Guided Reading on “The Qing Empire”

1) Which ethnic group established the Qing Empire in which century? (741-742)

2) What was the cause of the Opium War (1839-1842)? Why were the British able to defeat the Qing troops so easily? What concessions did the British gain in the Treaty of Nanking? (742-743)

3) What was the result of the treaty system and principle of extraterritoriality? Why were the coastal cities of Canton and Shanghai important for the foreigners? (743)

4) What positive benefits did Christian missionaries bring to China? Why did many Chinese resent their activities? (744)

5) What was the practice of foot binding? Can this be equated with the 19th century practice of women wearing tight corsets in the western world? What were both intended to do? (744)

6) Why did the Taiping Rebellion break out? What was the background of its leader, Hong Xiuquan? What actions did he take to control those areas that his followers conquered? (746)

7) Examine the map 25.2 on 744. What was the northern most city involved in the Taiping Rebellion that became Hong’s capital? How did the British and French actions during the 1860s help end the rebellion? (747)

8) Why do some say that the Taiping Rebellion was the world’s bloodiest civil war prior to the 20th century? What other effects did it have on China? (747)

9) Why did the Qing government have no hope of solvency after 1850? Who supported reforms and what role was played by the Empress Dowager Cixi? (751)

10) Why did Japan and China go to war in 1894? What was the result? (813)

11) Why did the Boxer Rebellion begin? Which area of China did Japan and China compete for after this failed rebellion? (813)