

# China on the World Stage: Weighing the U.S. Response

Thirteenth edition. November 2019.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- Begins with European trade interests in the late 1700s and the Opium Wars.
- Explains the May Fourth Movement, the context of the Communist Revolution in 1949, and U.S.-China relations up to and including the 1970s.
- Concludes with an overview of the political, economic, and social transformations that have taken place since the 1980s.

## STUDENT TEXT

- Profiles continuity and changes in China's foreign relations.
- Explains how the Cold War influenced China's politics, and why China embraced economic transformation.
- Describes themes in U.S.-China relations, such as trade, human rights, nuclear weapons, and cyber-warfare.
- Contextualizes China's leadership within its region.
- Forecasts conflicts and opportunities as China expands its interests globally.

## CENTRAL ROLE PLAY ACTIVITY

**Question:** What should the U.S. policy towards China be?

**Setting:** U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

## SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

- **Analyze** photographs and evaluate what they indicate about Chinese society today.
- **Contextualize** over time U.S.-China relations through analysis of three key documents.
- **Consider** the idea of censorship through the art of Ai Weiwei.
- **Explore** graphs, timelines, and statistics to visually represent multiple perspectives on the basics of the conflict across the Taiwan Strait.
- **Analyze** diplomatic statements, speeches, and cartoons.
- **Collaborate** with classmates to synthesize readings, lessons, and position profiles into class presentations.
- **Listen** actively and deliberate with peers the complex viewpoints expressed.
- **Reflect** and write their own position on U.S. policy towards China.

## LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

**Videos** - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions.

**Print Format** - This unit [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

**Digital Editions Format** - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).