**Korea: From Hermit Kingdom to Colony by Michael J. Seth - Questions**

1. Why do some historians believe that Korea was in decline after 1800?
2. Which class dominated Korean society and why?
3. What evidence is there that traditional Korean culture flourished well into the 19th century?
4. Why was Korea named the ‘Hermit Kingdom’ in the 19th century?
5. What exceptions were there to this isolation?
6. Which country did Korea look up to as being the home of civilisation? Why was this?
7. What changes occurred in East Asia that worried Korean between 1830 to 1860?
8. What was *Sohak*?
9. Why did the Korean government persecute the Christian community in the early 19th century?
10. What reforms did Taewongun institute between 1864-1873?
11. What was the outcome of the French mission to Korea in 1866?
12. What happened to the US ship *General Sherman*?
13. What was the outcome of the 1871 US mission to Korea?
14. What evidence is there that Korea was **not** in terminal decline in the late 19th century?
15. According to the article, what was the main reason why Korea declined in power?
16. What was the impact of the Treaty of Kanghwa on Korea?

**Opening the Hermit Kingdom by Wilson Strand – Questions**

1. When was the Choson dynasty established?
2. Who invaded Korea in the 16th and 17th centuries?
3. When and which European countries tried to open trade with Korea before 1870?
4. Why was the Korean government resistant to Christianity?
5. How many Christians were there in Korea by the 1860s?
6. Who became King of Korea in 1864?
7. What was the role of the Taewongun?
8. Why was Queen Min murdered in 1895?
9. Was the ‘General Sherman’ mission to Korea an entirely American mission?
10. What happened to the *General Sherman*?
11. How did the *General Sherman* mission affect Korean views about foreigners?
12. Why did the French launch a mission to Korea in 1866?
13. What happened to the French mission? Why did it fail?
14. How were Christians treated after the French mission?
15. What happened to Ernst Oppert’s mission to Korea in 1866?
16. What happened during his third expedition in May 1868?
17. Why did the Americans launch another mission to Korea in 1868?
18. What happened to the mission? Was it successful?
19. How did the Japanese manage to open Korea to trade?
20. What were the terms of the Treaty of Kanghwa?