Learning Targets
• To make students aware of the refocusing of racism in the nineteenth-century West
• To examine the effects of Western dominance on the empires of Asia
• To explore the reasons behind the collapse of the Chinese and Ottoman empires
• To investigate the reasons for Japan’s rise to its position as an industrial superpower and to compare Japan’s experience with that of China

Big Picture Questions
1. “The response of each society to European imperialism grew out of its larger historical development and its internal problems.” What evidence might support this statement?
2. “Deliberate government policies were more important than historical circumstances in shaping the history of China, Japan, and the Ottoman Empire during the nineteenth century.” How might you argue for and against this statement?
3. What kinds of debates, controversies, and conflicts were generated by European intrusion within each of the societies examined in this chapter?
4. What differences can you identify in how China, the Ottoman Empire, and Japan experienced Western imperialism and responded to it? How might you account for those differences?

Margin Review Questions
1. What accounts for the massive peasant rebellions of nineteenth-century China?
2. How did Western pressures stimulate change in China during the nineteenth century?
3. What strategies did China adopt to confront its various problems? In what ways did these strategies reflect China’s own history and culture as well as the new global order?
4. What lay behind the decline of the Ottoman Empire in the nineteenth century?
5. In what different ways did the Ottoman state respond to its various problems?
6. In what different ways did various groups define the Ottoman Empire during the nineteenth century?
7. In what ways was Japan changing during the Tokugawa era?
8. In what respects was Japan’s nineteenth century transformation revolutionary?
9. How did Japan’s relationship to the larger world change during its modernization process?

Key Terms
Sultan Abd al-Hamid II: Ottoman sultan (r. 1876–1909) who accepted a reform constitution but then quickly suppressed it, ruling as a reactionary autocrat for the rest of his long reign. (pron. AHB-dahlhahm- EED)
Boxer Uprising: Rising of Chinese militia organizations from 1898 to 1901 in which large numbers of Europeans and Chinese Christians were killed.
Chinese Revolution of 1911: The collapse of China’s imperial order, officially at the hands of organized revolutionaries but for the most part under the weight of the troubles that had overwhelmed the government for the previous half-century.
informal empire: Term commonly used to describe areas that were dominated by Western powers in the nineteenth century but that retained their own governments and a measure of independence (e.g., Latin America and China).
Lin Xexu, Commissioner: Royal official (1785–1850) charged with ending the opium trade in Canton, his concerted efforts to seize and destroy opium imports provoked the Opium Wars.
Meiji restoration: The overthrew of the Tokugawa shogunate of Japan in 1868, restoring power at long last to the emperor Meiji and establishing a new government committed to saving Japan from foreign domination by drawing upon what ed by their inability to win equal status to the colonizers. the modern West had to offer to transform Japanese society (pron. MAY-gee)
Opium Wars: Two wars fought between Western powers and China (1839–1842 and 1856–1858) after China tried to restrict the importation of foreign goods, especially opium; China lost both wars and was forced to make major concessions.
Russo-Japanese War, 1904–1905: Ending in a Japanese victory, this war established Japan as a formidable military competitor in East Asia and precipitated the Russian Revolution of 1905.
**self-strengthening movement**: China’s program of internal reform in the 1860s and 1870s, based on vigorous application of Confucian principles and limited borrowing from the West.

**“sick man of Europe, the”**: Western Europe’s unkind nickname for the Ottoman Empire in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a name based on the sultans’ inability to prevent Western takeover of many regions and to deal with internal problems; it fails to recognize serious reform efforts in the Ottoman state during this period.

**Taiping Uprising**: Massive Chinese rebellion that devastated much of the country between 1850 and 1864; it was based on the millenarian teachings of Hong Xiuquan. (pron. tie-PING)

**Tanzimat**: Important reform measures undertaken in the Ottoman Empire beginning in 1839; the term “Tanzimat” means “reorganization.” (pron. TAHNZ-ee-MAT)

**Tokugawa Japan**: Peaceful Japan as governed by a shogun from the Tokugawa family from 1600 to 1868. (pron. toe-koo-GAH-wah SHOW-gun-at)

**unequal treaties**: Series of nineteenth-century treaties in which China made major concessions to Western powers.

**Young Ottomans**: Group of would-be reformers in the mid-nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire that included lower-level officials, military officers, and writers; they urged the extension of Westernizing reforms to the political system.

**Young Turks**: Movement of Turkish military and civilian elites that developed ca. 1900, eventually bringing down the Ottoman Empire.