



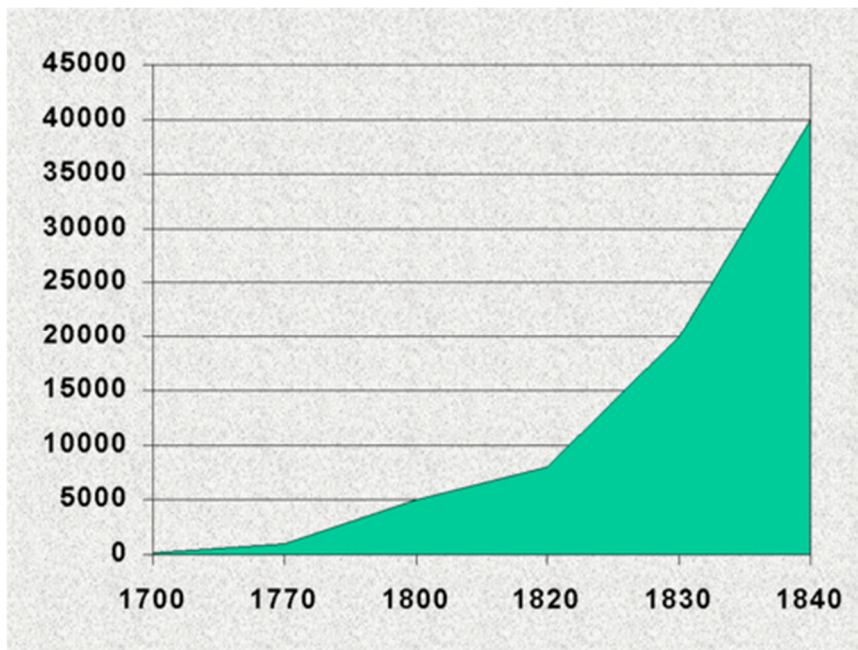
A. The Opium War (1839)

- Opium is a habit-forming illegal drug. Opioids today are based on this drug, heroin is also a derivative of this plant. It is grown from the Poppy plant.
- Make a guess: How do you think opium led to a war in China?

The Opium Wars

In the mid 19th Century, China and the European countries were not on good terms at all. At the root of all this conflict was economics. Due to the lack of interest in European goods, all of the European countries, specifically Britain were running a trade deficit (losing money) with China. In order to reverse this trend, the British started exporting (sending out) opium from India and importing (taking in) into China. This had the desired effect as soon China began to run a trade deficit (losing money) with the British. In order to stem the outflow of silver from China, Chinese officials began aggressively enforcing its laws against opium use and distribution. The actions of Chinese authorities against this lucrative (beneficial/make money) trade infuriated (became really mad) British politicians despite (without being affected) the fact opium was illegal in Britain as well. This conflict resulted in two wars (1839-1842, 1856-1860) between the British and Chinese and would result in much hardship for the Chinese people in subsequent (future) events. The Opium Wars would end up having lasting effects on China that are evident even in the present day.

Graph: *Number of Opium Chests Brought into China*



The purchases made by British and American firms (businesses) in Canton (a Chinese port city) were multiplying. Both countries paid for everything with silver instead of the barter (trade without exchange of currency) system because China had little it wanted from the West. This system was getting costly for the US and Great Britain. As a direct result the smuggling of opium (which was relatively cheap to produce) began. Opium was forbidden in China except for medicinal (medical) use. Even though Canton was the only port legally open smuggling of opium occurred all along the southern coast of China, the figures were as follows:

The first group to take opium were young men from rich families. Although it soon spread to urban (city) workers and even low-ranking officials and from there opium worked its way up the ranks. As a result business slowed down and the standard of living (basic wealth needed to live) fell which resulted in a collapse of public services (government services to help the people daily). What the Western countries wanted had finally happened China was in utter (total) disarray (chaos/unorganized). The sale of Chinese goods to westerners no longer balanced Chinese purchases. The tension that resulted in the first Opium War. The war lasted from 1839 to 1842. This war (and the second Opium War) were fought to determine the relations between China and the West, and as a result China was forced to reevaluate her position as the center of the world.

Find the answers to the questions below based on the reading "The Opium Wars"

1. Which 2 countries fought in the Opium Wars?
2. What was the main reason for the conflict between these 2 countries?
3. Look at the chart: Why do you think the war began in 1839?
4. What problems did Opium cause for the people of China?

B. Treaty of Nanking

- The Treaty of Nanking ended the first Opium War
- What do you think was agreed upon in this treaty?

Conditions of the Treaty of Nanking

I Lasting peace between the two nations.

II The ports of Canton, Amoy, Fuchau, Ningpo, and Shanghai to be opened to British trade and residence, and trade conducted according to a well-understood tariff (tax on imports or exports).

III It being obviously necessary and desirable that British subjects (citizens) should have some port where at they may careen (clean and repair a ship) and refit their ships when required, the island of Hong Kong to be ceded (given) to her Majesty (The British Queen - Victoria).

IV Six millions of dollars to be paid (to the British) as the value of the opium which was delivered up as ransom for the lives of H.N.M. Superintendent and subjects, in March, 1839.

V Three millions of dollars to be paid for the debts due to British merchants.

VI Twelve millions to be paid for the expenses incurred in the expedition sent out to obtain redress for the violent and unjust proceedings of the Chinese high authorities.

VII The entire amount of \$21,000,000 to be paid before December 31, 1845.

VIII All prisoners of war to be immediately released by the Chinese.

IX The Emperor to grant full and entire amnesty to those of his subjects who had aided the British.

X A regular and fair tariff of export and import custom and other dues to be established at the open ports, and a transit duty to be levied in addition which will give goods a free conveyance to all places in China.

XI Official correspondence to be hereafter conducted on terms of equality according to the payments of money.

XII Conditions for restoring the places held by British troops to be according to the payments of money.

XIII Time of exchanging ratifications and carrying the treaty into effect.

Read the 12 provisions of the Treaty of Nanking below. Answer the questions based on the treaty:

1. How many conditions were favorable to the Chinese? How many conditions were favorable to the British?

British: _____ Chinese: _____

2. Which 3 conditions were most favorable to the British (write the condition, not just the number)? Why did you choose these 3?

3. What do you think the effect of this treaty will be on the people of China?

The reading below details 3 major effects of the Treaty of Nanking. **Fill out the chart below based on the reading Effect of Treaty of Nanking on China (summarize effect in your own words)**

Effects of the Treaty of Nanking

For the first time, China, the once proud country would be forced to cede sovereign land to a foreign power and leave its citizens subject to a foreign rule. The British ended up occupying Hong Kong for the next 155 years and will finally hand over control to China on June 1, 1997.

China at the start of the Opium Wars was not the most economically powerful country because of the lucrative opium trade run by the British. The weight of the payments to the British under condition 2 drastically drained the Chinese Treasury and left Dynasty fiscally unstable.

Although on the surface, the opening of ports to the British for trade does not seem that bad, but this condition would end up being the most damaging to the Dynasty. When the conditions of the Treaty of Nanking were released, all the Western Powers were upset by it. All the Western Powers were trying to make inroads into the vast Chinese market and the conditions that regarded the privileges granted to the British for trade created a negative reaction with the rest of the Western Powers. Soon, the rest of the Western Powers were using old offenses committed by the Dynasty to apply pressure for similar trading rights. Saddled with debts to the British and an obviously inferior military, the Ching Dynasty was forced to give in. This began a series of treaties that would result in 'spheres-of-influence' being carved out of eastern China and eventually would undermine the Ching Dynasty's authority.

Fill out the chart below based on the reading Effect of Treaty of Nanking on China and detail three (3) effects of the Treaty (summarize each effect in your own words)

1.

2.

3.

Chinese Reaction to Treaty of Nanking

Read "The People of Canton: Against the English", (1842) to answer the question a below.

The People of Canton: Against the English, 1842

Behold that vile English nation! Its ruler is at one time a woman, then a man, and then perhaps a woman again; its people are at one time like vultures, and then they are like wild beasts, with dispositions more fierce and furious than the tiger or wolf, and natures more greedy than anacondas or swine. These people having long steadily devoured all the western barbarians, and like demons of the night, they now suddenly exalt themselves here.

During the reigns of the emperors Kien-lung and Kia-king these English barbarians humbly besought an entrance and permission to deliver tribute and presents; they afterwards presumptuously asked to have Chu-san; but our sovereigns, clearly perceiving their traitorous designs, gave them a determined refusal. From that time, linking themselves with traitorous Chinese traders, they have carried on a large trade and poisoned our brave people with opium.

Verily, the English barbarians murder all of us that they can. They are dogs, whose desires can never be satisfied. Therefore we need not inquire whether the peace they have now made be real or pretended. Let us all rise, arm, unite, and go against them.

We do here bind ourselves to vengeance, and express these our sincere intentions in order to exhibit our high principles and patriotism. The gods from on high now look down upon us; let us not lose our just and firm resolution.

Source: Eva March Tappan, ed., *China, Japan, and the Islands of the Pacific*, Vol. I of *The World's Story: A History of the World in Story, Song, and Art*, (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1914), p. 197.

What do the Chinese people think about this agreement?

China's Resistance to European Imperialism

What are the people of China rebelling against?

The Taiping Rebellion (1850 - 64)

The Taiping Rebellion (1850 - 64) was by far the bloodiest war of the nineteenth century. The revolt was a radical political and religious uprising, that ravaged 17 Chinese provinces and cost 20 million lives. The rebels rose against the tyranny of the Manchus, supporting a program partly based on Christian doctrines. Among their aims were public ownership of land and the establishment of a self-reliant economy. Their slogans - to share property in common - attracted many famine-stricken peasants, and the Taiping ranks swelled to more than one million soldiers.

Under the leadership of Hung Hsiu-chuan they captured Nanking and made it their capital. Hung founded the 'Great Peaceful Heavenly Dynasty' in 1851. After a few years the leaders began to quarrel among themselves, the reforms were not completed and their opponents, supported by the Western powers, defeated the Taiping in 1864. But the Manchu government was so weakened by the rebellion that it never again was able to effectively rule China.

The Boxer Rebellion (1900)

The Boxer Rebellion was a peasant uprising that attempted to drive all foreigners from China and to destroy the Mongol Ch'ing dynasty. The Boxers were a secret society known as the I-ho ch'uan (Righteous and Harmonious Fists). Its members practiced certain boxing rituals in the belief that this gave them supernatural powers and made them invulnerable to bullets.

After Japan defeated China in 1895, Japan and the Western Powers began to control more and more of the Chinese economy. In reaction the Boxer movement attracted popular support. As early as 1899, Boxers were killing Chinese Christians. In 1900 the Dowager Empress persuaded the Boxers to drop their opposition to the Ch'ing dynasty and unite with it to destroy the foreigners. All over northern China Missionaries and other foreigners were killed, and in Peking the Boxer besieged foreign diplomats who took refuge in the foreign legations.

In 1900 an international force landed at Tientsin and fought its way to Peking. In August the siege was raised, the city looted, and the imperial palaces were sacked. The court fled to Sian, and representatives of the Dowager Empress had to sue for peace. The terms of the agreement signed in 1901 were the harshest imposed on China by Western powers.

China's Resistance to European Imperialism

- What are the people of China rebelling against?

	The Taiping Rebellion (1850-1864)	The Boxer Rebellion (1900)
Cause of the Rebellion		
Description of Rebellion (Who was involved and what happened)		
Effects of the Rebellion		
Similarities between The Two (2) Rebellions		

Map of Imperialism in China

- The Treaty of Nanking ended the first Opium War
- What do you think was agreed upon in this treaty?

1. Which countries had influence in China in 1910?

2. How did the events you have learned about (Opium War, Treaty of Nanking, Taiping Rebellion, and the Boxer Rebellion) lead to the situation shown in the map?