3) How did the rise of mercantilism give the state a new role in promoting commercial development and the acquisition of colonies overseas?

I. Introduction
   A. (Contextualization) In 17th century France, financial stability led to the creation of mercantilism. The absolute monarchy in France led to a new importance placed upon mercantilist policies. Mercantilism was the close government control of the economy with the aim to maximize foreign exports. (Thesis) Mercantilism led to imperialism because it focused on the acquisition of resources, which mother countries looked to the New World to gain, and on exporting more than importing to gain wealth. (Argument) Jean Baptiste Colbert’s use of mercantilism in France led to the importance of gaining control of newly discovered lands for European countries in order to gain more wealth and power in Europe.

II. Body Paragraph 1: (Topic) The rise of mercantilism led an increased importance of colonies because it placed new favor upon countries with more natural resources.
   A. Evidence: Need for War Supplies
      1. Analysis: Because the European countries were at war with each other, whichever country with the most gold and silver was more likely to win the war and gain power. This led to an importance to colonize because the New World was full of more natural and untapped resources.
   
   B. Evidence: Limited Resources with Growing Population
      1. Analysis: With European population growth, fear of lack of resources led many monarchs to look to the New World as a security. The New World provided not only silver and gold, but rich soil and new crops that would provide for the people of Europe, limited by a lack of space.

III. Body Paragraph 2: (Topic) The rise of mercantilism also led to the increase of commercial and industrial development because of the importance of a favorable trade balance, meaning more exports than imports.
   A. Evidence: The use of gold led Europeans to view wealth as being zero-sum, meaning if one country has wealth it must take it from a different country.
      1. Analysis: The limited nature of gold led to each country trying to obtain more gold by increasing its amount of exports and limiting imports; therefore, taking wealth from other countries.
   
   B. Evidence: Ability to Manufacture
      1. Analysis: European countries had the ability to increase the value of the resources they obtained from the New World by manufacturing it and selling it back to those areas or to other countries. This led to the increase in industrial development.

IV. Conclusions
   A. Conclusion: Mercantilism led to the rise in imperialism and increased the importance of industry in Europe because it placed new importance on resources and trade balance.
   B. Synthesis: The Industrial Revolution of the 19th century had a similar effect in Europe. The Industrial Revolution led to an increase in manufacturing, importance of trade and exports, and the rise of capitalism, which has roots in the ideas of mercantilism.