

Past-paper walk-through

Economic Imperialism from 1750 to 1900 ■ 6.5

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q1
- 2024 Set 1 Q4

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 1

2025 Set 2 ■ Q1

It is presented here in a format optimized for teacher and student use in the classroom.

3 “Industrialization reduced [tea production] costs dramatically. In 1872 the production cost of a pound of tea was roughly the same in India and China. [But] by 1913 the cost of production in India had fallen by three-quarters.... In the space of a few years China had been dethroned [by India] as Britain’s main supplier of tea. The figures tell the story: Britain imported thirty-one thousand tons of tea from China in 1859, but by 1899 that total had fallen to seven thousand tons, while imports from India had risen to nearly one hundred thousand tons. The rise of India’s tea industry had a devastating impact on China’s tea farmers and further contributed to the instability of the country, which descended into a chaotic period of rebellions, revolutions, and wars.” Source: Tom Standage, British journalist, *A History of the World in 6 Glasses*, book published in

Question 1

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

- (a)** Identify one argument the author makes regarding tea production in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
- (b)** Describe one likely reason for the change in tea imports to Britain, as outlined by the author.
- (c)** Explain how one additional piece of evidence, not included in the passage, would support the author's claim that China "descended into a chaotic period" in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify one argument the author makes regarding tea production in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (1 point) — accept any: The cost of production in India fell compared to the cost in China.; China was “dethroned” by India as the primary supplier of tea for England.; The Chinese tea farmers were devastated due to the rise of the Indian tea industry.

Solution 1

(b)

Mark scheme

- Describe one likely reason for the change in tea imports to Britain, as outlined by the author. (1 point) — accept any: Britain's colonization of India allowed it to expand tea production through plantations.; One likely reason for the change in tea imports to Britain was because production costs in India were significantly lower than in China, making the Indian tea industry much more appealing to the British.; Transportation costs from India to Britain were likely lower than transportation costs from China to Britain because of the shorter geographical distance.

Solution 1

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain how one additional piece of evidence, not included in the passage, would support the author's claim that China "descended into a chaotic period" in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (1 point) — accept any: The 1900–1901 Boxer Rebellion against foreigners and the subsequent foreign intervention in China resulted in longer-term disorder and significant loss of life.; The Opium Wars launched China's "Century of Humiliation", forcing China to sign a series of unequal treaties which destabilized the imperial dynasty.; The Revolution of 1911 forcibly ended the rule of the Qing Dynasty and started a prolonged period of political fragmentation, warlordism, and military conflicts within China.; The Chinese Civil War between the KMT and CCP was a bitter, decades-long conflict,

Solution 1

exacerbated by Japanese intervention, which eventually became a full-scale Japanese invasion of China.

Question 4

2024 Set 1 ■ Q4

Respond to parts a, b, and c.

(a) Identify ONE way Asians resisted Western imperialism in the period circa 1800–1914.

(b) Explain ONE way European imperialism changed the cultures of peoples in Asia in the period circa 1800–1914.

(c) Explain ONE way European imperialism in Asia contributed to changes in the global economy in the period circa 1800–1914.

Solution 4

(a) Mark scheme

- Identify ONE way Asians resisted Western imperialism in the period circa 1800–1914. (1 point) — accept any: Asians resisted Western imperialism by organizing rebellions. [Note: Student responses could include specific examples, such as the Boxer Rebellion or Sepoy Rebellion, but they are not required.]; Some Asian states such as Japan resisted Western imperialism by modernizing their states and militaries.; Some Asian leaders began to organize nationalist or anticolonial movements to protest Western imperialism and call for independence.; Mohandas Gandhi and others used nonviolence to resist Western imperialism.

Solution 4

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE way European imperialism changed the cultures of peoples in Asia in the period circa 1800–1914. (1 point) — accept any: When Europeans conquered Asian countries, those societies lost the ability to govern themselves and control their own laws and societies.; Some Asian societies or ruling elites chose to selectively Westernize by adopting Western-style clothing and military structures.; Western Christian missionaries spread their religion and culture in many regions of Asia.; The spread of European influence in countries such as Japan, the Ottoman Empire, and Persia/Iran contributed to a turning away from traditional culture and the adoption of many elements of Western material culture, especially among the elites.

Solution 4

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain ONE way European imperialism in Asia contributed to changes in the global economy in the period circa 1800–1914. (1 point) — accept any: The global economy changed because Japan successfully industrialized to compete with European states.; European imperialism in Asia changed the global economy and greatly weakened Asian states, such as India and China, by making them uncompetitive globally and harming or destroying their manufacturing industries.; Following the Opium Wars, Europeans and the United States created economic spheres of influence in China, which affected both the global balance of power and diplomatic relations among Western powers.; European imperialism in Asia changed the global economy because local populations in the colonies were forced

Solution 4

to export their raw materials at discount rates to Europe and then buy finished goods that were produced in Europe, leading to a deepening of global economic inequalities.