

# Africa-China Relationship and its Global Impact K-12 Educator workshop

Sample DBQ

Prompt:

Please use the documents provided below to compare Africa, China, and Europe's past and present-day relationships.

Document 1

Trade Routes: Africa, Asia, Europe 1500

Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/541417186439220124/>

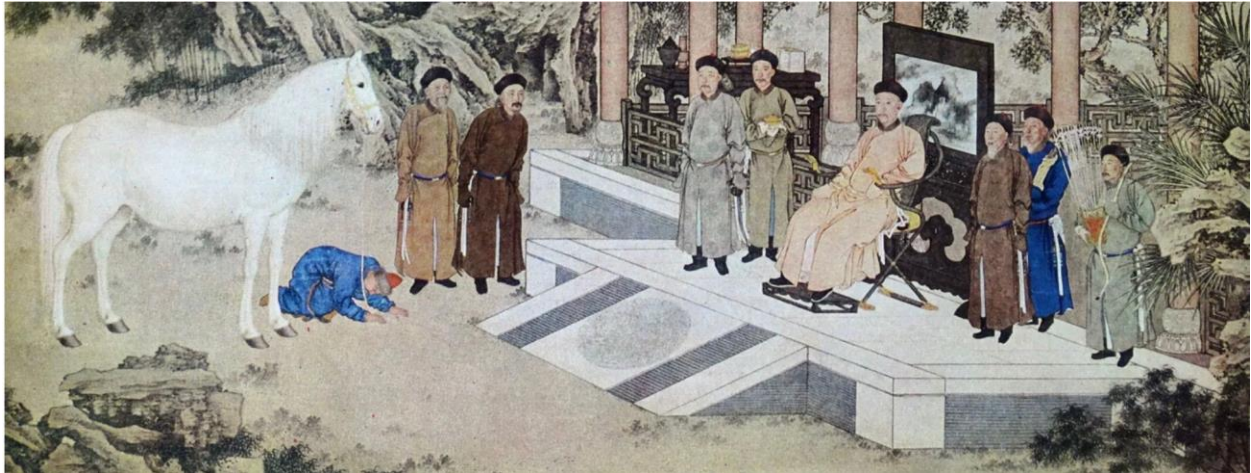


1. What were the major trade networks in Africa in 1500?
2. Across which ocean did the east coast of Africa trade and with which countries and regions did this trade connect the continent of Africa?
3. Which regions did the Silk Roads reach?
4. Which regions did the Mediterranean Sea trade routes reach?
5. Based on the map, how would you summarize early 16<sup>th</sup> century trade between Africa, Europe, and Asia?

Document 2

Giuseppe Castiglione: Qianlong emperor receiving a Tatar horse tribute

Source: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/tributary-system>

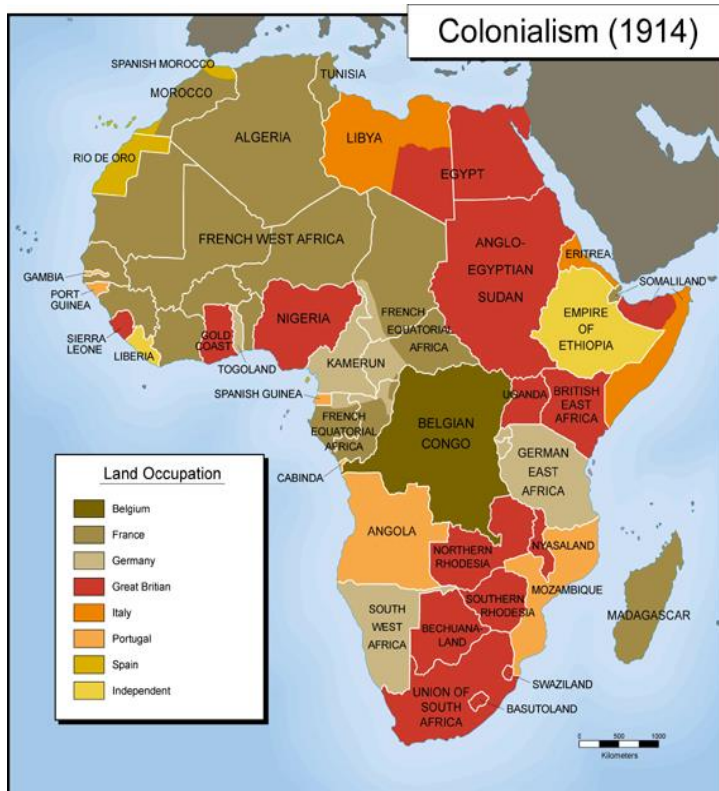


1. How did the term “Middle Kingdom” represent China’s historic views of itself?
2. What was the tributary system? How did the tributary system relate to China’s trade and the “Middle Kingdom” concept?

### Document 3

#### Colonialism in Africa, 1914

Source: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/276619602097210422/>



1. Which European countries were major colonizers of Africa by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century?
2. What are some reasons that European countries became colonizers?

## Document 4

The Scramble for Africa: the Berlin Conference, 1884-1885

Source: <https://www.shutterstock.com/editorial/image-editorial/the-scramble-for-africa-the-berlin-conference-18841885-9845440a>

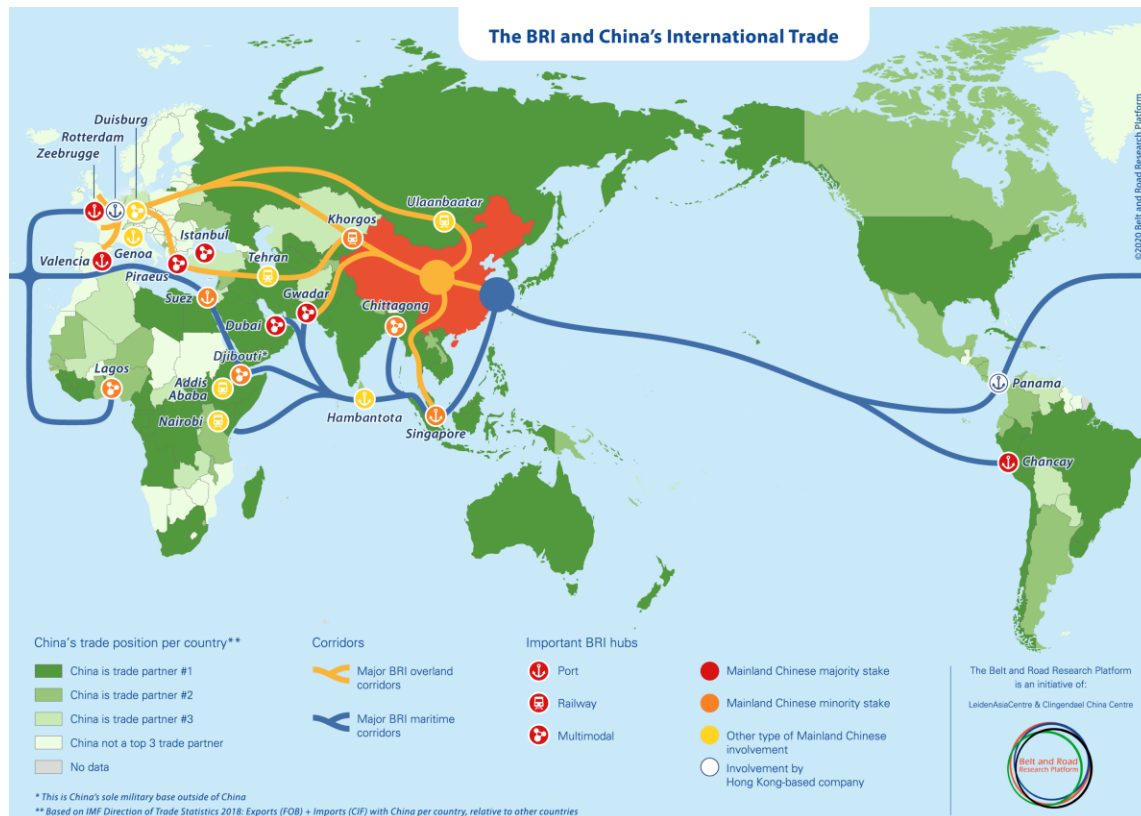


1. What was the purpose and what were the results of the Berlin Conference?
2. What does the political cartoon suggest about the relationship between European powers and the continent of Africa?

## Document 5

### The BRI & China's International Trade

Source: <https://www.clingendael.org/publication/new-map-belt-and-road-initiative>

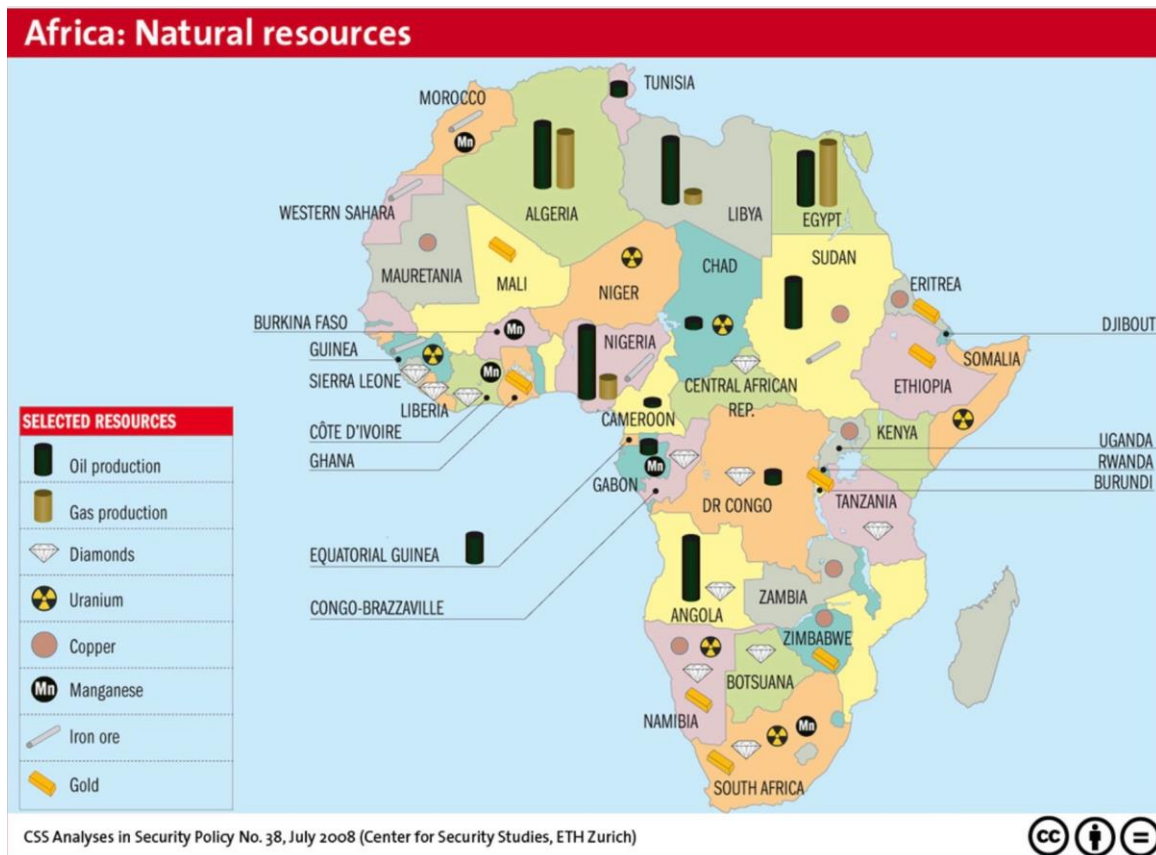


1. What are some countries in Africa that are part of China's Belt & Road Initiative?
2. Which kinds of hubs are present in African countries and why?
3. Which countries of Europe are part of China's Belt & Road Initiative?
4. Which kinds of hubs are present in these European countries and why?

## Document 6

### Africa Natural Resources

Source: <https://africaworldgeography.weebly.com/natural-resources.html>



1. Why are the natural resources of African countries shown on the map above so critical for today's global supply chain?
2. What are some of the industries in which the resources are used and what products are manufactured from them?

## Document 7

Source: [The State Council Information Office The People's Republic of China](#)

"Through Belt and Road Initiative, roads, railways, bridges, hospitals, schools and airports among others, have been constructed in Africa, which has boosted trade, increased job creation, improved transport services and education and health among African countries."

1. What is the Chinese government's view of the Belt & Road Initiative's impact in African countries?

## Document 8

Source: [https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/opinion/cartoon/2017-05/02/content\\_29159468.htm](https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/opinion/cartoon/2017-05/02/content_29159468.htm)



1. What message does the cartoon appear to convey about China's Belt & Road Initiative in African countries?

## Document 8

Source: [Foreign Policy "U.S. Apathy Paved the Way for China in Africa"](#)

“There are serious problems with Chinese lending to the continent, especially a deep [lack of transparency](#) and dangerous levels of indebtedness for some. But it is untrue that China has practiced anything like outright debt trap diplomacy, as many Western critics have alleged. China would greatly prefer that its borrowers pay its money back, and few things could do more for Beijing’s global image than to see its partners in the so-called developing world thrive.”

1. How would you summarize the author’s views on China’s Belt & Road Initiative loans in African countries?

## Document 9

Source: [Associated Press article "China's loans pushing world's poorest countries to brink of collapse." 5/18/2023](#)

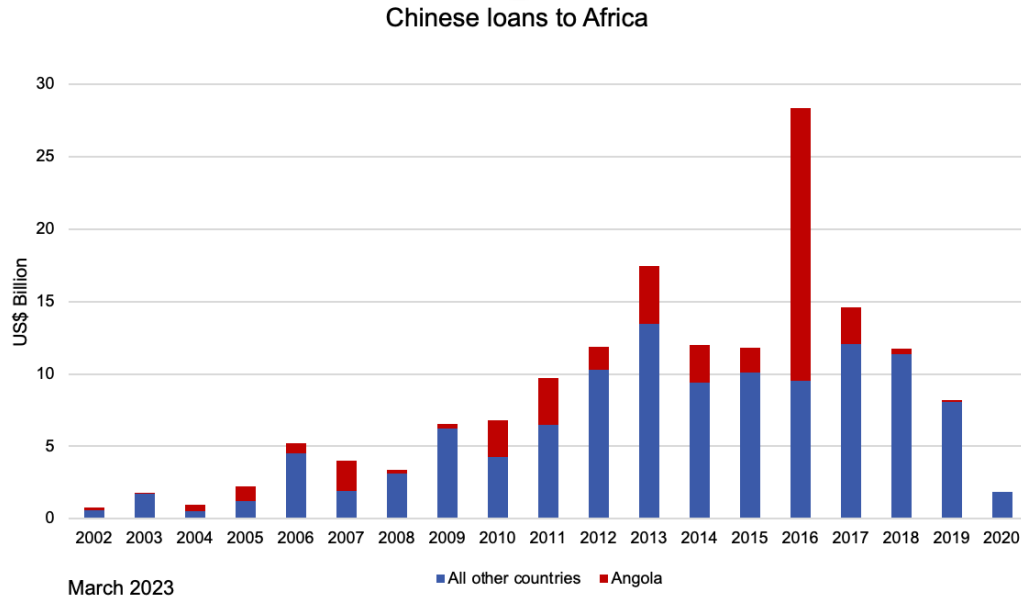
“A case study of how it has played out is in Zambia, a landlocked country of 20 million people in southern Africa that over the past two decades has borrowed billions of dollars from Chinese state-owned banks to build dams, railways and roads. The loans boosted Zambia’s economy but also raised foreign interest payments so high there was little left for the government, forcing it to cut spending on healthcare, social services and subsidies to farmers for seed and fertilizer. In the past under such circumstances, big government lenders such as the U.S., Japan and France would work out deals to forgive some debt, with each lender disclosing clearly what they were owed and on what terms so no one would feel cheated. But China didn’t play by those rules. It refused at first to even join in multinational talks, negotiating separately with Zambia and insisting on confidentiality that barred the country from telling non-Chinese lenders the terms of the loans and whether China had devised a way of muscling to the front of the repayment line.”

1. How would you summarize the author’s views on China’s Belt & Road Initiative loans in Zambia?

## Document 10

Source: [China Africa Research Initiative](#)





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1. What does the graph suggest about China’s relationship with Africa over the past decades?
2. Consider conducting some research on Angola to further study its relationship with China. What natural resources does Angola possess?
3. What might be some reasons for China’s decreasing amount of loans to African countries in 2020?

## Document 11

Source: [The History of European-African Trade-Geopolitical Features](#)

Largely because of its proximity and energy resources, North Africa trades significantly more with Europe than does the rest of Africa. The top three exporters of **oil** from Africa to Europe – Nigeria, Libya and Algeria – are located in northern and western Africa. In addition, France’s significant role in Africa as a former colonial power helps explain West Africa’s position as the

second-largest trader with Europe. On the European side, **France, Germany, Spain, the Netherlands, Italy and Belgium** are the largest trade partners with Africa. Not only are these countries close to Africa and home to some of the largest economies in Europe, but they were also the main European colonizers of Africa.

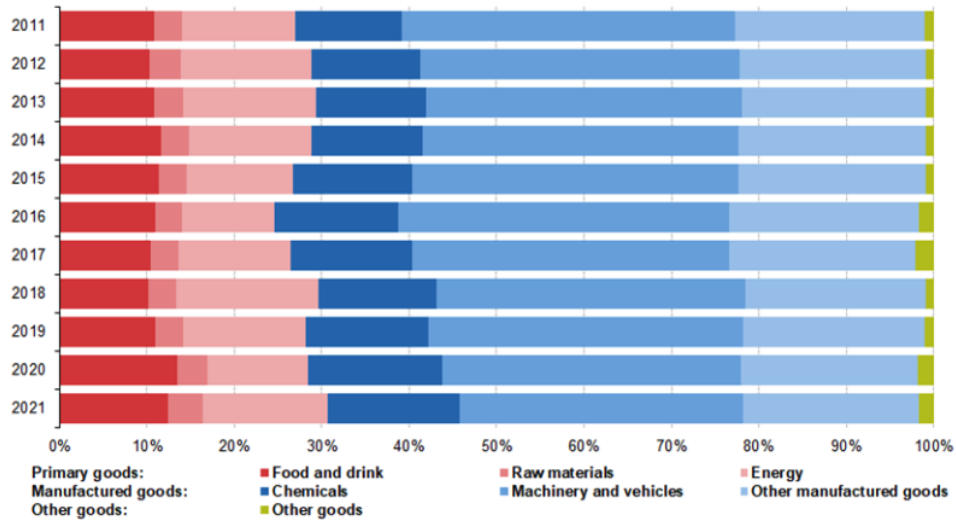
1. Which region of Africa trades more with Europe than does the rest of Africa and why?
2. According to the author, why might many countries of Africa trade the most with countries in Europe?

## Document 12

Source Graph 1: [Eurostat](#); Source Graph 2: [Eurostat](#)

### EU exports of goods to Africa by main product groups, 2021

(shares of total exports in value)

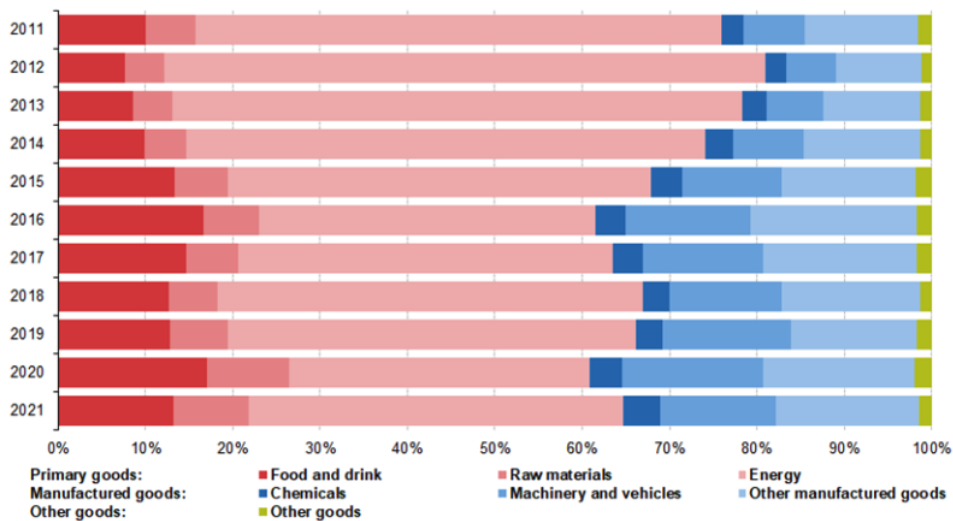


Source: Eurostat (online data code: Comext data code : DS-018995)

eurostat

### EU imports of goods from Africa by main product groups, 2021

(shares of total exports in value)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: Comext data code : DS-018995)

eurostat

1. Which goods make up the majority of imports from the EU to Africa?
2. Which goods make up the majority of imports from Africa to the EU?
3. Which goods make up the minority of imports from the EU to Africa?

4. Which goods make up the minority of imports from Africa to the EU?
5. What might the kinds of goods imported from the EU to Africa and from Africa to the EU suggest about the economies of the Eurozone and the continent of Africa? How do the economies of the Eurozone and the continent of Africa differ from one another?