

## Written Assignment 2

### Requirements

Write a brief 250-500 word essay in response to one of the following two prompts. If necessary, you may slightly exceed the 500-word limit. Your essay should follow the usual rules of English grammar and spelling. For guidance on questions of style, consult the document labeled "Editing Suggestions," or Strunk and White or the [MIT Online Writing Communication Center](#).

### Prompts

- 1) Why did the work of the early Jesuit missionaries in China appeal to some prominent Chinese scholar-officials trained in Confucian thought? Consider evidence from the Jesuit letters of the 1580s you read, as well as Li Zhizhao's preface to Matteo Ricci's *The True Meaning of the Lord of Heaven*.
- 2) Compare the descriptions of the Japanese in Ch. 10 of Joao Rodrigues' *Account of Sixteenth-Century Japan* with the descriptions of Catholic missionaries in the Japanese pamphlet *Kirishitan Monogatori*. Identify a strength and a weakness of each account. You should focus on one passage in each text.

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