

Source D: Chamberlin, W. H. 1941, "Japan over Asia." London, UK. Little, Brown & Co. p. 8. Chamberlin was Tokyo correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor and an author of books on interwar Japan.

"Behind Japan's urge to expansion are a number of impelling forces. There is the explosive pressure of rapidly increasing population in a land that is already overcrowded. There is the feeling of being unfairly treated in the world distribution of territory and raw materials. There is the exceptionally strong position of the fighting services vis-à-vis the civil authorities. There is the high flown sense of nationalism, which for many Japanese has all the force of religious conviction. There is the mythical idea of Japan's Pan-Asian mission, very popular with Japan's retired army officers and nationalist theoreticians, which envisages Japan as the leader of an Asia from which white imperialism has been banished."

9a. What reasons does Source D give for Japanese expansion?

[3 marks]

Source G: excerpt from a *Letter from US President Theodore Roosevelt to Senator Knox, 1909*. Roosevelt negotiated the Treaty of Portsmouth that resolved the Russo-Japanese War in 1905. Senator Knox became US secretary of state (minister of foreign affairs) in 1909 for US President Taft.

“But with Japan the case is different. She is a most formidable military power. Her people have peculiar fighting capacity. They are very proud, very warlike, very sensitive, and are influenced by two contradictory feelings; namely, a great self-confidence, both ferocious and conceited, due to their victory over the mighty empire of Russia; and a great touchiness because they would like to be considered as on a full equality with, as one of the brotherhood of, [Western] nations, and have been bitterly humiliated to find that even their allies, the English, and their friends, the Americans, won’t admit them to association and citizenship, as they admit the least advanced or most decadent European peoples. Moreover, Japan’s population is increasing rapidly and demands an outlet; and the Japanese laborers, small farmers, and petty traders would, if permitted, flock by the hundred thousand into the United States, Canada, and Australia.”

9a. According to Source G, what is the relationship between Japan and the Western nations?
[3 marks]

Source I: Excerpt from *Fifty Years of Light and Dark: The Hirohito Era* by the staff of the *Mainichi Daily News*, *The Mainichi Newspapers*, Tokyo, Japan, 1975, p. 25. *Mainichi Shimbun*, or *Daily News*, has been published since 1872 and is one of the largest media companies in contemporary Japan.

"[During the start of the Great Depression], the number of banks shrank from 1,300 to some 700. Big banks, including Mitsui, Mitsubishi, Sumitomo, Daiichi and Yasuda, strengthened their oligopolistic hold on Japan's economy. The formidable Zaibatsu were steadily solidifying their financial grip on the nation's economic world.

Suffering under persistent depression, the public found its target of patriotic resentment in the large-scale 'buy dollar' policy pursued by Zaibatsu, especially Mitsui, in the second half of 1931. The powerful industrial-financial concern, anticipating the impending ban on gold export, went ahead to buy US dollars on a grand Scale... But patriots and patriotically-inclined press called the Zaibatsu managers 'traitors of the nation' who had handed out national currencies en masse 'in exchange for white men's money.' The government collapsed in the face of public outbursts..."

According to Source I, why were zaibatsu labelled as traitors by some?

[3 marks]

Source J: excerpt from "The Age of Hirohito: In Search of Modern Japan" by Daikichi - Irokawa, published by The Free Press, New York, 1995, pp. 8-9. The author is a professor at Tokyo Keizai University and has published books on Japanese history and culture in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

"Because of such conditions at the lower levels of society, the military could take advantage of the unemployed, impoverished youth and the spiritually exhausted Japanese people to wage its aggressive adventures on the Asian continent. The move to expand the empire also appealed to the struggling financial community, which hoped new markets on the continent would end the Depression, and to an ambitious group of politicians who aspired to a stronger power base."

According to Source J, why was the move by the military to expand Japan's Empire popular?

[3 Marks]