

“Western States Reinforce their Presence (from the 1800s onwards)”

Class Discussion Questions

1. What advantages did Western states such as the United Kingdom (UK) have over East Asian states in the early 1800s?
2. What were some of the key reasons for the rise in the UK’s global power by the late 1700s and early 1800s?
3. Why was Qing China no longer able to successfully defend itself against British (and other states’) pressure and demands after the 1820s? Provide examples of China’s weaknesses in the early and mid-1800s.
4. Provide some reasons why the United States gradually became a Pacific power by the mid-1850s.
5. Explain how and why France became a major power in mainland South-east Asia in the 1800s.

6. Briefly discuss Russia's increased interest in East Asia in the early and mid-1800s.

7. Briefly discuss the Netherland's (Holland) presence and interests in East Asia in the 1800s.

8. Describe some of the ways that East Asia had changed (economically, politically, and geopolitically) by the mid-1800s (since 1800) in terms of the region's relationship with the outside world.