

# The Scramble for Africa

Using pattern recognition to ruthlessly gobble up resource-rich land

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome to the Scramble for Africa! You will take on the role of a European country ready to colonize the continent of Africa. Your goal is to claim as much land and as many resources as possible, though your specific objectives will vary. All of the rules you need to play are built into the game – good luck!

## Before the game starts

1. Circle the country you have been assigned:

Britain

France

Belgium

Spain

Germany

Italy

Portugal

Refer to the objectives at the back of this packet to understand what it is your specific country wants at each point in the game, and summarize it in your own words below:

2. Starting in 1500, we want:

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3. Starting in 1815, we want:

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4. Starting in 1875, we want:

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Plan ahead! Look at what you want in the later years, and choose territory in early rounds that will help you get it later.

## After the game ends

5. What went well for your country during the Scramble for Africa?

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6. What would you do differently next time?

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7. Do you think your country, or any of the other European countries, had the right to claim land, resources and slaves in Africa like this? Why or why not?

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## Objectives by team and by year

### Britain, 1500

You have little interest in Africa itself - your focus is on your American colonies and trade with India. You see Africa as a potential trade route to India and as a source of slaves to work on plantations in the Americas.

### Britain, 1815

Your economy is growing quickly and you have begun to understand the richness of Africa. You also want to protect your trade routes to Asia. You should focus on southern Africa, where you can take gold and cattle to make Britain rich.

### Britain, 1875

Africa is quickly being claimed by numerous European countries now. You'd better act fast to claim the best remaining territory! Try to connect your colonies, which will help you defend them if war breaks out.

### France, 1500

You have little interest in Africa itself - your focus is on your American colonies and trade with Vietnam. You see Africa as a potential trade route to India and as a source of slaves to work on plantations in the Americas.

### France, 1815

Now that the Industrial Revolution has begun in France, you are more interested in Africa's natural resources and establishing settlements there. You also want to protect your trade routes to Asia. You should focus on the northern half of Africa to keep your colonies close.

### France, 1875

Africa is quickly being claimed by numerous European countries now. You'd better act fast to claim the best remaining territory! Try to connect your colonies, which will help you defend them if war breaks out.

### Belgium, 1500

You don't have much interest in Africa, but your focus should be on controlling rainforests for their wood.

### Belgium, 1815

At this point in history, you still don't consider Africa a high priority, but your focus should still be on controlling rainforests for their wood.

### Belgium, 1875

Your interest in Africa has increased, especially after gaining your independence in 1830. Claim as many rainforests as possible.

### Spain, 1500

You don't have much interest in Africa, but your focus should be on ceramics and glass, as well as controlling land with a Mediterranean climate.

### Spain, 1815

At this point in history, you still don't consider Africa a high priority, but your focus should still be on ceramics and glass, as well as controlling land with a Mediterranean climate.

### Spain, 1875

Your interest in Africa has increased after focusing on colonization efforts in Central and South America. As a weaker country, you are most interested in the northern parts of Africa closest to Spain.

### Germany, 1500

You don't have much interest in Africa, but your focus should be on raising and importing cattle.

### Germany, 1815

At this point in history, you still don't consider Africa a high priority, but your focus should still be on raising and importing cattle.

### Germany, 1875

Your interest in Africa has increased after unifying in 1871. As a major military power in Europe, you are very strong and want to claim as much African territory as possible. Focus on natural resources and land along the coast where you can build ports.

### Italy, 1500

You don't have much interest in Africa, but your focus should be on ceramics, glass, textiles and cattle.

### Italy, 1815

At this point in history, you still don't consider Africa a high priority, but your focus should still be on ceramics, glass, textiles and cattle.

### Italy, 1875

Your interest in Africa has increased, but at this point you should just take whatever you can.

### Portugal, 1500

You have little interest in Africa itself - your focus is on trade with Asia. Focus on coastal locations where you can build ports for ships traveling around Africa to Asia.

### Portugal, 1815

You should continue to focus on coastal land and strengthen your ports to support your ships traveling around Africa to Asia.

### Portugal, 1875

Your interest in mainland Africa has increased, but at this point you should just take whatever you can.