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**How were the modern nation-states of the Middle East created?**

**History Book Project:**

You will work with a partner to create a book about the creation of the modern nation-states of the Middle East. Your book will be at least 8 pages in length, with 1 page for each of the following:

1. Background
2. External challenges to Ottoman power before 1800
3. European imperialism
4. Ottoman response and the rise of nationalism
5. World War I
6. Mandate system in Arab states
7. Modernization in Turkey
8. Political structures today

\*Use these titles as the titles for each page. Please note that you can add additional pages.

Content page rubric:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **10 Points** | **8 Points** | **6 Points** | **4 Points** | **2 Points** |
| Our work is historically accurate and demonstrates mastery of the content. Our work exceeds all requirements listed in the task description. Based on this page, it is clear we can expertly answer the guiding question. | Our work is historically accurate and demonstrates a solid understanding of the content. Our work satisfies all requirements listed in the task description. Based on this page, it is clear we can answer the guiding question. | Our work is mostly historically accurate and demonstrates a good understanding of the content. We may have 1-2 historical errors. Our work satisfies most requirements listed in the task description. Based on this page, it is clear we can answer the guiding question. | Our work is somewhat historically accurate and demonstrates a good understanding of the content. We may have 3-4 historical errors. Our work satisfies some requirements listed in the task description. As a result, we struggle to answer the guiding question. | Our work demonstrates a limited understanding of the topic. We have multiple historical errors. We meet some of the requirements listed, but failed/forget to include all items. As a result, we struggle to answer the guiding question. |

This packet provides information about the historical context, requirements, and evaluation rubric for each page in your book. Each page is worth 10 points for a total of 80 possible points.

In addition the required historical information, the following points are available:

1. Graphics: illustrations, tables, diagrams, graphs, and/or charts – 20 possible points
2. Formatting: clear, logical structure – 5 possible points
3. Cover page: enticing, creative, and historically relevant title page – 5 possible points

**TOTAL POINT VALUE: 110 Points (minor assessment)**

**1: Background**

The map of the Middle East, as we know it today, was shaped by the events of the First World War. Prior to that time, the Ottoman Empire controlled much of the area.

The Ottoman Empire (1300 – 1922) ruled a vast territory that included much of the Balkans, Anatolia, the central Middle East to the borders of Iran, and most of North Africa. It was a multiethnic, multi-religious state ruled through an extensive administration under laws derived from Islam and the sultan’s orders. The Ottoman Empire was a world power and significant player in European politics.

Option A

Create a map of the Ottoman Empire at its height.

* Include continents covered and bodies of water nearby.
* Include a key/legend and a compass rose.
* Write 1 paragraph (7-10 sentences) in which you explain how the Ottomans were able to conquer so much land.

Option B

Create a timeline of the Ottoman Empire.

* Include the 5 most significant events in Ottoman history.
* For each event on the timeline, include the date, a 3 sentence description, and a 3 sentence explanation of why it was significant.

**2: External challenges to Ottoman power before 1800**

By the turn of the 18th century, Ottoman power was beginning to weaken. In 1683, the Ottomans failed to capture the city of Vienna, then the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Less than 100 years later, in 1774, the Ottomans lost significant Muslim territory to the Russians.

Structural changes in places outside of the Ottoman Empire, like in the European nation-states of Britain and France, ultimately outpaced Ottoman reforms. The European nation-states at the time were governed more efficiently than the Ottomans because they had centralized power. The Ottomans had a decentralized government system.

Option A

Create a vocabulary sheet

* Include definitions for the following terms: nation-state, centralized power, decentralized power, and reform
* Include a graphic for each term explained
* Write 1 concluding sentence that correctly uses all 4 terms

Option B

Create a political cartoon

* Illustrate the flaws of the Ottoman government system, highlighting its decentralized system
* Include speech bubbles on all characters drawn
* Include a 3-5 sentence description of the political cartoon and how it illustrates the challenges to Ottoman rule before 1800

**3: European imperialism**

While Ottoman power decreased, the influence of the European nation-states increased. All of the great powers of Europe – Britain, France, Germany, and Russia – wanted to control natural resources, create markets for their industries, and establish colonies throughout the globe. They competed for political and economic influence in the Ottoman Empire, Egypt, North Africa, and Iran prior to World War I. France occupied Algeria in 1830 and Tunisia in 1881; the British took control of Yemen in 1836 and Egypt in 1882; and Italy occupied Libya in 1911.

Option A

Create a map showing the shifts in power

* Locate and label a map of the Middle East prior to World War I.
* Include all of the colonies listed above and include the accurate borders of the Ottoman Empire before 1914.
* Include a key/legend and a compass rose.
* Include all major bodies of water in the region.
* Write a 5 sentence explanation of the map in which you describe how and why power shifted from the Ottomans to the Europeans.

**4: Ottoman response to the rise of nationalism**

In the 19th century, the Ottomans tried to combat the growth of European power and influence. They trained their armies in new techniques and equipped them with up-to-date weapons. They created new government structures and state school systems modeled on those of Europe. They borrowed money to develop their infrastructure, building railroads, telegraph lines, and modern ports. Ironically, modernization got them further under the control of the Europeans, who provided them the loans.

Intellectuals like Jamal al-Din al-Afghani and Qasim Amin encouraged reinterpretation of Islamic principles in response to the modern world as a way to break free from European colonialism. Secular nationalist movements, like the Young Turks of Anatolia, also arose. Secular nationalism was particularly strong among non-Muslim communities, which could not fully participate in Islamic nationalist movements.

By the 19th century, nationalism within individual states was beginning to challenge the authority of the multicultural Ottoman Empire. Greece won independence from the Ottomans in 1832, and other Balkan nations began to follow their example.

Option A

Research Jamal al-Din al-Afghani OR Qasim Amin and complete the following biographical tasks:

* Write a 5 sentence biography of al-Afghani OR Amin
* Include 1 picture (illustrated or printed) of al-Afghani OR Amin
* Write a 5 sentence explanation for al-Afghani’s plan OR Amin’s plan for the region
* Include the correct MLA style citation for the website where you got the information

Option B

Create a Venn Diagram in order to contract secular and religious nationalism

* In one bubble of the Venn Diagram, identify key information about the Young Turks and in the other bubble identify key information about al-Afghani and/or Amin
* Write a 5 sentence explanation of which plan was more effective for addressing European imperialism in the region

Option C

Research 1 of the independence movements – Greece or a country from the Balkan region – and complete the following:

* Write a 5 sentence explanation of what caused the independence movement
* Write a 5 sentences in which you identify 3 of key events that occurred during the independence movement
* Write a 5 sentence explanation of what happened as a result of the independence movement

**5: World War I**

**Before WWI:** The Ottoman Empire was in rapid decay leading up to WWI. An alliance was struck with Germany as a desperate move to re-establish itself as major power, to regain territories lost in the Balkans and to Russia in recent decades. 

**During WWI:** The UK and France invade the Ottoman Empire by way of Palestine. The Ottomans initially maintain their defenses, but eventually give way to the advancing Allies, forcing them to surrender in 1918. 

**After WWI:** The Ottoman Empire is forced to accept an Allied occupation of Anatolia (modern Turkey - the heart of the Ottoman Empire). France and the UK annex Palestinian and Mesopotamian territories. This capitulation by Sultan causes a revolutionary movement in Turkey to drive out Allies and to drive the Greeks out of western Asia Minor, establishing modern Republic of Turkey. However, it was drastically reduced compared to the days as the Ottoman Empire.

**Ottoman Empire Casualties:**  
Total Deaths: 5,000,000 (Rank = 1 / 16)   
Total Deaths % of pop.: 23.5% (Rank = 1 / 16)   
Troops: 2,850,000 (Rank = 8 / 16)   
Troops % of pop.: 13.4% (Rank = 8 / 16)   
Military Deaths: 800,000 (Rank = 6 / 16)   
Military Deaths % of Troops: 28.1% (Rank = 3 / 16)   
Civilian Deaths: 4,200,000 (Rank = 1 / 16)   
Civilian Deaths % of pop.: 19.7% (Rank = 1 / 16)

"Effect of World War I on Each Country." *Effect of World War I on Each Country*. N.p., n.d. Web. 20 Oct. 2014. <http://www.worldology.com/Europe/world\_war\_1\_effect.htm>.

Option A

Calculate the total number of people living in the Ottoman Empire based on the casualty information provided.

* Show all work.
* Write step-by-step instructions for someone else to be able to recreate that same equation.
* Write a 5 sentence explanation of how World War I impacted the Ottoman Empire.

OptionB

Create a pie graph that illustrates the difference in the number of civilian and military deaths

* Include a key that has definitions of civilian and military
* Write 5 sentences in which you infer why there was such a great distinction between the two sets of numbers

**6: Mandate System in Arab States**

In 1920, the Ottoman Arab provinces were divided between Britain and France along the lines of the Sykes-Picot Agreement, with borders drawn up entirely by the colonial powers. Mandates from the League of Nations gave France control of Syria and Lebanon. Britain held most mandates over Palestine, Iraq, and the newly created Transjordan. To calm the frustrated Arabs, the British made the sons of the Sharif of Mecca rulers of these 2 new states: Faisal was made king of Iraq and Abdullah was made king of Transjordan, now known as Jordan.

Some groups had their hopes for a nation-state crushed. The Kurds were briefly promised an independent state by the Allied powers in 1920, but in the end other interests triumphed: the areas of Kurdish settlement were divided among Turkey, Syria, and Iran.

Option A

Research the Sykes-Picot Agreement and create a perspective table

* Write a 5 sentence summary of the Sykes-Picot agreement
* Create a table with 3 columns: British reactions to the Sykes-Picot Agreement, French reactions to the Sykes-Picot Agreement, and Ottoman reactions to the Sykes-Picot Agreement

Option B

Research the mandate system and create a poster

* Create your poster from either the Ottoman or European perspective that shows that side’s feeling on the mandate system
* Include a 1-3 sentence explanation of the mandate system
* Write a 3-5 sentence description of your poster

**7: Modernization in Turkey**

As the Ottoman Empire collapsed, Turkish nationalists under Mustafa Kemal Ataturk created a new state in Anatolia and Thrace. Ataturk embarked on an aggressive campaign of Westernization. He changed the alphabet from Arabic to Latin characters, instituted a new law code based on Switzerland’s, worked to give women the right to vote, and even ordered men to wear European hats instead of the fez. Most Turks are still proud of Ataturk’s Westernizing and nationalist legacy, although there have been some changes made to his more extreme decisions.

Select 1 of Ataturk’s reforms to research:

* Changing the alphabet from Arabic to Latin characters
* Instituting a new law code based on Switzerland’s
* Giving women the right to vote
* Ordering men to wear European hats instead of the fez

Option A

Create a comic strip about Ataturk’s reform and the Turkish reaction to it

* Include at least 4 boxes with speech bubbles
* Write captions for each illustration

Option B

Contrast the reform with an aspect of life in the United States

* Write a 5 sentence description of the reform
* Answer the following question in at least 5 sentences: if President Obama were to enact a similar reform, how would Americans react?

**8: Political Structures Today**

Some Middle Eastern countries are governed by a royal family, with a parliament or advisors. Some Middle Eastern countries are governed by democracy. Some Middle Eastern countries struggle to establish a government.

Select 3 Middle Eastern countries, research their political structures, and complete the following:

* Bahrain
* Iraq
* Iran
* Israel
* Jordan
* Kuwait
* Lebanon
* Oman
* Palestine
* Qatar
* Saudi Arabia
* Syria
* Yemen
* United Arab Emirates

Option A

Create a data table

* Create 5 different measures of comparison (example: type of government) and complete the chart for your three countries

Option B

Write a news report

* Pretend you are a journalist covering politics in the Middle East. Identify the problems the countries you selected are currently facing.
* Write 5 sentences per country