



AP[®] World History 2002 Sample Student Responses

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Both China and Japan struggled to respond to Western penetration in the nineteenth century. They grappled with serious issues and major decisions. In the end, Japan's policies fared much better than those of China and helped make it a world power much sooner.

China reacted with indignation to western penetration. They refused British delegations which implored them to open their country to trade. They told the British that they had nothing China needed. This spurred on the British to introduce opium to the region.

This turned highly profitable for the British but upset the government of China, then the Qing Dynasty.

They responded by declaring war on Britain. The Opium Wars were a humiliating defeat for China and they were forced to sign the Treaty of Nanking,

which allowed major concessions to Britain and an opening of trade to the rest of the world. Many countries were allowed to develop spheres of influence in China.

This led to an increased hatred of foreigners, which was the impetus for the rebellion of the Society of Harmonious

Fists, which tried to expel all foreign influences. This failed, and again China was treated harshly. All this led to a general malaise in China, and eventually spurred on the downfall of the Qing Dynasty in 1911, and eventually the creation of the modern Chinese state. The Chinese reaction led to massive defeat, and taught the Chinese that they were not, as they thought, the center of the world.

The Japanese responded differently to Western penetration. This was mainly to do with the deposition of the last Tokugawa Shogun and the beginning of the Meiji Restoration. Japan instituted a number of reforms which were the first step towards modernization, beginning with the gradual end of the feudal system.

When the west called for trade, Japan agreed, and it proved economically beneficial for them. Japan built up a strong army and economy. When Japan defeated Russia in the Russo-Japanese War, it marked the first time a non-European power had defeated a European one. Japan's open-minded and logical policies helped it to emerge as a

world power by the end of the nineteenth century.

China and Japan both had to respond to European and western penetration in the nineteenth century. Japan chose to reform and adapt to the new world, and became the stronger nation for it. China wanted to remain isolated, and it resulted in the collapse of the government. Although they are both now strong world powers, it did not seem so for China at that time.

Write in the box the number of the question you are answering on this page as it is designated in the examination.

Both China and Japan had vast western penetration during the 19th century, yet they each took slightly different ~~responses~~ responses to ~~the~~ the foreign influences, China rejected the influences to a greater extent than did Japan, yet the outside world was more interested in the globalization of the Chinese market place than that of Japan.

In China, there was a highly isolationist response to foreign interaction by outside influences. European merchants and trading organizations such as the British East India Co. and the Dutch VOC greatly wanted to penetrate these markets, which yielded a high profit rate with ~~the~~ their luxury items when ~~they~~ ~~returned~~ they returned to Europe. They also represented a large opportunity to buy European items, as ~~the~~ China had ~~the~~ a huge population at the time, and still does. One example of this is the exportation of opium to Chinese markets. Europeans created a large dependency on opium in the Chinese society, which severely destroyed ~~many~~ a large percentage of the population with ~~its~~ its devastating effects. The Chinese government tried to counteract these affects by

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Outlawing the drug. The Europeans reacted to this during what is now known as the opium war by inciting revolutionaries and sending in warships. This example ~~shows~~ demonstrates the large goal of the Chinese government at isolationism. Eventually however European nations were able to open up the marketplaces and harbors using unfair treaties, such as extraterritoriality, ~~and~~ as well as force.

In Japan, isolationism occurred for a long period of time as well, under the ~~Tokugawa~~ Tokugawa Shogun. However, there was less foreign will to penetrate the Japanese market as in China. However, after slight revolution and rapid reform, known as ~~the~~ the Meiji restoration, Japan ~~developed~~ ^{underwent} rapid industrialization and urban growth in an effort to compete more on a global market. This was aided by cheaper ~~to~~ payment rates and benefits to its workers, which ~~created~~ quickly made it a top exporting nation globally.

Japan and China took different ~~steps~~ reactions to ~~global influences~~, western influences, yet both eventually were penetrated by foreign merchants as well as ideas. Japan willingly adapted, yet ~~at~~ China was forced. Both also

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received foreign ideas and religion. One example of this is the rapid spread of Buddhism to China.

Both China and Japan had vast western penetration during the 19th century, yet Japan willingly brought changes about while China was forced to by European countries mainly. Both ideas and goods were exchanged in the globalization of China and Japan.

Though China and Japan are neighboring nations in Asia, they are very different. In the nineteenth century the goal of both countries up until that time was to resist outside influence by each other as well as westerners. Japan was following a policy of isolation and China had limited trade enforcing strict laws and regulations.

When Europeans arrived in Japan, though, they made such a showing that the Japanese could not afford to ignore them. Commodore Perry arrived outside of Japan with a fleet of armored ships bearing cannons. The Commodore requested that the Japanese hold a welcoming banquet either in a city or on his ship. They chose the ship. On it, they saw the technology the West had been developing especially during the Industrial Revolution. In response, the Japanese opened at least three more ports and signed an agreement with Perry regarding trade rights. Japan spent the next few decades industrializing. As a result, she became one of the world's top ten trading powers.

China, on the other hand, did things a little differently. China was forced into some trading agreements. As a result, foreigners often gained more rights than China was willing to give. Britain had a policy in which they were allowed rights that China granted to

any other country. Each country was also assigned a sphere of influence where Chinese laws did not apply to them and they had unlimited trade rights. This, in turn, led to competition between countries and continuous problems within China. The Chinese had become tired of being pushed around and began forming a group which would revolt in the Boxer Rebellion. The boxers constantly attacked foreigners wanting them to leave their country so they could do as they pleased in their own land. The Chinese would pay for these rebellious actions, too.

So, both China and Japan were faced with penetration by the west. Each chose their own way to deal with it. Both countries experienced difficulties and were forced into some decisions, but both made it out of the situations while still having some control. For Japan, it was easier because they were willing to make ~~concessions~~ ^{concessions}. For China, it was more difficult because they had to be forced into making allowances for other countries. However, each country experienced westernization for the world is not as large as it seems and all countries are intertwined whether they want to be or not.