of Africa for 70 years. They built highways and railroads. The British built the Suez Canal shortening the route from Asia to Europe. Ships no longer had to sail around the Cape of Good Hope.

The Europeans also introduced schools. They trained Africans to help run the colonies, but Africans had no real power.

Africans were relegated to the role of secondclass citizens. They suffered from discrimination. Traditional customs were often frowned upon.

English and French became the languages of educated Africans. Some Africans went to colleges in Britain and France. An educated African elite was created. The educated Africans were indoctrinated in democratic values. These people became the leaders in the fight for independence from European rule.

## Directions

Define the words below and use them in sentences.

**Words:** conflict, avoid, relegate, second class, discriminate, frown, elite, indoctrinate.

## Comprehension

- 1. Who were the major colonial powers in Africa?
- 2. What did European countries build in Africa?
- 3. Why was the Suez Canal important?



**Above:** King Yohannes of Ethiopia. Ethiopia was able to prevent a takeover by the Italians. They defeated the Italians at the Battle of Adowa in 1894.



**Above:** Machine guns and cannon proved to be too much for the Zulus and other tribes that resisted the British.

# Exercise 11 (page 14)

### **Vocabulary List**

•	
Words	Meaning
90. conflict	(n.) a disagreement
91. avoid	(v.) to keep away from
92. relegate	(v.) to assign to a place
93. second class	(adj.) not as good as first
	class
94. discriminate	(v.) to choose one over
	another
95. frown	(n.) a facial expression of
	displeasure
96. elite	(n.) the powerful few
97. indoctrinate	(v.) to educate people to
	believe in a certain way

### Generalizations

For each group write generalizations that are supported by the facts.

1.\_\_\_\_\_

Europeans started schools.English and French became common languages.Europeans ruled Africa for 70 years.

2.

•Europeans taught Africans democ racy.

•Europeans taught Africans French and English.

### Evidence

Provide at least two facts that support the following generalizations.

- 1. Most of Africa was controlled by Europeans.
- A.\_\_\_\_\_
- B.\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Europeans discriminated against Africans. A.\_\_\_\_\_
- В.

Vocabulary

Decide which words from the list should be used in the blanks below. Use the proper form.

- 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ took all of the best jobs.
- 2. If you did not speak English or French you were a \_\_\_\_\_\_ citizen.
- 3. When she saw that she had lost she

4. They wanted to \_\_\_\_\_\_ any conflicts with the other tribe.

5. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ turned into a heated battle.

7. Africans were \_\_\_\_\_\_ against.

8. He knew that if he failed the test he would be \_\_\_\_\_\_ to the back of the class.

9. The \_\_\_\_\_ on her face turned to a smile.

10. There was no way he could \_\_\_\_\_\_ the crash.

### Fill in

Fill in the blanks with the information on page 14.

European countries divided Africa up at a conference in \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

wound up controlling most of Africa.

\_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_also

controlled parts of Africa. To the British the

\_\_\_\_\_ Canal was an important

point to control.

Educated Africans spoke

and \_\_\_\_\_ They were indoctrinated in \_\_\_\_\_ values.