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A quick guide to the US-China trade war

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The US and China are locked in a bitter trade battle.

Over the past year, the world's two largest economies have imposed tariffs on billions of dollars worth of one another's goods.

US President Donald Trump has long accused China of unfair trading practices and intellectual property theft.

In China, there is a perception that the US is trying to curb its rise.

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Negotiations are ongoing but have proven difficult. The two sides remain far apart on issues including how to roll back tariffs and enforce a deal.

The uncertainty is hurting businesses and weighing on the global economy.

What tariffs have been imposed?

Mr. Trump's tariffs policy aims to encourage consumers to buy American by making imported goods more expensive.

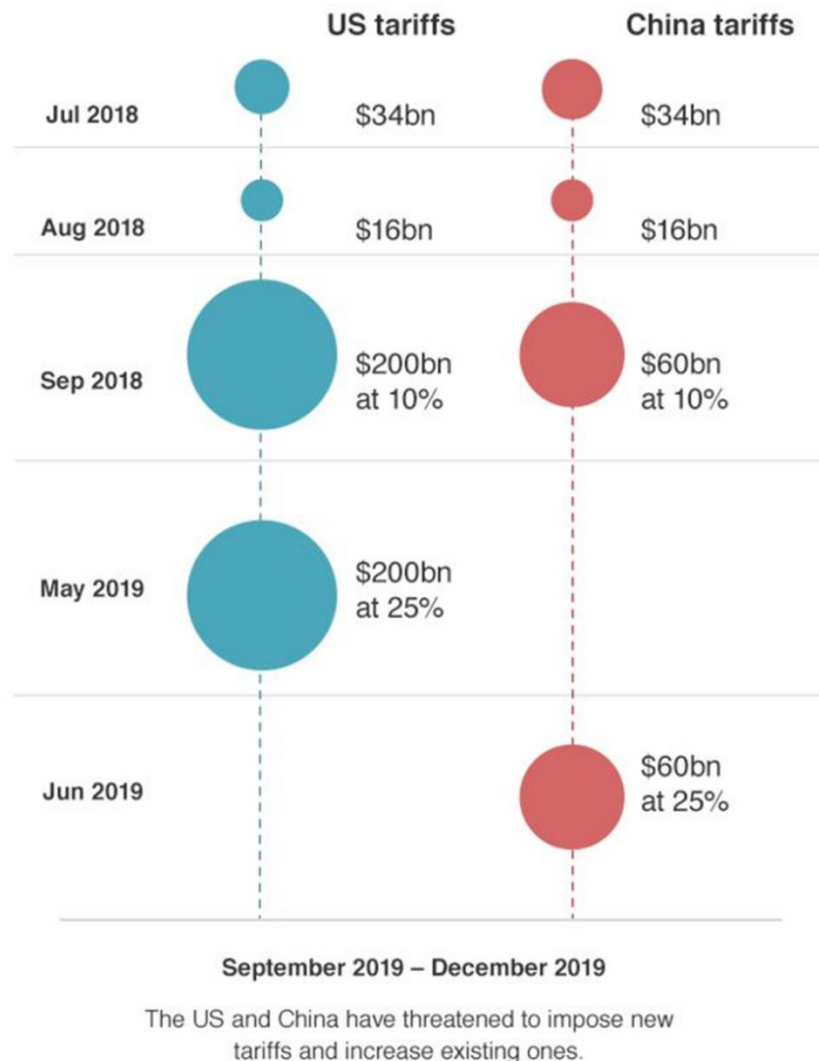
So far, the US has imposed tariffs on more than \$360bn (£296bn) of Chinese goods, and China has retaliated with tariffs on more than \$110bn of US products.

Washington delivered three rounds of tariffs last year, and a fourth one in September. **The latest round targeted Chinese imports, from meat to musical instruments, with a 15% duty.**

Beijing has hit back with tariffs ranging from 5% to 25% on US goods.

Its latest tariff strike included a 5% levy on US crude oil, the first time fuel has been hit in the trade battle.

How the US-China trade war has escalated



Source: BBC research

BBC

What's next?

Both sides have threatened to take more action with new tariffs and hikes to existing duties in the coming months.

On 1 October, the US plans to raise an existing 25% tariff on some Chinese products to 30%.

Washington then plans to deliver a wave of new tariffs on Chinese goods, ranging from footwear to telephones, on 15 December.

If this happens, effectively all Chinese goods imported to the US will be subject to tariffs.

China also plans to hit another 3,000 American products with tariffs by the end of the year.

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