

# SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

## 1898

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ESSENTIAL QUESTION: How did the Spanish-American War mark a “turning point” in American history?

# TEKS and Objectives

## We will...

**(2D)** explain the significance of 1898 as a turning point

**(4A)** explain why significant events, policies, and individuals moved the U.S. into a position of a world power

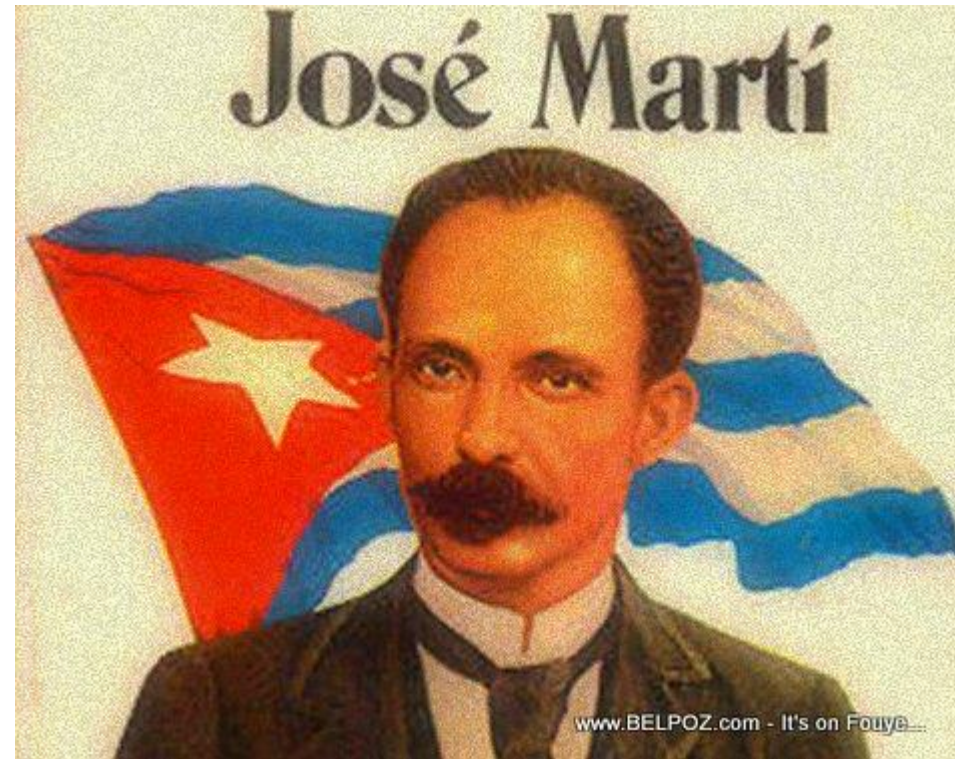
**(15D)** describe the effects of the Spanish-American War

## I will...

- Evaluate the role of yellow journalism in the Spanish-American War through a Mad Lib activity

# Causes of the Spanish-American War

- Cuban Economy
  - U.S. raised taxes on foreign sugar
  - Led to unemployment in Cuba
- Cuban Independence from Spain
  - Led by Jose Marti (1895)
  - Spanish army used brutal methods to stop uprising
  - Raised humanitarian concerns in the U.S.



# Causes of the Spanish-American War



- Yellow Journalism
  - Deliberate sensationalization of the news to sell more papers
  - Depicted Spaniards as murderous brutes
  - Gave American's inaccurate accounts of events in Cuba
  - Americans worried about Cuban investments
- Joseph Pulitzer
  - New York World
- William Randolph Hearst
  - New York Journal

# The Triggering Events

- De Lome Letter (1898)
  - Written by Spanish ambassador
  - Called President McKinley “weak”
- U.S.S. Maine
  - Naval ship sent to Cuba to protect lives and property of Americans
  - Sunk by an explosion in Havana Harbor
  - Killed 258 U.S. sailors and many injured
  - Cause unknown; newspapers blamed Spaniards
  - Set off protests in the U.S.



# The Spanish-American War



- Two-front war
  - Pacific Ocean and Caribbean Sea
- Philippines
  - U.S. Pacific fleet aided Filipino rebels against Spain
  - Defeated Spanish ships in Manila Bay
- “Rough Riders”
  - Volunteer force raised by Theodore Roosevelt
  - Helped defeat Spanish at San Juan Hill (Cuba)
- U.S. forces occupied Guam and Puerto Rico

# Spanish-American War as a Turning Point

- Marked the end of Spain's colonial empire
- Marked the emergence of U.S. as a world power
- U.S. demonstrates naval strength to the world





Summarize the cartoon above