THE QUESTION:

In the nineteenth century, an era of intensifying European imperialism signaled a momentous shift in the course of world history (imperialism is defined as the militarized/administrative control of territory by a distant mother-country --such as Britain in India). In your (contextually) detailed and chronological essay you are required to identify at least two key historical processes that led to this era of intensifying European imperialism. See the paragraph below for strong hints. The key historical processes that you analyze should reveal that you know the MAJOR themes and KEY content of the lectures/readings in HIST 125, particularly the second half of the course (Trans-Atlantic slave trade to the rise of 19th-century European imperialism).

HOW DO I THINK ABOUT ANSWERING THE QUESTION?

The first half of your essay might examine how the “Industrial Revolution” (and the related rise of the “Free Trade” British Empire, which grew powerful with rich colonial sugar production and slave labor in the Atlantic wars) led to intensifying European imperialism in the nineteenth century. The second half of your essay should show how the First Opium War (India/China/Asia) and/or the Scramble for Africa provide examples of intensifying European imperialism in the nineteenth century. In your conclusion, you need to consider whether the center of the world had in fact shifted back to the Indian Ocean zone by the nineteenth century.

It is better if you integrate key concepts/names/events below.

1. Straight of Malacca 2. “Black Death” 3. Age of Discovery 4. Queen Isabela

5. Al-Idrisi 6. Janissary Corps 7. Era of Legitimate Commerce

8. Mongol Empire 9. World Population Boom 10. Genoa and Venice

11. “Sugar Revolution” 12. 1877 Indian Famine 13. Corn, potatoes and beans

14. James Watt’s steam engine 15. Mughal Empire 16. “vertically integrated”

17. Adam Smith 18. French Revolution 19. Louis XVI

20. 1849 London Cholera Epidemic 21. British (English) East India Co.

22. Viceroy Lord Lytton 23. Scottish Country Traders 24. Emperor Menelik II

25. Robert Forbes 26. Earth Apple 27. Atlantic Revolutions

28. “Rights of Man” 29. Middle Passage 30. Scramble for Africa

31. Hong merchant 32. 1st Opium War 33. Era of “Legitimate Commerce”

34. Maxim gun 35. Qing Dynasty 36. Toussaint L'Ouverture

37. Commissioner Lin 38. St. Domingue 39. Cecil John Rhodes

40. Conference of Berlin 41. King Leopold II 42. Congo/Kongo civil war veterans