



## AP MODERN WORLD & EUROPEAN HISTORY

Strayer and Nelson, *Ways of the World*, 4e  
Ch19.1 Study Guide | Empires in Collision c.1800-1900  
Reversal of Fortune: China's Century of Crisis

Study Guides are scored **HOLISTICALLY** using the following criteria:

- Evidence demonstrates accurate **scholarship**.
- Thoroughness** of responses is essential.
- Timeline** is comprehensively completed.

### CHAPTER TIMELINE

-1800

-1825

*“Our trouble is not that we lack good institutions, but that we lack upright minds. If we seek to reform institutions, we must first reform men’s minds. Unless all men of ability assist each other, good laws become mere paper documents; unless those who supervise them are fair and enlightened, the venal will end up occupying the places of the worthy....”*

- Chu Chengbo, Chinese imperial official, letter to the Emperor after defeat by the Japanese (1895)

-1850

### 19.1a – CONFRONTING AN AGGRESSIVE AND INDUSTRIALIZING WEST

While you read:

1. **Describe** the **challenges** that China faced in trying to resist European aggression.
2. **Describe** the **“four dimensions”** of the European moment in world history during this time.
3. **Describe** the **internal issues** that China, Japan, Latin America, and the Ottoman Empire faced as they attempted to navigate the “era of colliding empires.”

-1875

-1900

### 19.1b – THE CRISIS WITHIN

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4. **Describe** the social, economic, and political **differences** between Europe and China that took place from approximately 1700 to 1850.
  
5. **Describe** the **effects** of the “combination of circumstances” associated with a declining dynasty AND **explain** how the **Taiping Uprising** culminated China’s internal crisis.
  
6. **Explain** the revolutionary changes that **reformers** wanted during this time including the **experiences for women**.
  
7. **Describe** the significant events and **outcomes** of the conflict between the Taiping forces and the Qing dynasty.

### 19.1c – WESTERN PRESSURES

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8. **Describe** how Western countries manipulated the **opium trade** for political gain in China.
  
9. **Explain** the British **responses** to the Chinese crack down on the opium trade.
  
10. **Describe** the **outcomes** of China’s encounter with European imperialism during this history.

### 19.1d – THE FAILURE OF CONSERVATIVE MODERNIZATION

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11. **Describe** the Chinese policies of “**self-strengthening**” during this history.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. **Evaluate** the extent to which China’s self-strengthening strategies were a **continuation** of Chinese policies to outsiders.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. **Describe** the Boxer Uprising (aka Boxer Rebellion) and outcomes during this history.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
14. **Explain** the factors that led to **collapse** of China’s ancient imperial order that had governed China for over two millennia.

**Questions 15-17 refer to the following passage.**

We have heard that in your own country opium is prohibited with the utmost strictness and severity: - this is strong proof that you know full well how hurtful opium is to humans.... You ought not to have this harmful drug transferred to another country, and above all others, how much less to us!... Has China ever sent you a noxious product from its soil? No. But the things that come from your country are only calculated to harm our country.

-Qing government commissioner Lin Zexu to Queen Victoria of Great Britain, 1839

15. Based on your knowledge of world history and this excerpt, which of the following best describes a result of the Opium Wars between Great Britain and China in the early nineteenth century?
  - A) Because of its decisive victory, China was able to renegotiate a more equal trade agreement with Britain.
  - B) China lost her place as a major economic power because of the total destruction of her land in the war.
  - C) China and Britain were able to maintain an equal balance of trade for the remainder of the nineteenth century.
  - D) Because of unequal treaties, European imperial powers carved out spheres of influence in China.

16. Which of the following best explains the purpose of Lin Zexu's letter to Queen Victoria?
- A) A request to create a more balanced trade relationship between Britain and China.
  - B) A plea for importation of only necessary household good into China.
  - C) A demand for the British to stop importing opium into China.
  - D) A threat to stop all trade with Europe if certain demands are not met.
17. Rebellions in China, such as the Taping Uprising and the Boxer Uprising, were a response to which of the following?
- A) European powers' colonial takeover of China's government.
  - B) Continued foreign economic involvement in China and a weakening Qing government.
  - C) The increased involvement of China in interregional trade with Japan and Russia.
  - D) The perceived weakness of Europe because of World War I.

Questions 18-19 refer to this map.



18. The expansion of nineteenth-century European empires into Asia was most likely the result of which of these historical processes?
- A) The spread of industrialization
  - B) The rise of communism
  - C) The spread of Enlightenment ideas
  - D) The creation of military alliances
19. Based on the map and your knowledge of world history, what conclusion about Asian reactions to imperialism in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries are most accurate?
- A) Most groups in Asia welcomed European colonization.
  - B) Some groups actively resisted European powers, while some chose to work with the colonial governments.
  - C) Most African groups continually fought European incursions, while most Asian groups accepted European rule.
  - D) Most elites in both regions rejected European rule and led rebellions against Europeans.