

AN EMERGING WORLD POWER**Geography and History****Carving China: Spheres of Influence**

At the end of the nineteenth century, China was weak and disorganized—a prime target for imperialist countries wanting more territory. Instead of competing against one another, Russia, Japan, and several European nations “carved” China into areas in which each nation would have privileged access to ports, trading, and other rights. The Chinese map became a patchwork of “spheres of influence,” as these areas were called. ♦ *Study the map and think about how America might have viewed this situation. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions below.*



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Questions to Think About

- Which European country was the largest trading partner in Nepal, Tibet, and Bhutan?
- Draw Conclusions** What issue did the United States have with the spheres of influence?
- Draw Inferences** After looking at the map, why do you think the U.S. would try to insist on an “Open Door” policy that demanded equal access to trade?
- Apply Information** A later part of America’s policy towards China was to “preserve Chinese territorial and administrative entity.” How would this benefit the United States?