20-2 Notes

China and the West

* During the age of Imperialism Europe wanted to increase trade with China
* Chinese demand for British goods was LOW
* British demand for Chinese goods was HIGH
* The British sold Opium (an addictive drug) to China causing the Opium War
* The British won the war
* China gave the British Hong Kong-one of the world’s busiest ports

Tai Ping Rebellion

* Causes – high taxes and harsh weather which led to starvation
* Hong Xiuguan convinced peasants to over throw the emperor and built a “heavenly kingdom”
* Lasted 13 years
* Unsuccessful – Europe helped China put down the rebellion
* 20 million people died
* Results – understanding that Western technology is helpful to Chinese society---built railroads, weapons factories, and shipyards

European Spheres of Influence

* China became spheres of influence under the control of Russian , Britain, France, and Germany
* The United States didn’t claim sphere of influence in China, but instead an Open Door Policy of trade with all countries
* Some Chinese organized secret societies (Boxers) to drive foreigners out
* Boxer Rebellion – the Boxers attacked foreigners and Chinese Christians in Beijing – US crushed the rebellion

The Revolution of 1911

* Sun Yat-sen founded the Nationalist Party to free China from foreign rule

The Rise of Imperial Japan

* In the 1400s Daimyo (heads of noble families) ruled Japan and waged war
* US and Europe wanted to trade with Japan—Japan refused
* Hideyoshi banned Christian activities, expelled all missionaries, and persecuted Japanese Christians—European merchants were the next to go
* US Commodore Matthew Perry and his warships gained trade with Japan
* Japan builds an empire and tries to control China with causes a war with China and Russia—Japan wins and is recognized as a world power.