

Student task 1:

Use the following links to help you understand the patterns of trade between China and Africa. Study the different maps, graphs and statistics to gain a more detailed insight into these patterns across the continent and the nature of these trade links (what goods and resources are involved).

- Chinese infrastructure projects in Africa:
www.chinasourcingblog.org/China%20Infrastructure%20Projects.png
- Reviving the silk road:
www.straitstimes.com/sites/default/files/articles/2017/05/14/china-silkroad-security.jpg
- China's assistance to Africa:
intpolicydigest.org/2011/07/12/the-impact-of-china-s-growing-influence-in-africa/

Student task 2:

1. Cut out the following statements.
2. Use them to try and analyse the following debate statement:
'Is China's relationship with Africa a new form of neocolonialism?'
3. You could complete a concept map or try to classify the statements.
4. Now write two arguments, one supporting the statement and one opposing it.

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| 1. Over half of China's foreign aid is distributed in Africa | 2. Infrastructure programmes organised by the Chinese government are often carried out by Chinese workers |
| 3. The Chinese Ministry of Commerce reported \$50 billion in new contracts in 2015 | 4. In 2011, Human Rights Watch reported that Zambian workers were being mistreated in Chinese owned copper mines; claims were made of unsafe working conditions, exploitative hours and threats to those that complained |
| 5. Chinese funded infrastructure programmes have created roads, railways, schools and hospitals | 6. During the Ebola crisis in Western Africa, China was applauded; China's assistance was the first to reach the three worst affected countries in West Africa - Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, and they provided \$120 million of medical aid as well as more than 1200 medical personnel |
| 7. Like U.S. and European factory owners who moved their factories to China in past decades, Chinese firms are now outsourcing their own manufacturing to cheaper countries | 8. 40% of Chinese loans since the year 2000 have paid for power generation and transmission. Another 30% went to modernising Africa's crumbling transport infrastructure |
| 9. One third of stories claiming China was "land grabbing" arable land in Africa have been proven to be false, and only 4% of the amount of land claimed to have been "grabbed" by China has actually been acquired | 10. Chinese demand for African ivory, rhinoceros tusk and materials from other endangered species has been detrimental to conservation efforts |



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| <p>11. The Chinese President, Xi Jinping has recently lifted the two term limited clause, which means he could stay in office indefinitely should he wish. This could embolden African leaders who have struck deals with China and may be reluctant to leave their posts</p> | <p>12. Fruit and textile products from Benin enter China via the New Port of Tianjin, and are exempt from tariffs</p> |
| <p>13. Kenya's former Prime Minister Raila Odinga was concerned that the country was importing tractors from China year after year without a guarantee of a tractor manufacturing plant</p> | <p>14. China is currently Africa's largest trading partner, and relies on African markets for a steady flow of natural resources to sustain its manufacturing</p> |
| <p>15. China imports a variety of natural resources from Africa, ranging from oil, iron ore, timber and copper.</p> | <p>16. In 2015 China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi insisted "China will not sacrifice Africa's ecological environment and long term interests"</p> |
| <p>17. During the presidency of Olusegun Obasanjo's government in Nigeria, 'oil for infrastructure' deals were established, and were welcomed in Beijing. These deals died with the passing of his presidency in 2007</p> | <p>18. The China-Africa bilateral trade pattern involves mainly raw materials leaving Africa and finished goods coming back</p> |
| <p>19. One million Chinese citizens now live in Africa (many of them away from their families in China)</p> | <p>20. China has the most peacekeepers in Africa of the UN Security members, with more than 2000 troops in countries including Congo and Sudan</p> |
| <p>21. Chinese executives opened fire on workers protesting against poor pay and conditions at the Collum coal mine in Zambia</p> | <p>22. In 2014 alone China invested £56bn in African infrastructure</p> |
| <p>23. In Angola, Chinese construction firms have built an entire city (Nova Cidade de Kilamba) that still stands empty</p> | <p>24. Gau Hau, a career railway adviser for the state owned China Railway Construction Corporation Limited (CRCC) says: "if China was to keep up sustainable development for many years, China has to secure a supply of natural resources and minerals to feed our industries."</p> |
| <p>25. Since China's open door policy was launched in 1978, China has needed to secure the raw materials needed to sustain its economic growth</p> | <p>26. As China's imports are accompanied by nearly an equivalent amount of exports of manufactured products, China's trade with African countries may prevent them from diversifying towards more industrial economies</p> |



Teacher notes:

This activity fits with A level topics including superpowers and globalisation. It addresses the issue of trade partnerships, and questions whether China's strengthening links with countries in Africa are balanced/mutually beneficial or represent a new form of neocolonialism.

1. Complete starter activity from slide one of PowerPoint to engage students with issues surrounding China's trade relationship with countries in Africa.
2. Introduce the concept of debating the following question:
"Is China's relationship with Africa a new form of neocolonialism?"
3. Use the statements about China's trading relationship with Africa to analyse the extent to which China's relationship with Africa represents a new form of neocolonialism. This could be done in a number of ways:
 - a. a simple oppose or support the statement.
 - b. as a concept map or classification exercise.
 - c. or designate roles for students to follow, such as:
 - i. Leader of National Government such as Kenya (may have concerns about whether trading relationship is balanced, but will welcome funding of major infrastructure projects etc.).
 - ii. Representative of Chinese Government (e.g. Foreign Minister).
 - iii. Representatives of other nations (e.g. USA. Countries such as USA have strong trading links with Africa as well, and may feel that China is having too much influence in the continent).
 - iv. Conservationist (likely to have concerns about the influence of China on the ecology in Africa, due to demand for products from endangered animals such as rhino).
4. To develop the arguments for the debate, students should undertake further research to support their arguments. The following links could help:

Further research:

- www.theguardian.com/global-development-professionals-network/2016/dec/22/the-new-scramble-for-africa-how-china-became-the-partner-of-choice
- www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-18901656
- harvardpolitics.com/world/chinas-investment-in-africa-the-new-colonialism/

Extension:

The debate could be carried out formally or more informally as a precursor to a piece of essay writing.

This weblink offers some suggestions for how to conduct the debate:

www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/teacher-blog/2012/jun/18/pupil-class-debate