

**Stage 2 Modern History
Historical Study
Assessment Sheet**

	UNDERSTANDING & EXPLORATION	APPLICATION & EVALUATION	ANALYSIS
A	<p>In-depth understanding and exploration of historical concepts.</p> <p>Comprehensive understanding and insightful exploration of the role of ideas, people, and events in history.</p>	<p>Perceptive application of the skills of historical inquiry to critically examine and evaluate sources and interpretations.</p> <p>Discerning use of relevant evidence to support arguments and draw insightful and relevant conclusions.</p> <p>Communication of well-reasoned, coherent, and insightful historical arguments, with appropriate acknowledgment of sources.</p>	<p>Insightful and critical analysis of interactions and relationships in the modern world and their short-term and long-term impacts on national, regional, and/or international development.</p>
B	<p>Some depth in understanding and exploration of historical concepts.</p> <p>Some depth of understanding and thoughtful exploration of the role of ideas, people, and events in history.</p>	<p>Thoughtful application of the skills of historical inquiry to examine and evaluate sources and interpretations.</p> <p>Well-considered use of mostly relevant evidence to support arguments, and draw mostly relevant conclusions.</p> <p>Communication of reasoned and coherent historical arguments, with some insights, and with appropriate acknowledgment of sources.</p>	<p>Well-considered analysis of interactions and relationships in the modern world and their short-term and long-term impacts on national, regional, and/or international development.</p>
C	<p>Understanding and exploration of historical concepts.</p> <p>Understanding and considered exploration of the role of ideas, people, and events in history.</p>	<p>Application of the skills of historical inquiry to examine sources and interpretations, with some evaluation.</p> <p>Use of generally relevant evidence to support arguments, and draw some relevant conclusions.</p> <p>Communication of generally reasoned and coherent historical arguments, with acknowledgment of sources.</p>	<p>Description, with some analysis, of interactions and relationships in the modern world and their short-term and long-term impacts on national, regional, and/or international development</p>
D	<p>Some recognition of historical concepts.</p> <p>Recognition and basic understanding the role of ideas, people, and events in history.</p>	<p>Basic application of some skills of historical inquiry to select and use sources.</p> <p>Use of some information with partial relevance to support an argument, and draw basic conclusions.</p> <p>Partial communication of a historical argument, with attempted acknowledgment of sources.</p>	<p>Superficial description of one or more interactions or relationships in the modern world.</p>
E	<p>Attempted engagement with one or more historical concepts.</p> <p>Awareness of one or more ideas, people, or events in history.</p>	<p>Attempted application of the skills of historical inquiry to select and use one or more sources.</p> <p>Attempted use of information of limited relevance.</p> <p>Attempted description of a historical event, with limited or no acknowledgment of sources.</p>	<p>Attempted description of an interaction or relationship in the modern world</p>
<p>Teacher Comment: , you have produced a well- researched and sophisticated answer to your Historical study question. You have been able to show a complex understanding of how both internal and external forces shaped the Rhodesian Bush War. A very interesting and unique topic, which should be commended. You have effectively used a range of different primary and secondary sources as evidence to help substantiate arguments. You have been able to show a very good ability to show connections between factors. Overall generally well structured. A-</p>			

To what extent was the Rhodesian Bush War of 1964-1979 a justified War of Liberation?

To state that The Rhodesian Bush War of 1964-1979 was a justified War of Liberation is valid to a significant extent, as the Rhodesian Front's effort to maintain White Minority power in Rhodesia was bolstered by the extreme racial policies enacted by the Rhodesian government. This is evident within the failure to recognize the British policy of 'No Independence Before Majority African Rule', the failed Unilateral Declaration of Independence, and the Land Apportionment Act which essentially marginalised the massive populace of Black Rhodesians who held the majority of the population. Moreover, the growing discontent of these oppressed peoples allowed Nationalist groups such as ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) and ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union) to grow in large numbers, strengthening their ability to fight a war of liberation, caused by the Rhodesian Government's extreme racial policy. Additionally, the support of surrounding, recently-liberated African nations assisted the African Nationalists' effort in fighting the Rhodesian Security forces, who throughout the war were using propaganda on Rhodesian civilians and psychological operations to cause dissent within the enemy forces. Conversely, it can be argued that the liberation of Rhodesia was unjustified, as it was a rich, prospering nation that still maintained Black Rhodesian involvement within some forms of government. Some historians such as Graham Boynton argued that the black Rhodesians were treated considerably better in the 1900s before liberation as the success of the African Nationalist parties in the bush war lead to autocratic dictatorship of Robert Mugabe. Additionally, the idea of a justified war of liberation was heavily undermined by the ideological corruption of both revolutionary groups ZANU and ZAPU, whose embrace of Leninist/Marxist Communism and Maoist Communism somewhat changed the war into an ideological battle between a former British colony and the advances of Communism. Furthermore, the extreme losses faced by the guerilla forces of ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) and ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army) throughout the bush-war prior to the support of Soviet Russia and Communist China contradict the purity of the African

Commented []: Provides clear answer and assessment of the nature of the factors shaping the conflict
Provides context of key groups involved ZANU, ZAPU,

Commented []: Clear counter argument identified-highly relevant

Commented []: Provides context of role of ideology in shaping conflict
Intro provides a comprehensive discussion of differing interpretations of conflict

Nationalists' "liberation war" as the Rhodesian Security Forces were succeeding until the two Communist powers intervened.

Through the extreme racial policies of the Rhodesian Government, it is evident that the Rhodesian Bush war, known by Zimbabweans today as "The Second Chimurenga" or "The Zimbabwe war of liberation" is a justified as a war of liberation to a significant extent. This is explicitly demonstrated by British Prime Minister Harold Wilson's adopted policy of "No Independence Before Majority African Rule" (or NIBMAR)¹. The NIBMAR policy, enacted by the British Government sought to end the white minority rule in Rhodesia and allow the overwhelming majority of ethnic-African Rhodesians to take part in Government decisions. However, in rejection of this policy and through their pursuit of white oppression, the Rhodesian Front instead formed a proclamation of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence (or UDI) on the 11th of November, 1965. Ian Smith, leader of the Rhodesian Front and Prime minister of Rhodesia (1964-1979) famously said "*I don't believe in black majority rule ever in Rhodesia—not in a thousand years*"². This action demonstrated the extent of the Rhodesian racial oppression, as even under the force of the British government, Ian Smith's government still refused to allow black Rhodesians equal civil liberties. Smith's decision to instead declare independence consequently forced Great Britain and the UN to condemn Rhodesia, which allowed UN-approved sanctions to enact heavy trade embargoes upon the small territory. However, Liberal Historian T Jakobsen wrote: "*it was not the economic sanctions alone, or the Rhodesian Bush War alone that causes the downfall of Smith's government. It was rather the interplay between them, and especially the direct political pressure from the USA and South Africa which paved the road for majority rule*"³. Ian Smith's refusal to allow proportional African representation within government among other basic liberties held by the white minority of Rhodesia,

Commented [redacted]: Provides elaboration of the role of the British in shaping conflict and motivations

Commented [redacted]: Excellent use of both primary and secondary source to provide substantiation of the role of internal and external forces

¹ "No independence before majority rule" on Revolv.com", in *Revolv.com*, <https://www.revolv.com/page/No-independence-before-majority-rule> [accessed 5 August 2018].

² Nigel Rees, "Sayings of the Century", Unwin paperbacks, 1984, p. 247 [accessed 5 August 2018]

³ T Jakobsen, *The Fall of Rhodesia*, Popular Social Science, 2012, <http://www.popularsocialscience.com/2012/10/19/the-fall-of-rhodesia/> [accessed 5 August 2018].

demonstrates the extreme racial prejudice the Rhodesian Front was attempting to maintain, despite the surrounding African nations' decolonization and liberation from white rule. Additionally, according to traditionalist historian R. Austin, White power was consolidated through the major themes; White land control through unequal tenure and allocation of land, white executive and administrative government of the African majority, government responsibility to an exclusively white electorate and finally, white control over the potential economic power of labour and white retention of political power⁴. This white oppression contributed to the growing disillusionment of ethnic Africans who became inundated with Leftist political beliefs and revolutionary political parties, such as Joshua Nkomo, who had formed the Zimbabwe African People's Union in 1961. Also, later in 1963, several members who had become dissatisfied with ZAPU's tactics left and formed Zimbabwe African National Union. The attraction these radical parties held, grew stronger due to the marginalization of Black Rhodesians, achieved through the Rhodesian Front's racial policy.

Commented []: Further complexity in dimensions of the role of racial policies in causing conflict

Additionally, the marginalization of the African majority of the Rhodesian population (3,600,000 in 1963)⁵ was ultimately achieved through the infamous Land Apportionment Act of 1931, which perfectly exemplifies the extreme racial prejudice within the policies enacted by the Rhodesian government in order to maintain white minority power. The Land Apportionment act segregated the European and African farmers and essentially allocated more fertile soil and better farming areas to White Rhodesian Farmers, as M. Hudson argues: "*White farmers bitterly resented Africans buying land near them*", therefore, due to the policy, Africans were allowed inferior land they could buy⁶. M. Hudson also claimed that Europeans viewed the act as safeguarding Africans from white domination, and later as their prime protection against 'black hordes', which became a focus of the African Nationalist

⁴ "Racism and Apartheid in Southern Africa: Rhodesia", R. Austin, <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0001/000161/016163eo.pdf> [accessed 5 August 2018]

⁵ The Collapse of Rhodesia: Population Demographics and the Politics of Race, J. Brownell <http://www.sahistory.org.za/archive/collapse-rhodesia-population-demographics-and-politics-race-josiah-brownell> (page 51) [accessed 5 August 2018]

⁶ Triumph or Tragedy? Rhodesia to Zimbabwe, M. Hudson. Chapter 2. [accessed 5 August 2018]

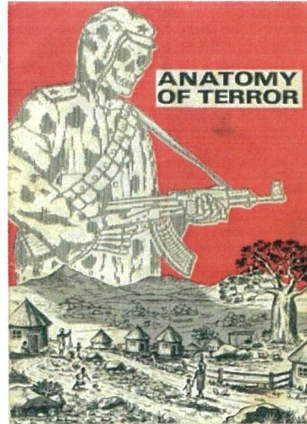
discontent.⁷ This substantiates that the oppressive white rule of the Rhodesian government heavily contributed to the discontent within the wider African population of Rhodesia. These ideas were used by the growingly popular African Nationalist parties, ultimately displaying the intensity of Rhodesian racial policy and how land policies were enacted and reinforced in order to oppress the black population, demonstrating the justification the Nationalist parties held in order to fight a war of liberation against the Rhodesian government.

Furthermore, the success of African Nationalists political parties in terms of growth in membership and continued existence was further facilitated by the rapid decolonization of surrounding African nations. The surrounding nations' new freedom gained through liberation further justifies the fight for Rhodesia's liberation from White rule. In May, 1960 in the Congo, where the 'Mouvement National Congolais' succeeded in establishing the Democratic Republic of Congo, in November 1962, when the British finally gave Malawi self-governing independence and finally Zambia (formerly Northern Rhodesia) was liberated and became The Republic of Zambia in 1964. All of these newly liberated, self-governing nations threatened Rhodesia's white minority government due to their harshly guarded, oppressive government policy. Rhodesia's allies were reduced to Portuguese Mozambique and South Africa, allowing outlawed revolutionary leaders such as Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe to reside in the surrounding African nations of Zambia, Malawi and continue to advance their Nationalist party plans to liberate Rhodesia through civil war. Therefore, the oppressive racial policy of the Rhodesian Front government heavily marginalized the 3 million Africans residing within Rhodesia, demonstrating that through their oppression, the black Rhodesian forces of ZANLA and ZIPRA were justified in their war of liberation.

Additionally, the oppressive racial policy of the Rhodesian government was illustrated through their use of propaganda. H. Friedman writes: "*Rhodesia was depicted as a haven of responsible government where every person, regardless of race, had a fair deal and where*

⁷ Ibid

not only the Europeans but the majority of Africans supported the Government and its policies. The few recalcitrant thugs who opposed them were the puppets of international Communism.⁸ This highlights the Rhodesian Government's use of propaganda to disguise the racial oppression occurring within the country. Propaganda was consistently orchestrated by the Rhodesian government throughout the duration of the Bush war. H. Friedman, an expert analyst in psychological warfare wrote: "psychological operations in Rhodesia proved a failure. They were aimed at convincing the blacks to support the white regime instead of attempting to change white racial views as a prelude to any such support."⁹ The extent of the Rhodesian government's propaganda use thus is evident, as they would continue to release thousands of pamphlets and images such as the poster



(pictured right) to convince the population that the African Nationalists were terrorists that slaughtered civilians. This excessive use of psychological warfare, conducted upon both the Rhodesian civilians and enemy fighters is communicated by D. Oakes, who argues that: "The Rhodesian propaganda war started in the early 1970s. Africans were saturated with blood-curdling leaflets and films warning them of the horrors that would be visited on them by "communists, Marxist-Leninists and criminal terrorists."¹⁰ Conclusively, the extensively manipulative propaganda distributed by the Rhodesian government demonstrated that the Rhodesian Bush war was a justified war of liberation, which was highly assisted by the decolonization of surrounding African nations which empowered the African Nationalists to liberate Rhodesian citizens from its oppressive racial policy.

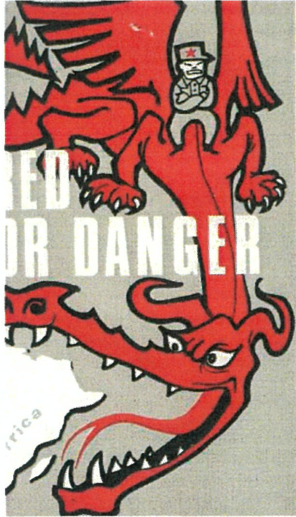
Commented [] : Highly relevant argument range of evidence used to identify the role of propaganda and ideology in the conflict

⁸ H Friedman, "RHODESIA PSYOP 1965", in *Psywarrior.com*, , 2006, <http://www.psywarrior.com/RhodesiaPSYOP.html> [accessed 5 August 2018].

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ *Illustrated History of South Africa*, Reader's Digest Press, Cape Town, 3ed. 1992 [accessed 5 August 2018]

Contrastingly, the justification for the Zimbabwe war of liberation is somewhat diminished by the low standard of living faced by modern-day Zimbabweans and the foreign interference of Soviet Russia and Communist China (displayed in the Rhodesian poster pictured left), the influence of which undermined the nationalist cause. Journalist Graham Boynton argued: "[Ian] Smith had run a successful emerging African country and, although the whites were the main beneficiaries, there was increasing prosperity among the black population"¹¹. Boynton continues with: "Today, Zimbabwe is a failed state with a non-functioning economy, a once-flourishing agricultural sector now moribund, and a population on the brink of starvation. According to a UN Development Programme index, life expectancy there today is one of the lowest in the world. So much for liberation."¹²



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Hence, the liberation of Rhodesia allowed black Rhodesians majority control over government, but also allowed the corrupt, Marxist dictator Robert Mugabe to take control, resulting in millions of Zimbabweans in unemployment and mass starvation. Former Operations Commander of ZANLA, Agrippa Mutambara spoke of this, as he argued: "The level of oppression we fought against during the white minority rule was better than what we are currently experiencing from our own government,"¹³, demonstrating that the war of liberation was unjustified and ultimately resulted in a failed state. Additionally, the righteous idea of National Liberation from the two parties ZANU and ZAPU was heavily undermined by the influence of Communism and the support ZANLA and ZIPRA were given from Soviet Russia and Communist China in terms of training, tactics and arms. The two Communist powers' support diminished the ability for Rhodesia to successfully dissipate extremist political groups and their armies. H. Friedman argued that ZANLA and ZAPU were influenced by

¹¹ G Boynton, "Ian Smith has sadly been proved right", in *Telegraph.co.uk*, , 2007, <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/3644217/Ian-Smith-has-sadly-been-proved-right.html> [accessed 5 August 2018].

¹² Ibid

¹³ "Rhodesia 'was better than Mugabe's govt', says senior Zim war vet", in *News24*, , 2017, <https://www.news24.com/Africa/Zimbabwe/rhodesia-was-better-than-mugabes-govt-says-senior-zim-war-vet-20170531> [accessed 5 August 2018].

interpretations of Marxist-Leninist revolutionary theory of bloody revolution. ZIPRA trained in the Soviet Union, Cuba, Algeria, Bulgaria, North Korea, and Zaire. ZANLA trained in China, Ghana, and Egypt. Later in the war, both ZANLA and ZIPRA fighters were also trained in Zambia and Mozambique.¹⁴ This illustrates that outside influence and overwhelming support was a large contributor to the success of the African Nationalists throughout the civil war, which massively contradicts the purity of the Nationalists' political cause and undermined the idea of a justified war of liberation.

Finally, the racial policy of the Rhodesian Government is imperative when considering the justification of the Zimbabwe war of Liberation. Due to the psychological warfare conducted by the Rhodesian Forces and the support from the newly-liberated surrounding African nations the Zimbabwe war of Liberation is justified, therefore proving that the racially oppressive institutions such as White Minority government within Rhodesia was bound to be overthrown. Contrastingly, the corruption of modern-day Zimbabwe and the influence of Communism on the Nationalist Parties and their Armies partially diluted the purity and justification of the Nationalist Liberation of Rhodesia. However, the racial oppression of the Rhodesian Government ultimately facilitated the marginalization of the black Rhodesian population, subsequently resulting in the two-decade-long conflict and radical Marxist success in government.

¹⁴ H Friedman, "RHODESIA PSYOP 1965", in *Psywarrior.com*, , 2006, <http://www.psywarrior.com/RhodesiaPSYOP.html> [accessed 5 August 2018].

Commented []: Concise conclusion that provides very good summary of key arguments of essay and forward thinking statemnt.

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2. Rhodesian Ministry of Information
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Friedman, H, "RHODESIA PSYOP 1965", in *Psywarrior.com*, , 2006, <http://www.psywarrior.com/RhodesiaPSYOP.html> [accessed 5 August 2018].