



◀ *More than 2,000 years ago, Confucius founded a system of beliefs. He unknowingly had an impact on the whole world. [Date of image unknown]*

1750 B.C.E. TO 220 C.E.

Early China

CHAPTER 8

ASKING ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

What makes a culture unique? • How do new ideas change the way people live? • How do governments change?

What Will I Learn? I will learn about the beliefs, organization, and important figures of early Chinese civilization.

Why Does It Matter To Me? Chinese culture has influenced many regions of the world for centuries. People worldwide value ideas found in Chinese philosophy, such as Confucius's Golden Rule. People still use traditional Chinese medicine, such as acupuncture. You will learn about cultural values, such as duty toward elders, and reflect upon the role of such values in today's culture.

How Will I Know That I Learned It? I will be able to describe characteristics of early Chinese civilization and identify important people, events, and ideas from this period.

LESSON 1

The Birth of Chinese Civilization

LESSON 2

Society and Culture in Ancient China

LESSON 3

The Qin and Han Dynasties



GO DIGITAL
It's All Online!

FOLDABLES
Study Organizer

Go to the Foldables® library in the back of your book to make a Foldable® that will help you take notes while reading this chapter.

Using Your Inquiry Journal As you read this chapter and examine the primary sources, use your Inquiry Journal to help you make notes and expand your list of questions. As you gather information, think about how you will answer the Essential Questions above.

PLACE & TIME Early China 1750 B.C.E. to 220 C.E.

CHINA c. 1750 B.C.E. TO 190 C.E.

How and where did civilization begin in China? Artifacts that archaeologists have found in the Huang He Valley show that this valley is the first center of Chinese civilization. Historians believe that the valley's rich soil encouraged people to settle there to farm and eventually to build towns.

STEP INTO THE PLACE



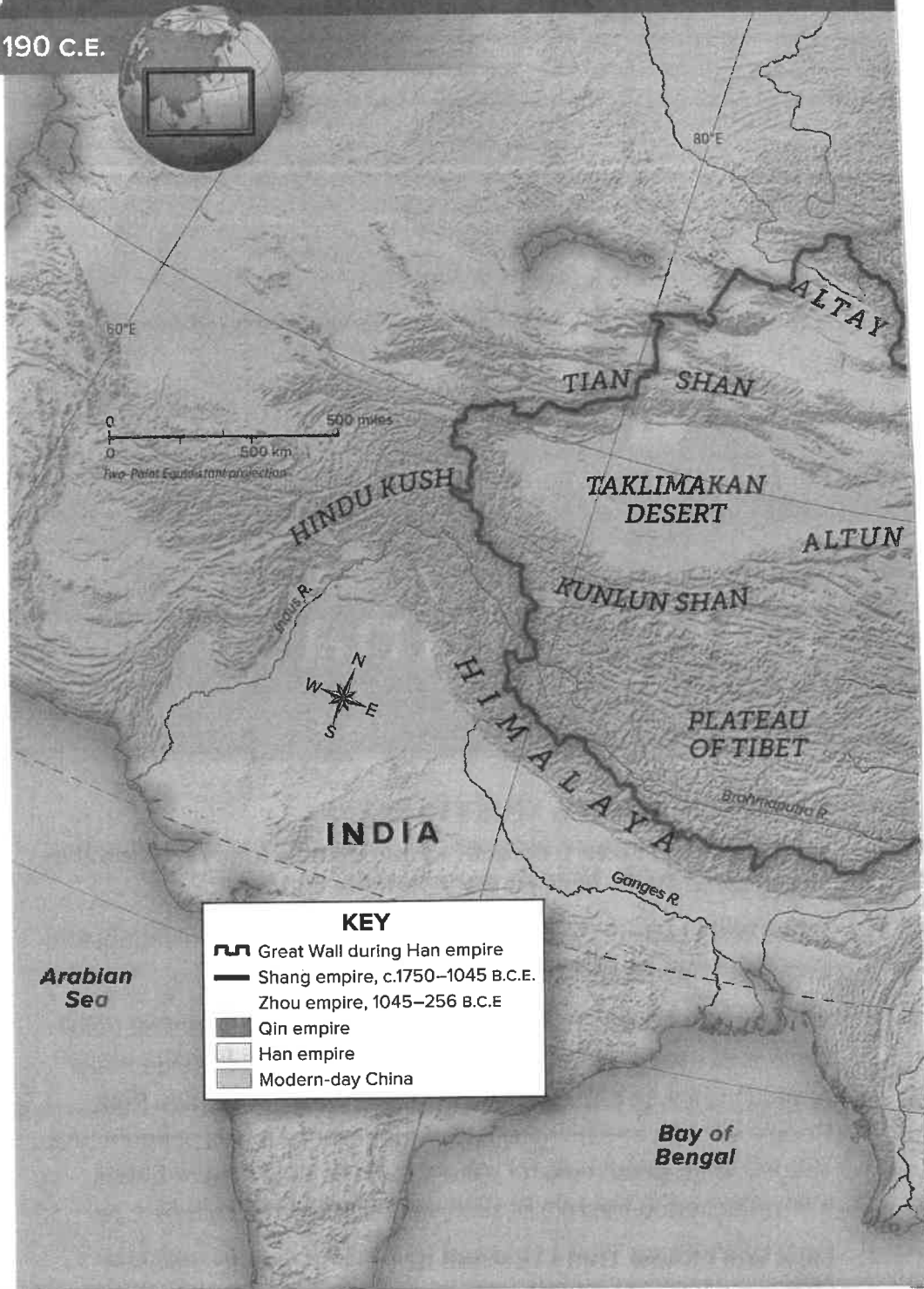
GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

The borders of a country are rarely permanent. The land that makes up China has changed over the years.

- 1. EXPLORING REGION** What bodies of water border Chinese lands to the east?
- 2. PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** In which direction did most of the Han Empire expansion take place?

STEP INTO THE TIME

SEQUENCING Place these events in order: the first Olympic Games, Alexander the Great conquers Persia, the earliest Chinese dynasty is established, Buddhism spreads into China, and the philosopher Confucius is born.



EARLY CHINA

c. 1750 B.C.E.
Shang dynasty begins

2000 B.C.E.

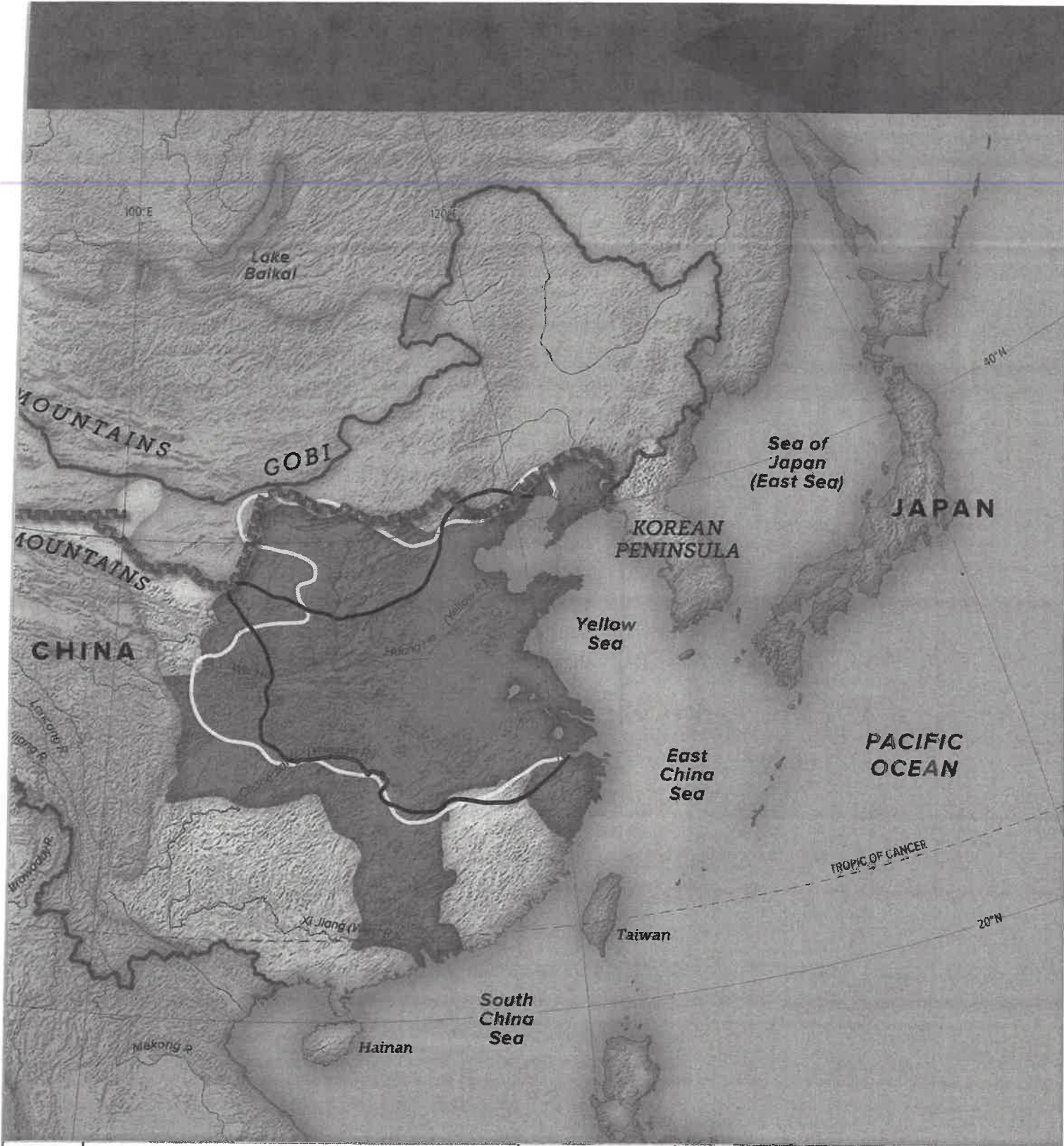
1750 B.C.E.

1500 B.C.E.

THE WORLD

c. 2540 B.C.E.
Great Pyramid built in Giza

c. 1290 B.C.E.
Moses leads Israelites from Egypt



c. 1045 B.C.E.
Zhou dynasty established

c. 551 B.C.E.
Confucius is born

c. 221 B.C.E.
Qin dynasty established

c. 202 B.C.E.
Han dynasty established

c. 100 C.E.
Buddhism spreads from India to China

c. 190 C.E.
Han capital of Luoyang destroyed

1000 B.C.E.

750 B.C.E.

500 B.C.E.

1 C.E.

100 C.E.

776 B.C.E.
First Olympic Games held in Greece

c. 563 B.C.E.
The Buddha is born

c. 330 B.C.E.
Alexander the Great conquers Persian Empire

66 C.E.
Jews revolt against Romans.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

• *What makes a culture unique?*

THE STORY BEGINS...

LESSON 1

The Birth of Chinese Civilization

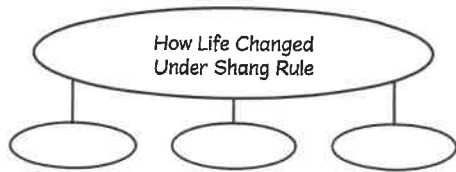
The great river, the Huang He, had caused trouble time and time again. Every family had stories of loss, going back for generations. Again and again, the mighty river rose up and spilled over its banks. Building walls of earth to hold back the water didn't help. The great Yü finally understood that the powerful river could not be fought. One had to work with the water, not against it:

“The inundating [flood] waters seemed to assail [attack] the heavens, and in their vast extent embraced the hills and overtopped the great mounds, so that the people were bewildered and overwhelmed. I . . . opened passages for the streams [throughout the nine provinces], and conducted [led] them to the four seas. I [also deepened] the channels and canals, and conducted them to the streams, sowing [planting grain], at the same time.”

—from *The Sacred Books of China*, “The Yü and Kî,”
[date of origin unknown]

According to legend, Yü dug out channels to control flooding in the Huang He valley.

TEXT: Translated by Legge, James, 1879, *The Sacred Books of China* (The Texts of Confucianism) Vol. III. Oxford: Clarendon Press; PHOTO: ViewStock/Getty Images.



ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify key facts about how life changed under Shang Rule in China. List them in a diagram like this one. Then, citing evidence from the text, describe how beliefs about ancestors shaped the Shang dynasty.

THE LAND OF CHINA

GUIDING QUESTION *How have rivers, mountains, and deserts shaped the development of China's civilization?*

The ancient civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, and India developed along large rivers. Hundreds of years later in East Asia, another civilization began along the Huang He (HWANG HUH). In Chinese, Huang He means “yellow river.” This civilization was China. China has gone through many changes over the centuries, but it is still a strong and growing civilization today.

POWERFUL RIVERS

The Huang He stretches east across China for more than 2,900 miles (4,666 km). It begins in China's western mountains and flows to the Pacific Ocean. On its way, the Huang He cuts through thick layers of rich, yellow soil. This soil is called loess (LEHS). The river carries away large amounts of loess and spreads it farther downstream. The yellow color of the soil in the Huang He gives the river its name.

The rich soil helps farmers grow large amounts of food on small plots of land. As a result, the Huang He valley **emerged** as one of the great wheat-producing areas of the ancient world.

The Huang He has benefited the people of the Huang He valley. The river has also brought great misfortune. The Huang He often overflows its banks, causing enormous floods. Since 600 B.C.E., the Chinese have recorded more than 1,500 floods of the Huang He. These floods have taken millions of lives. The Chinese call the Huang He “China's Sorrow” in honor of the people killed by the floods.

Over time, the people of China moved south and settled near another great river, the Chang Jiang (CHAHNG JYAHNG), or the Yangtze River. The Chang Jiang flows from west to east across central China. It flows through spectacular canyons and broad plains on its way to the East China Sea. The Chang Jiang is about 3,915 miles (6,300 km) long. Only the Amazon in South America and the Nile in Africa are longer.

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. ANALYZING TEXT

PRESENTATION How has the author organized the information in this section?

2. EXPLAINING POINT OF VIEW

Why has the author chosen to organize the information in this way?

MAKING CONNECTIONS

EARLY CHINA'S ISOLATION

China's geographic isolation allowed its culture to develop differently from others. The mountain ranges to the west and Gobi to the north provided boundaries for early China's growth. As China expanded, it absorbed the arts, culture, inventions, and medicine of its different regions. Even with expansion, trade, and warfare in more recent centuries, China has maintained parts of its own distinct culture to this day.

Like the Huang He, the Chang Jiang provides rich soil for farming. Early farmers grew rice along the river's shores. The Chang Jiang was also an important waterway for trade and transportation.

MOUNTAINS AND DESERT

China has fertile river valleys, but only about one-tenth of its land can be farmed. Mountains and desert cover much of the country's land. To the southwest, the Plateau of Tibet and the towering Himalaya separate China from South Asia. The Kunlun Shan and Tian Shan mountain ranges slice through western China. East of the Tian Shan is a vast, rocky desert known as the Gobi.

For centuries, these rugged mountains and the barren desert acted like walls around the country. These barriers limited contacts between China and other civilizations. The Chinese developed a unique culture and a strong sense of independence. They called their land "the Middle Kingdom." To them, it was the center of the world.

CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

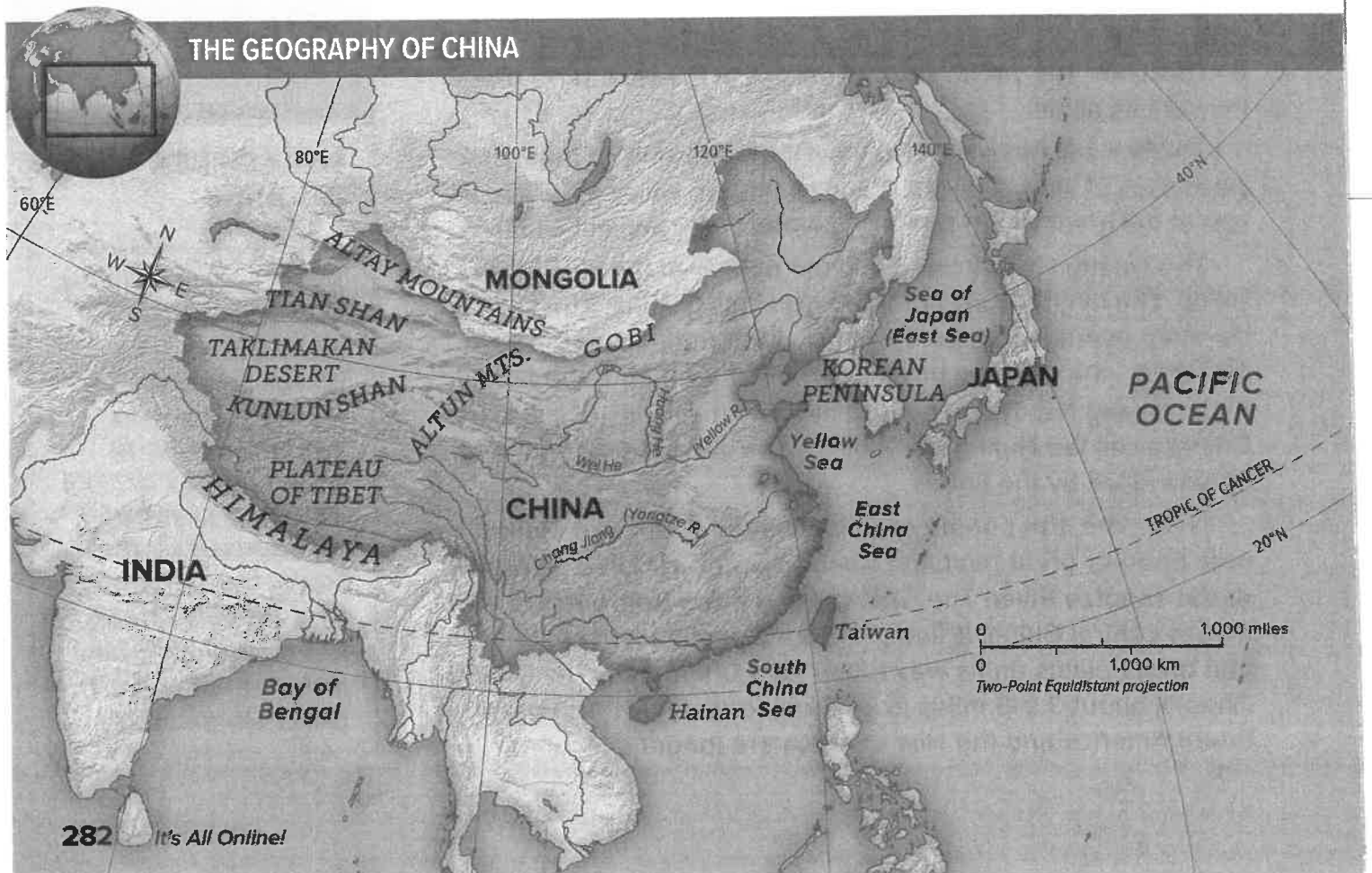
GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

While the country of China has one of the world's largest populations, it has little land that it can use for growing food.

- 1. EXPLORING REGIONS** What is the name of the desert on China's northern border near Mongolia?
- 2. HUMAN POPULATION** What effect did China's mountains and deserts have on its early history?

- 1. IDENTIFYING CAUSES** How did rivers help civilization develop in China?
- 2. SUMMARIZING** How did geographic barriers contribute to the development of a unique culture in ancient China?

THE GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA



THE FIRST CHINESE DYNASTY

GUIDING QUESTION *Why did China's Shang rulers become powerful?*

What we know about the early people of China comes from the things they left behind. Archaeologists have unearthed clay pots and cups in the Huang He valley that date back thousands of years. These artifacts show that the Huang He valley was the birthplace of Chinese civilization.

Archaeologists think that people settled in the valley because of its rich soil. Early settlers farmed the land. As in other early civilizations, people here also used the river for travel and trade. As the population grew, the Chinese began building towns.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Like other early peoples, the ancient Chinese created myths to explain the creation of their world. Many Chinese myths celebrate the deeds of great heroes. Yü the Great was one of these heroes. According to myths, Yü dug the first **channels** to control the floodwaters of the Huang He. Yü chased away the dragon that caused the floods. Then, he started digging the channels. According to the myth, Yü was aided in his task by other dragons. One dragon used its tail to help dig the channels. Still, it took 13 long years to complete the work. After the channels were finished, the flood waters could flow safely away to the sea.

Legend has it that Yü founded China's first dynasty. That dynasty, named the Xia (SHYAH), began about 2000 B.C.E. Archaeologists, however, have not found any historical evidence of the Xia. Based on written records, China's first dynasty is the Shang. Shang kings ruled China from about 1750 B.C.E. to 1045 B.C.E.

WHO WERE THE SHANG?

Archaeologists have unearthed long-buried walls and buildings. These ruins show that the Shang built the first cities in China. Among these cities was the royal capital of Anyang (AHN•YAHNG). A palace and temple stood at the center of the city. Public buildings and the homes of government officials circled this central area. Beyond the city's center stood workshops and other homes.

The king was the most powerful person, serving as the political, religious, and military leader of Shang China. At first, Shang kings controlled only a small area of northern China. In time, the Shang conquered neighboring areas. They ruled over most of the people of the Huang He valley.



Terraced farming, shown here, has helped China overcome the difficult landscape in the past and present.

ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

1. **DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS**
How was society organized during the Shang dynasty?
2. **IDENTIFYING STEPS** In your own words, explain the process Chinese artists used to create and decorate bronze objects.

DETERMINING MEANING

Look at the two parts of the compound word **warlord**. How does the second part, "lord," help you understand the meaning of the word?

As the Shang kingdom grew, kings sent out large armies to defend the kingdom's borders. They appointed people called warlords to govern local territories. **Warlords** are **military** leaders who lead their own armies. Shang kings **relied** on the warlords to stay in power.

Under the king, warlords and other royal officials formed the upper class. They were **aristocrats** (uh•RIHS•tuh•krats), people of noble birth whose wealth came from the land they owned. Aristocrats passed their land and power to their children or to younger family members.

Most people of Shang China were farmers. There were much smaller groups of merchants, artisans, and slaves. The farmers lived in rural villages and worked the land that belonged to the aristocrats. They raised cattle, sheep, and chickens and grew grains, such as millet, wheat, and rice.

People in Shang China worshipped many Gods. The God Shang Ti ruled as supreme God over the lesser Gods. According to legend, the Gods lived in the mountains, rivers, and seas.

The early Chinese both admired and feared the Gods. They believed the Gods could bring good or bad fortune. They attempted to please the Gods by offering gifts of food and other goods.

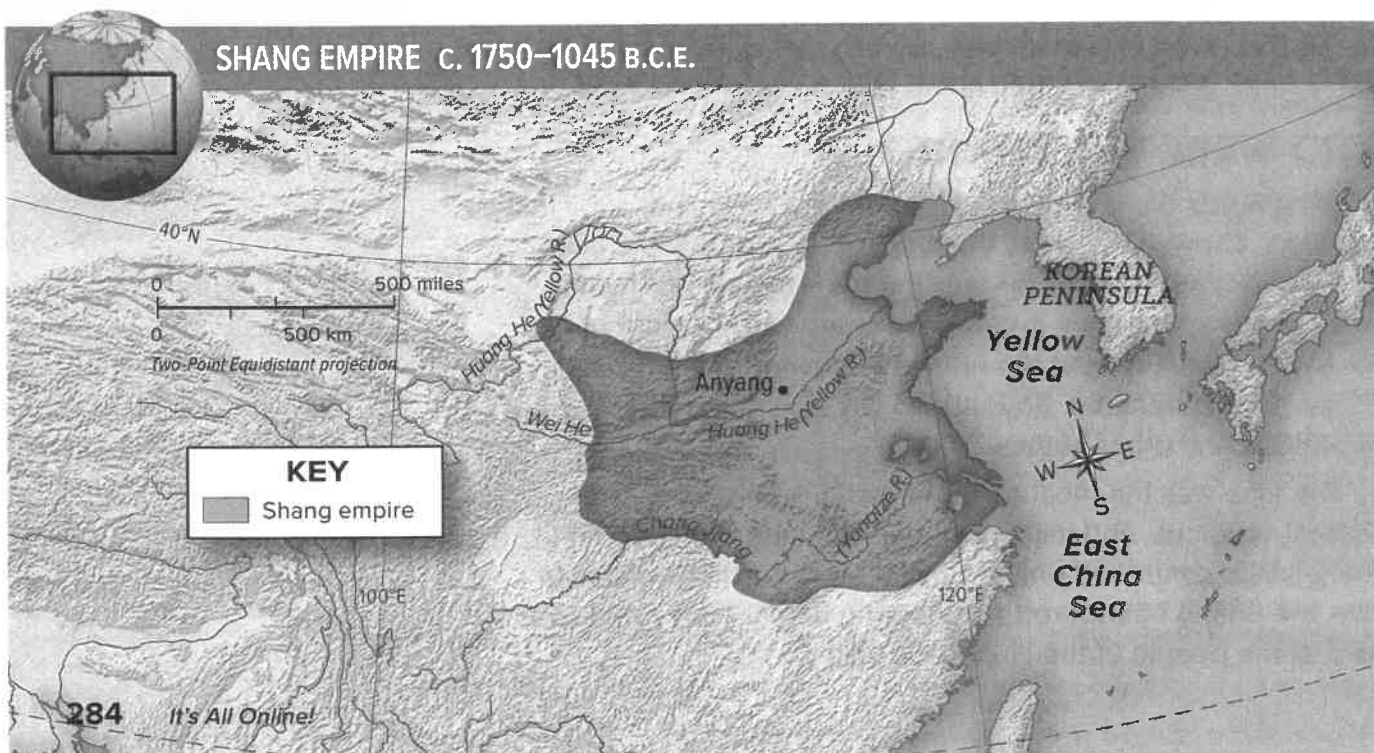
The Chinese also honored their **ancestors**, or long-dead family members. They made offerings to their ancestors. They hoped that their ancestors would bring good luck and help in difficult times. Today, many Chinese still pay respect to their ancestors by going to temples and burning small paper copies of food, clothing, and other items. These copies represent things that departed relatives need in the afterlife.

GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

The Shang are thought to have built the first Chinese cities.

1. **SPATIAL THINKING** What rivers were found within the borders of the Shang dynasty?
2. **HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION** Anyang is the only Chinese city shown on the map. Where would you expect other Chinese cities to be located?

SHANG EMPIRE c. 1750–1045 B.C.E.



ORACLE BONES

Archaeologists study what ancient societies have left behind. Some of what we know about early China comes from the study of oracle bones, such as this one, which is more than 3,000 years old. The bones are a primary source. The characters used to write on these oracle bones are the ancestors of modern Chinese characters. The carvings show that Chinese writing has always used symbols or pictures to represent words. The characters were carved in vertical columns and read from top to bottom, like modern Chinese writing.



SEEKING GUIDANCE FROM ANCESTORS

Shang kings believed that they received their power to rule from the Gods and their wisdom from their ancestors. For this reason, religion and government were closely linked. For the kings, an important duty was to contact the Gods and the ancestors before making important decisions.

The kings asked for help by using oracle (AWR•uh•kuhl) bones. They instructed priests to scratch questions on the bones, such as “Will I win the battle?” or “Will there be an abundant harvest?” Priests heated the oracle bones over a fire until they cracked. The pattern of cracks provided answers from the Gods and ancestors to the king’s questions.

A written language was a key advance in Shang society. The ancient Chinese wrote in pictographs and ideographs. **Pictographs** (PIKH•tuh•grafs) are characters that represent objects. For example, the Chinese characters for the sun and the moon are pictographs. **Ideographs** (IH•dee•uh•grafs) are another kind of character used in Chinese writing. They link two or more pictographs to express an idea. For example, the ideograph that stands for “forest” combines three pictographs of the word “tree.”

Unlike the Chinese language, English and many other languages have writing systems based on an alphabet. An alphabet uses characters that represent sounds. Most characters in the Chinese language represent entire words.



Chinese ideographs combine the pictographs of single items to form a more complex word.

SHANG ARTS

During the Shang dynasty, the Chinese created objects made of bronze. These works of art are some of the finest bronzes ever made. To make bronze objects, artisans made clay molds in several parts. Then they carved designs into the clay. Finally, they joined the parts of the mold together and poured in melted bronze. When the bronze cooled, the artisans removed the mold. The finished object was a beautifully decorated work of art.



The Chinese made bronze objects. This bronze elephant was produced during the Shang dynasty (c. 1000s B.C.E.).

INFERRING What do you think this elephant might have been used for?

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

- ANALYZING TEXT** How does the first paragraph contribute to ideas in the section?
- ANALYZING TEXT PRESENTATION** How does the author organize the information about the Mandate of Heaven?

Shang bronze objects included sculptures, daggers, vases, cups, and urns—or large ceremonial containers. The Shang used bronze urns to prepare and serve food for ceremonies to honor their ancestors.

Chinese artists and artisans made many other important advances. Farmers raised silk worms that produced silk. Weavers then made the silk into colorful clothing for wealthy people. Artisans crafted vases and dishes from kaolin (KAY•eh•lehn), a fine, white clay. They also carved statues from ivory and a green stone called jade.

✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

- IDENTIFYING EFFECTS** Why were warlords important for Shang kings?
- SUMMARIZING** Why did Shang kings have questions scratched on oracle bones?

THE ZHOU: CHINA'S LONGEST DYNASTY

GUIDING QUESTION *How did the Zhou claim the right to rule China?*

According to legend, the last of the Shang rulers was a wicked tyrant. Many Chinese turned against him. In 1045 B.C.E., rebels led by an aristocrat named Wu Wang (WOO WAHNG) overthrew the Shang government. When his victory was complete, Wu declared a new dynasty called the Zhou (JOH). The Zhou ruled China for more than 800 years—longer than any other dynasty in Chinese history.

HOW DID THE ZHOU RULE CHINA?

Zhou kings governed China much as Shang rulers had. The king led the government, ruling with the help of a bureaucracy (byu•RAH•kruh•see). A **bureaucracy** is made up of officials who carry out the tasks of government. The king also put together a strong army to bring local princes and chiefs of outlying territories under Zhou rule.

The Zhou dynasty established control over the vast area of land that ran along and between the Wei He, Huang He, and Chang Jiang river valleys. The sheer size of the areas made the region difficult to govern. Though improved by the Zhou, travel and communication were obstacles. It meant that governmental decrees and laws took time to reach the people.

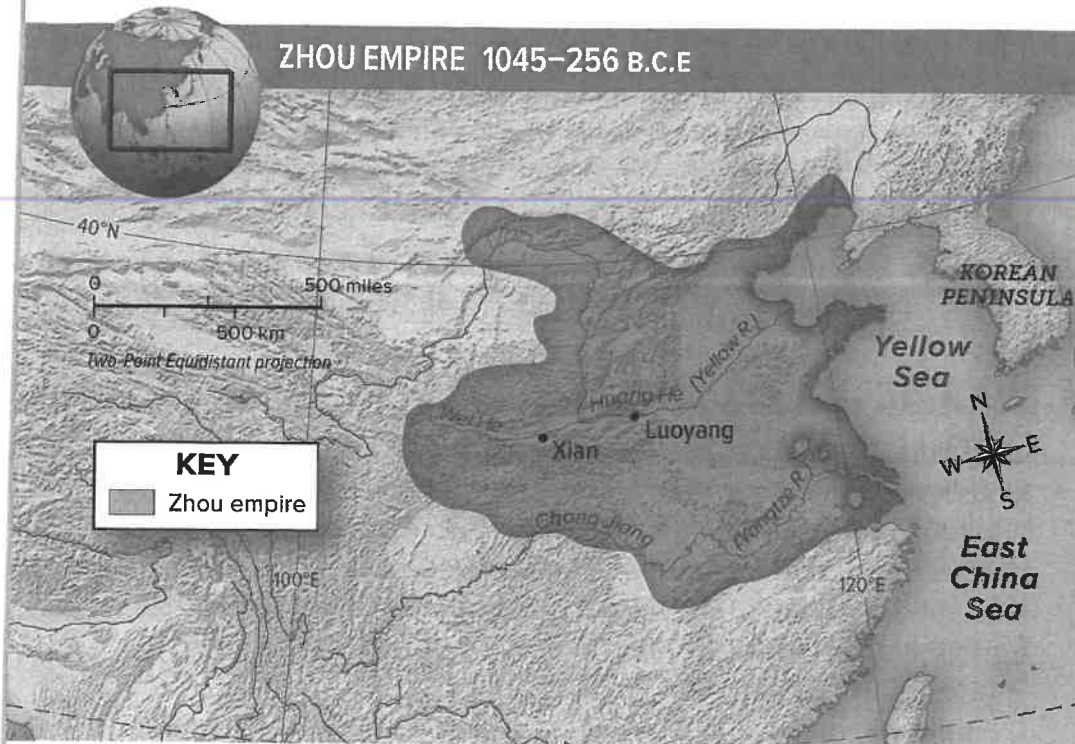
The Zhou kingdom was larger than that of the Shang. To govern effectively, the king divided the kingdom into territories. He assigned loyal aristocrats to govern each of the territories. The positions the aristocrats held were **hereditary**. This meant that when an aristocrat died, a son or another member of his family governed the territory.



This dragon is an example of jade work from the Zhou dynasty, 1045-256 B.C.E.

(t) Martha Avery/Corbis Historical/Getty Images; (b) Barney Burstein/Corbis Historical/Getty Images

ZHOU EMPIRE 1045–256 B.C.E



GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

Zhou rulers maintained the longest lasting dynasty in Chinese history.

- 1. EXPLORING PLACE** What body of water made up the eastern border of Zhou territory?
- 2. HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION** Why did the Zhou divide their kingdom into smaller territories?

The Chinese believed their king represented them before the Gods. The king's chief duty was to carry out religious ceremonies to please the Gods. Zhou kings claimed that kings ruled China because they had the Mandate of Heaven.

THE RIGHT TO RULE

The **Mandate of Heaven** is the belief that the Chinese king's right to rule came from the Gods. The Mandate stated the idea that the Gods chose a wise and good person to rule. The person chosen by the Gods would govern honestly and well. The Mandate was the basis for the king's claim to rule China's vast territory.

The Mandate of Heaven changed what the Zhou people expected from their king. The king must rule by the proper "Way," known as the **Dao** (DOW). His duty was to honor and please the Gods. If there was a natural disaster or a bad harvest, that meant the king had failed and he could be replaced. In the following passage, a minister named Yī gives advice to the emperor:

“Great Heaven regarded you with its favour, and bestowed on [gave] you its appointment . . .

[B]e cautious! . . . Do not fail to observe the laws and ordinances [rules]. . . . Put away evil without hesitation. Do not carry out plans [if you doubt their wisdom]. Study [so] that all your purposes may be with the light of reason. Do not go against what is right [in order] to get the praise of the people. Do not oppose the people's [wishes], to follow your own desires. . . .”

—from *The Sacred Books of China*, “The Counsels of the Great Yü,” [date of origin unknown]

ANALYZING PRIMARY SOURCES

- 1. ANALYZING TEXT STRUCTURE** What kinds of sentences does Yī use? How are most of his sentences structured?
- 2. ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** What does Yī's advice suggest about his point of view on the challenges of being a ruler?

APPLYING VALUES AND DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

The word *mandate* means an official order to do something or having clear authority to take action. In the United States, voters give government officials a mandate by electing them. Sometimes candidates for political office draw attention to particular issues when they are campaigning. If they are elected, they are considered to have a mandate to take the actions they discussed during the campaign. If an election is very close, people often debate whether or not the elected official has a true mandate.

TECHNOLOGY AND TRADE

For many centuries, Chinese farmers had to depend on rain to water their crops. Under Zhou kings, the Chinese developed new systems to irrigate the land. With a better water supply, farmers were able to grow more crops than ever before.

China's trade also expanded. Archaeologists have found pieces of Chinese silk in central Asia and as far away as Greece.

WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

Over time, the aristocrats who ruled the territories of the Zhou kingdom grew more powerful. They ignored the king's commands and took control of their own territory. The aristocrats began to fight one another for power. These wars began in the 400s B.C.E. and went on for nearly 200 years. Because each aristocrat formed his own state, this time in China's history is called the "Period of the Warring States."

To fill the ranks of their armies, the aristocrats forced farmers to serve as soldiers. Chinese soldiers were armed with swords, spears, and crossbows. As the fighting continued through the years, warriors began using horses. The Chinese developed the saddle and stirrup. Now soldiers could ride around the battlefield while throwing spears or shooting crossbows. The wars fought at this time would result in a new dynasty.

CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **IDENTIFYING EFFECTS** How did the Mandate of Heaven change Zhou culture?
2. **SUMMARIZING** What technology was developed in China during the Zhou dynasty?

LESSON 1 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

Time and Place

1. **DESCRIBING** What geographic features isolated ancient China from other civilizations?

Building History-Social Science Analysis Skills

2. **SUMMARIZING** How did Shang rulers gain power?
3. **EXPLAINING IDEAS** What was the chief duty of Zhou kings?
4. **SUMMARIZING** Describe and explain the biggest change for the Chinese people during the Zhou dynasty.

Writing About History

5. **INFORMATIVE WRITING** Write a paragraph that explains why "China's Sorrow" is an appropriate description of the Huang He.

Collaborating

6. **COLLABORATING** With a partner, discuss how early Chinese civilizations made many advances in the arts and agriculture. How might today's farmers benefit from discoveries made by farmers during the Zhou dynasty?



Include this lesson's information in your Foldable®.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- How do new ideas change the way people live?

THE STORY BEGINS...

LESSON 2

Society and Culture in Ancient China

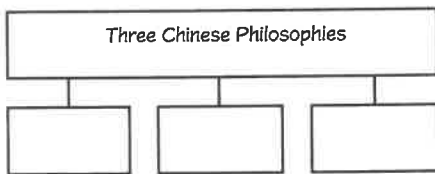
Master Confucius spoke thoughtfully about how to live a good life. He told his students of a man he admired, a man who always thought carefully about what he said and how he behaved. The Master said that this man, Tsze-ch'an, was a model, an example to follow:

“The Master said of Tsze-ch'an that he had four of the characteristics of a superior man: in his conduct . . . he was humble; in serving his superiors, he was respectful; in nourishing the people, he was kind; in ordering the people, he was just. . . . The superior man, extensively studying all learning, and keeping himself under the restraint of the rules of propriety, may thus likewise not overstep what is right.”

—Confucius, *Analects*, “Book V,” compiled
c. 475 B.C.E.-221 B.C.E.



Temples like this one, the Confucius Temple of Kaohsiung, are dedicated to Confucius and his teaching. Originally built in 1684 and rebuilt throughout the years, the Confucius Temple of Kaohsiung is modeled after Song dynasty (960-1279 C.E.) architecture.



ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify three Chinese philosophies that emerged after the fall of the Zhou dynasty. List the philosophies and some details about them in a chart like this one.

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. ANALYZING TEXT

PRESENTATION How does the author organize the information about Chinese philosophies? Why might the author have chosen to organize the section in this way?

2. DETERMINING MEANING The author states that “Daoism taught people to turn away from worldly affairs.” What does this mean? Give some examples of “worldly affairs.”

CHINESE PHILOSOPHIES

GUIDING QUESTION *How did Chinese thinkers influence society and government?*

During the Period of the Warring States, rulers of rival states fought each other. Armies wiped out entire villages of men, women, and children. Many Chinese looked for ways to stop the killing. They wanted to bring order to society.

Between 500 B.C.E. and 200 B.C.E., Chinese thinkers developed three major **philosophies**. They were Confucianism, Daoism, and legalism. These philosophies were different from one another. However, the philosophies had the same goal. Each philosophy aimed to create a well-run and peaceful society. After decades of war, Chinese people welcomed these new ideas.

WHAT IDEAS DID CONFUCIUS TEACH?

Confucianism (kuhn•FYOO•shuh•nih•zuhm) was based on the teachings of a man named Confucius (kuhn•FYOO•shuhs). Born about 550 B.C.E. to a farming family, Confucius lived when rival kings fought each other for power. Confucius criticized the misrule of these kings. He urged the people to follow the beliefs of their ancestors. If people would do that, Confucius believed, it would bring peace and harmony to China.

Duty is a central idea of Confucianism. Duty means that a person places kinship, or family relationships, and community above his or her own needs. Each **individual** has certain kinship duties to fulfill. It is the duty of parents to love their children, and it is the children’s duty to respect their parents. Husbands should support their wives, and wives should obey their husbands. Above all, a ruler had a duty to rule justly and to set an example of right living. In return, subjects should be loyal and obey the law.

Confucius believed that if each individual carried out his or her duties, society would become more stable and orderly. Confucius also promoted the idea of self-respect and respect for others. He urged people to be good. This meant behaving

moderately, keeping one's promises, honoring traditions, and respecting the elderly. Confucius advised people to seek knowledge:

“By extensively studying all learning, and keeping himself under the restraint [control] of the rules of propriety [correct behavior], one may thus likewise not err from what is right.”

—Confucius, *Analects*, XII, 15, compiled c. 475 B.C.E.-221 B.C.E

To Confucius, the right way to live was **similar** to the idea known as the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.” Many people honored Confucius as a great teacher. His followers wrote down his sayings and collected them in a work called the *Analects*. This work contains Confucius's philosophies about kinship, order, and hierarchy, which he felt were important to maintain a peaceful, harmonious society. In addition to fulfilling one's kinship duties, Confucius believed that people needed to understand and respect their position and rank in the hierarchy of society. In doing so, order and peace would be created and preserved.

THE INFLUENCE OF CONFUCIUS

Confucius believed that government service should be open to all moral men with education and talent, not limited to those of noble birth. The aristocrats did not want to open government to more people. They did not want to lose their power. However, over time Chinese emperors developed the practice of choosing government officials through civil service tests. As a result, China's government became stronger.

After Confucius died in 479 B.C.E., his teachings spread throughout China. Although Confucianism continues to influence Chinese and other Asian societies today, the Chinese government is no longer based on Confucianism.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF DAOISM

Another Chinese philosophy, known as **Daoism** (DOW•ih•zuhm) also promoted a peaceful society. The word *Dao* means “path” and is often translated as “the Way.” Daoism began with the ideas of Laozi (LOW•DZUH). Laozi is believed to have lived during the same time as Confucius.

Like Confucianism, Daoism teaches people how to live a good life. Daoists believed that

The Chinese philosopher Confucius taught that people should do their duty and keep promises. [Date of image unknown]





The ideas of Laozi became popular in China between around 500 B.C.E. and 300 B.C.E. Here he is shown riding a water buffalo into the desert. [Ceramic art produced in the 1700s C.E.]

people should free themselves from worldly desires and live simply. They should turn to nature and the Dao—the spiritual force that guides all things. In this way, they would enjoy a happy life and have the possibility of a blissful afterlife.

Daoism is different from Confucianism in some ways. Followers of Confucius taught that people should work hard to make the world better. Daoism taught people to turn away from worldly affairs and live in harmony with nature. Many Chinese followed both Confucianism and Daoism. They believed that the two philosophies supported each other.

LEGALISM

A third philosophy stressed the importance of a system of laws. This philosophy became known as **legalism** (LEE•guh•lih•zuhm), or the “School of Law.” Like the Mandate of Heaven, legalism gave rulers the authority to rule over diverse territories and a sizeable amount of land.

A thinker named Hanfeizi (HAN•fay•DZOO) introduced the ideas of legalism during the 200s B.C.E. Unlike Confucius or Laozi, Hanfeizi believed that humans are naturally evil. Strict laws and harsh punishments were necessary to force people to do their duty.

Many aristocrats supported legalism because it emphasized force. Legalism did not require rulers to consider the needs or wishes of their people. Its ideas led to cruel punishments for even the smallest crimes.

CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **IDENTIFYING PERSPECTIVES** How are the ideas of Confucius and Laozi similar? How are they different?
2. **EXPLAINING ISSUES** Why did supporters of legalism think it was important that a society have a system of strict laws and harsh punishments?

CHINESE LIFE

GUIDING QUESTION *How was early Chinese society organized?*

Early Chinese society was made up of four social classes. A **social class** includes people who have the same economic and social position. In ancient China, these social classes were land-owning aristocrats, farmers, artisans, and merchants.



LIVES OF THE ARISTOCRATS

China’s aristocratic families were wealthy. They owned large estates and lived in tile-roofed houses with courtyards and

ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

1. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** What details from the text support the assertion that China’s aristocrats lived in luxury?
2. **DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS** In your own words, explain what life was like for most Chinese farmers during this period.

CHINESE PHILOSOPHERS

	Confucianism	Daoism	Legalism
<p>Three philosophies developed in early China. Each had a strong leader. [Image of Confucius from the 1800s C.E.; Image of Laozi from 1900s C.E.]</p> <p>1. IDENTIFYING PERSPECTIVES Which philosophy encourages followers to concentrate on duty and humanity?</p> <p>2. PREDICTING Which of these philosophies do you think would be most popular in the world today? Explain.</p>	 <p>Confucius</p>	 <p>Laozi</p>	<p>Hanfeizi</p>
Main Ideas	People should put the needs of their family and community first.	People should give up worldly desires in favor of nature and the Dao.	Society needs a system of harsh laws and strict punishment.
Influence on Modern Life	Many Chinese today accept his idea of duty to family. His ideas helped open up government jobs to people with talent.	Daoism teaches the importance of nature and encourages people to treat nature with respect and reverence.	Legalists developed laws that became an important part of Chinese history.

gardens. Walls surrounded their homes as protection against bandits. Inside, fine furniture and carpets filled the rooms.

Aristocratic families owned large plots of land. After the father died, a family's land was divided equally among all of the male heirs. As a result, sons and grandsons owned much less land than their fathers and grandfathers owned.

LIVES OF THE FARMERS

About nine out of ten Chinese farmed for a living. The farmers lived in rural villages surrounded by mud walls. Beyond the village walls were fields owned by the aristocrats. The farmers rented the fields by turning over part of their crops to the owners.

In northern China, farmers grew wheat and a grain called millet. In the south, where the climate was warmer and wetter, they grew rice. Most farmers also owned a small plot of land where they grew food for their own use.

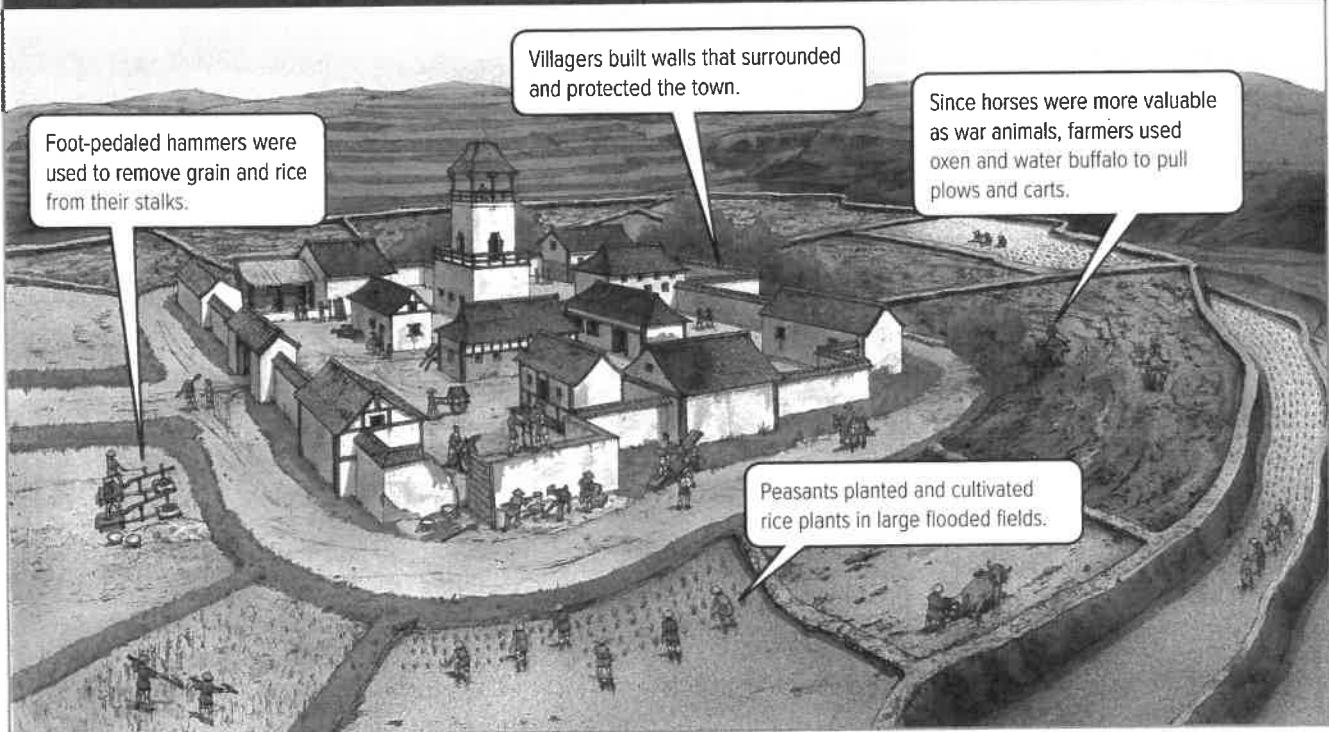
The government required farmers to pay taxes and to work one month each year on projects such as building roads. In wartime, farmers were forced to serve as soldiers. In addition, farmers had to face constant threats from famine and floods.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

MANDATE OF HEAVEN AND LEGALISM

China grew in size and population from 1750 B.C.E. to 190 C.E. As a result, the country was more difficult to govern. Rulers embraced beliefs such as the Mandate of Heaven and legalism. The Mandate of Heaven reinforced the king's right to rule because he was chosen by the Gods and was considered the wisest person to rule. Legalism, with its emphasis on strict laws and harsh punishments, also helped rulers govern.

CHINESE VILLAGE



Foot-pedaled hammers were used to remove grain and rice from their stalks.

Villagers built walls that surrounded and protected the town.

Since horses were more valuable as war animals, farmers used oxen and water buffalo to pull plows and carts.

Peasants planted and cultivated rice plants in large flooded fields.

Chinese farmers lived in small villages made up of several families. They farmed fields outside the village walls.

[Modern illustration]

INFERRING What are some possible disadvantages for farmers of working on land they do not own?

LIVES OF THE ARTISANS AND MERCHANTS

Artisans are skilled workers who make useful objects. The artisans of Zhou China crafted iron tools and weapons, silk cloth, and vessels made of bronze or jade. Many were architects, artists, and woodworkers. Most artisans learned their skills from their fathers and, in turn, passed them along to their sons.

Shopkeepers, traders, and bankers made up the merchant class. Merchants lived in towns and provided goods and services to the aristocrats.

Some merchants became wealthy, but they were not respected members of society. People believed that merchants worked only for their own gain, not for the good of society. While artisans made useful goods and farmers grew food for all, merchants made money for themselves. Merchants were also barred from government jobs.

WHAT WERE CHINESE FAMILIES LIKE?

The family was at the center of early Chinese society. Farming in ancient China required many workers, so parents had many children to help them with the work. Even young children worked in the fields. Chinese families took care of those members in need—the aged, the young, and the sick.

Chinese families practiced **filial piety** (FIH•lee•uhl PY•uh•tee). *Filial* refers to a son or daughter. *Piety* refers to duty or devotion. Therefore, *filial piety* refers to people’s responsibility to respect and obey their parents.

It also requires people to take care of their parents as they grow older. Family members placed the needs of the head of the family before their own. The head of the family was the oldest male, usually the father. Respect for parents and the elderly were central to the teachings of Confucius. Even today, filial piety is an important part of Chinese culture.

The colors on these ancient Chinese figures have lasted thousands of years.

INTEGRATING VISUAL INFORMATION The man and woman here are shown in brightly colored dress. Why do you think there is such attention to detail?



ROLES OF MEN AND WOMEN

Men and women had very different roles in early China. Men were respected because of the jobs they did—growing crops, attending school, running the government, and fighting wars. The Chinese considered these jobs more important than the work carried out by women. Confucius required women to obey their husbands, fathers, and brothers. Some educated Chinese women, however, did create works of writing at this time. Most women raised children and saw to their children’s education. They also managed the household and family finances.

✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

- DESCRIBING** Describe the life of a typical person in ancient China?
- IDENTIFYING EFFECTS** How did the concept of filial piety affect early Chinese society?

LESSON 2 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

Time and Place

- RELATING EVENTS** How was the development of Confucianism related to fighting among rival kings?

Building History-Social Science Analysis Skills

- IDENTIFYING PERSPECTIVES** Why did many aristocrats support legalism?
- DESCRIBING** What were the main social classes of early China?
- INFERRING** Read the following quotation by Laozi. Then restate the quotation in your own words: “A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”

Writing About History

- EXPLANATORY WRITING** Describe a situation in which you might show filial piety.

Collaborating

- PRESENTING** Which system of belief—Confucianism, Daoism, or legalism—would lead to the best government? Work in groups to prepare for a class debate. Prepare a list of reasons and examples why this system would lead to an effective form of government. Your teacher may assign your group a system of belief to represent in the debate.



Include this lesson’s information in your Foldable®.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

• How do governments change?

THE STORY BEGINS...

Construction of separate defensive walls that would become the Great Wall of China began around the 600s B.C.E. The guard towers of the Great Wall of China allow guards to see threats from great distances. Guards could then use signal fires to communicate along the length of the wall.

LESSON 3

The Qin and Han Dynasties

Henry shifted his weight and looked at the amazing view from his spot on the Great Wall of China. The countryside was so lush and green against the incredible stonework of the wall. He really wanted to share the remarkable details of the wall with the readers of his book. Henry thought about the reasons for building such a grand structure while he returned to his writing.

“The Great Wall of China . . . was built with the same object [goal] as every other wall—to keep people from coming where they were not wanted. . . . The gateway is a large double one, with a square tower upon it, pierced with oblong [rectangular] opening for cannon. . . . Every half-mile or so is a little square tower. . . . And as you reflect that it is built of bricks; that each brick must have been transported on a man’s shoulders enormous distances; and that it extends for 2,000 miles . . . you begin to realise that you are looking upon the most colossal [huge] achievement of human hands.”

—Henry Norman, *The Peoples and Politics of the Far East*, 1895

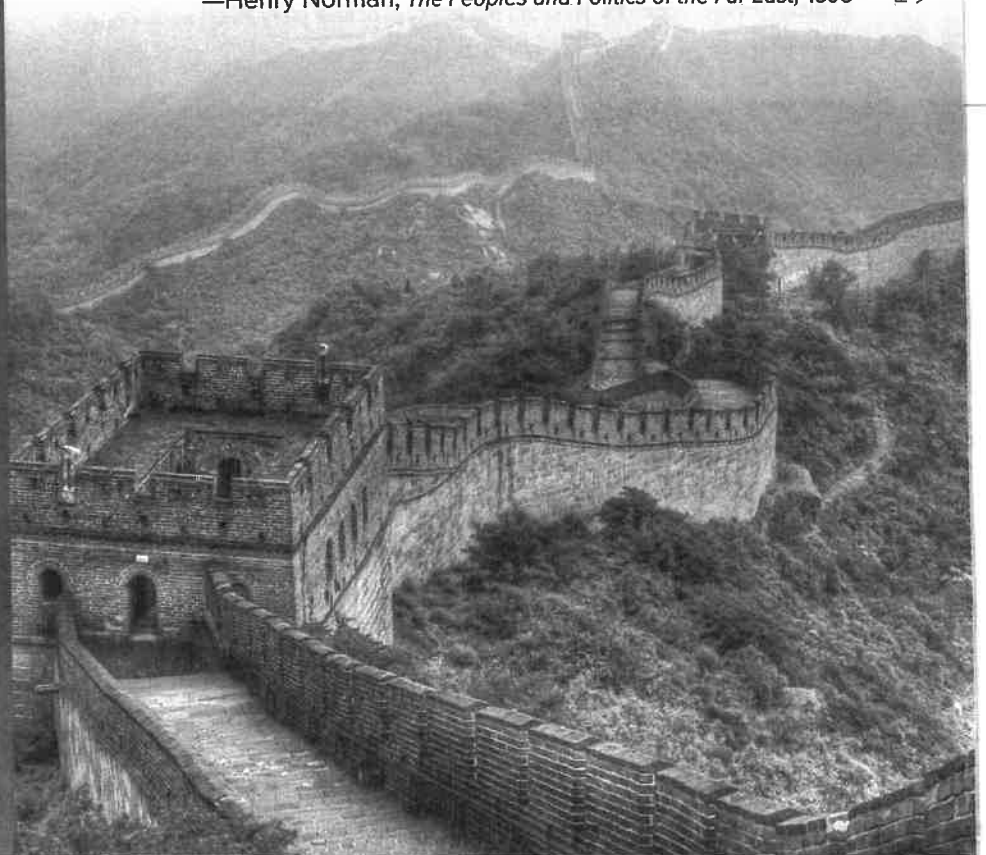
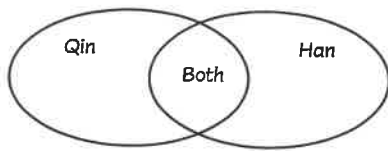


PHOTO: Yuri Yavnik/Shutterstock.com; TEXT: Norman, Henry, 1895. *The People and Politics of the Far East*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.



ANALYZING KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Read closely to identify important information about the Qin and Han dynasties. Then, in a Venn diagram like this one, compare and contrast the two dynasties.

THE QIN EMPEROR

GUIDING QUESTION *How did the Qin Emperor unite China?*

You have read about the fighting in China from about 400 B.C.E. to 200 B.C.E. During the Period of the Warring States, the strong rulers of local states fought one another and ignored the weak Zhou kings. One of these states was called Qin (CHIHN). In 221 B.C.E., the ruler of Qin sent a large cavalry force to defeat the other states and end the Zhou dynasty. The Qin then controlled China from the Huang He to the Chang Jiang.

To mark a new beginning for China, the Qin ruler declared himself Qin Shihuangdi (CHIHN SHEE•hwahng•dee), which means “the First Qin Emperor.” Qin brought changes to Chinese government that would last for many centuries.

HOW DID QIN CHANGE CHINA?

Qin wanted to strengthen and **unify** China. To do that, he took direct control of China’s provinces. Under the Zhou rulers, the governors of the provinces had passed on their positions to sons or relatives. Now, only Qin had the power to appoint the governors.

Qin ruled China with absolute control and swift, harsh punishment. Anyone who disagreed with him was punished or killed. He also punished respected Confucian scholars who disagreed with his rule. Writings that displeased Qin were burned.

Qin also increased the power of his government by appointing officers known as **censors**. The censors’ job was to make sure government workers did their work.

Qin brought peace to China by force. He then set about creating other policies and projects to unify the empire. He created a **currency**, or type of money, that everyone had to use. He hired scholars to simplify and set rules for the Chinese writing system, making it a more widely understood system of communication. Qin also required all provinces under his rule to follow the same code of laws.

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. ANALYZING TEXT

PRESENTATION Why does the author discuss the Zhou rulers when discussing Qin?

2. ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW

What is the author’s point of view about Qin’s decision to build the Great Wall? Does the author support this point of view?

Qin Shihuangdi had a large goal: to organize and strengthen the country. [Modern illustration]



Qin undertook building projects across the empire, including the construction of his own tomb. Qin's tomb was so large that it housed an army of life-sized clay soldiers and horses. Qin also forced tens of thousands of peasants to join building crews for palaces, roads, dams, and a huge canal. The canal connected the Chang Jiang in central China to what is today the city of Guangzhou (GWAHNG•JOH) in southern China. The government transported supplies on the canal to soldiers in distant territories.

WHY WAS THE GREAT WALL BUILT?

Qin united the different parts of China into one empire. He wanted to keep the empire safe from invasion. A vast desert known as the Gobi was on the edge of China's northern border. Nomads, people who move from place to place with herds of animals, lived in the Gobi. The Chinese knew them as the Xiongnu (SYEHN•NOO). The Xiongnu were skilled warriors who fought on horseback and often attacked Chinese settlements. Earlier Chinese rulers had constructed separate walls in the north to keep out the Xiongnu. Qin planned to have the walls joined and strengthened.

THE END OF QIN RULE

In 221 B.C.E., Qin boasted that his dynasty would rule China forever. The Qin dynasty actually ended soon after Qin's death in 210 B.C.E. Both aristocrats and farmers revolted against the harsh Qin rule. Fighting erupted throughout China, but did not last long. By 206 B.C.E. the Qin dynasty was over and a new dynasty arose.

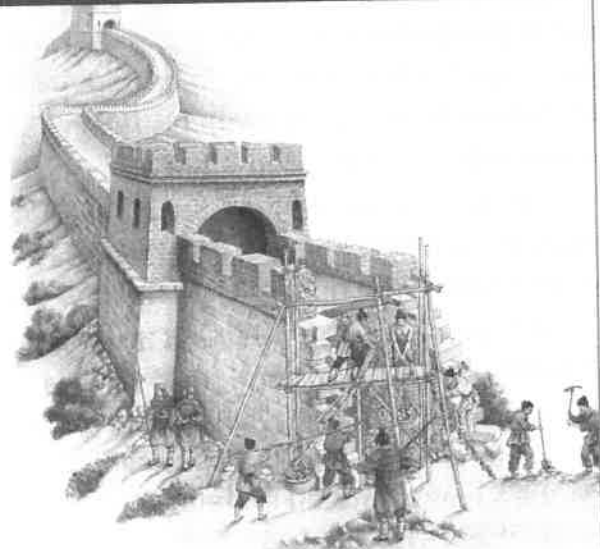
CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **IDENTIFYING CAUSES** How did the conflict of the Period of the Warring States help Qin rise to power?
2. **SUMMARIZING** How would you describe Qin as a ruler?

MAKING CONNECTIONS TO TODAY

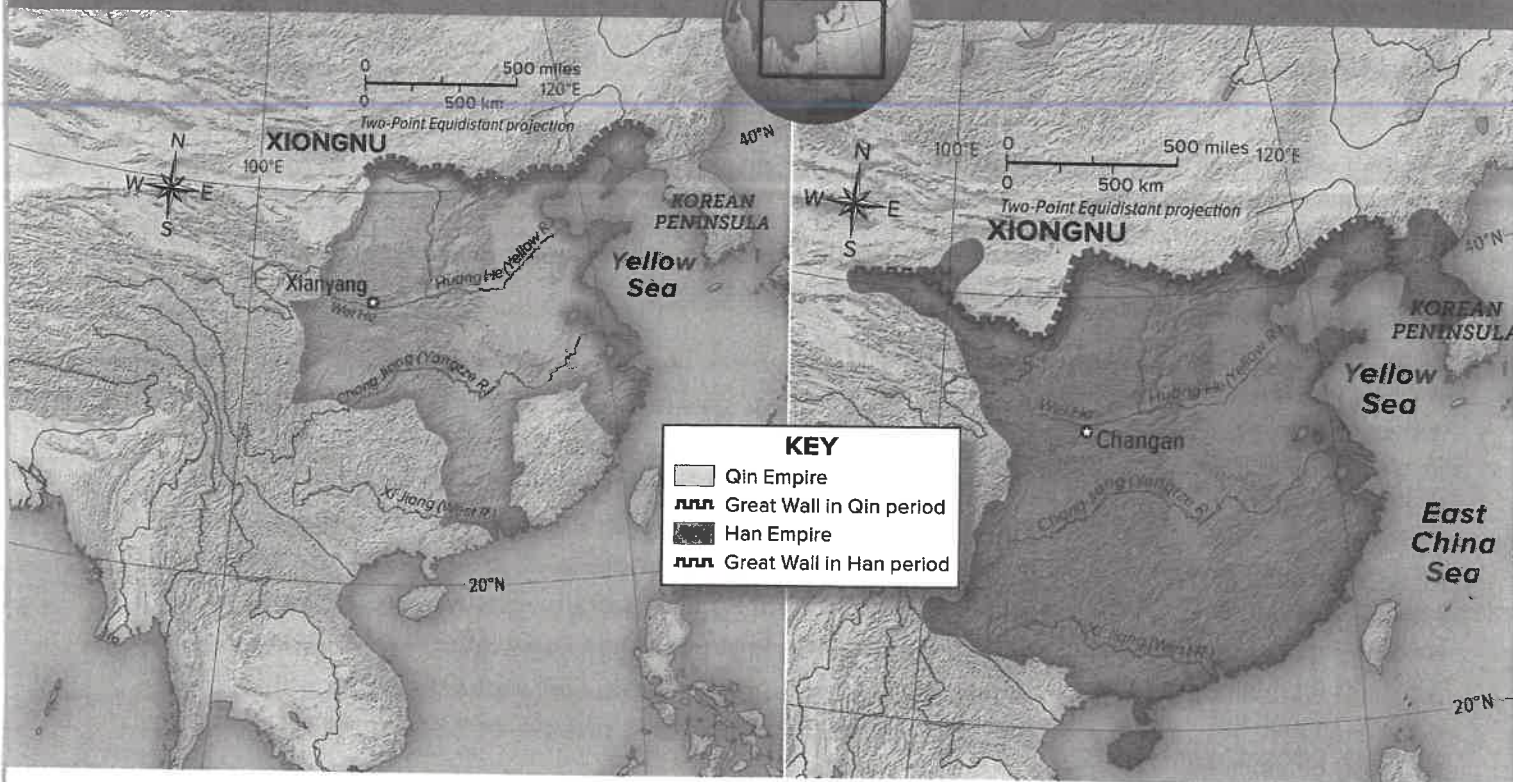
THE GREAT WALL

Many things get built and rebuilt over time. Building the Great Wall in China took several hundred years. Qin forced hundreds of thousands of peasants to leave their fields to work on the wall. Thousands of laborers died before the project was completed. The finished wall, the Great Wall of China, was built mainly on the northern slopes of mountains, using stone, sand, and rubble. However, Qin did not build the wall that stands today. The Great Wall today consists of a series of walls and towers built during the Ming dynasty beginning in the late 1400s. [Modern illustration]



Dorling Kindersley/Cetty Images

QIN AND HAN EMPIRES 221 B.C.E.–220 C.E.



HAN RULERS

GUIDING QUESTION *What improvements did the Chinese make under Han rulers?*

In 202 B.C.E., a new dynasty known as the Han dynasty came to power in China. Its founder was Liu Bang (LYOO BAHNG), a farmer turned soldier. His family began the powerful Han dynasty that would rule China for more than 400 years.

HAN WUDI

The first strong emperor of the Han dynasty was Han Wudi (HAHN WOO•DEE), who ruled from 141 B.C.E. to 87 B.C.E. Han Wudi took important steps to improve China's government. Earlier emperors chose family members and loyal aristocrats to help them run the government. Han Wudi wanted to end this practice. He adopted the Confucian philosophy that government officials should be moral men with education and talent. He recruited dedicated and talented people for **civil service**, government workers who were chosen on the basis of competitive tests.

First, scholars and officials recommended qualified candidates. Then, the candidates took long, difficult written examinations. Finally, officials graded the tests, and the emperor reviewed the results. The candidates with the highest scores got the jobs.



GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

During both the Qin and Han dynasties, China's empire expanded.

1. **EXPLORING REGIONS** Which geographical areas did both empires include?
2. **PATTERNS AND MOVEMENT** Why do you think the Han Empire was able to expand farther west than the Qin?

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** What evidence in the text supports the assertion that the Chinese made important advances in technology?
2. **SUMMARIZING** What kinds of medical advances occurred during this period?

DETERMINING MEANING

How is **civil service** different from military service?

BAN ZHAO

(c.45–116 C.E.)

Ban Zhao was the first female Chinese historian. She served as the imperial historian during the Han dynasty. Along with her historical pieces, she wrote poems and essays. One well-known work is a guide for women titled *Nu Jie* (*Lessons for Women*). It details how women should behave and encourages education for females. The Chinese followed her teachings for hundreds of years, though her emphasis on education was largely ignored.

INFERRING Why do you think Ban Zhao emphasized education for women?

This system of selecting government officials raised the quality of government and made Chinese society more stable. Men educated in this system, even the emperor, were trained to serve the state. They were encouraged to act in the interest of the people and not their own wealth. This system also had its faults. Supposedly, government work was open to anyone with talent and ability. Realistically, the system actually favored the rich. Only wealthy families could afford to educate their sons for the difficult civil service tests.

EDUCATION

The Han government created schools to prepare students for civil service. Students prepared for the exams by studying law, history, and the ideas of Confucius. After many years of schooling, the students took the civil service examinations. If they passed, they earned jobs as government workers or teachers. They also won great respect in society because they were well educated. In Han society, the highest social rank, after the emperor and his family, was to be a one of these civil servants. They held a higher place in society than warriors, priests, or merchants.

THE EMPIRE EXPANDS

During the years of Han rule, China's population rose to about 60 million. To meet the needs of China's growing population, farmers needed to produce more food. However, China's farmers faced special challenges in doing so.

When farmers died, their land was divided among their sons. Gradually, over several **generations**, the amount of land farmed by a family became smaller and smaller. By the middle of the Han dynasty, the average farmer owned only about one acre of land.

Farmers could not raise enough food to feed their families on such small plots of land. They had no choice but to sell their land and work as tenant farmers. **Tenant farmers** work land owned by someone else. Eventually, wealthy landlords owned thousands of acres. The tenant farmers remained very poor.

As China's population grew, the Han Empire took in new territory. Han armies conquered lands to the north, including Korea. They moved south into Southeast Asia and west as far as northern India. After Han Wudi's armies pushed back the Xiongnu—the nomads to the north—the Chinese lived in peace for almost 150 years.

HAN CULTURE

During this era of peace, literature and the arts blossomed. Writers wrote about current events. They made copies of old historical works. In the arts, painters and sculptors reached out to new audiences.

In earlier times, artists had created religious works for rulers and aristocrats. Now, under Han rule, artists created beautiful works of art for less prominent families.

Under the Han, the ideas of Confucius gained influence. The idea of filial piety became very strong. The stability of the government also helped strengthen family ties. Civil servants, educated in the teachings of Confucius, promoted the idea that duty and tradition led to a stable society. The new class of scholarly civil servants greatly influenced government, but other social classes in China remained the same. Daily life also was very similar to what it had been before.

CHINESE INVENTIONS

During the Han dynasty, new technology helped Chinese farmers and workers produce more than ever before. One major development was the cast-iron plow, which could break up the soil more easily than wooden plows could. A new collar harness developed for horses allowed them to pull more weight than ever before. New iron tools and techniques were used to drain swamps and direct water to parched fields. As a result, land that was once unfit for farming now produced food and other crops.

Improvements took place in areas besides farming. Millers invented **waterwheels** to grind more grain, and miners fashioned iron drill bits to mine more salt. Another Chinese invention, the wheelbarrow, was first used to carry heavy material on building sites. Artisans developed silk manufacturing and invented paper. Used first for wrapping, paper became an ideal writing material. Like Egyptian papyrus, paper provided a way to keep written records.

Two remarkable achievements of Han inventors were the rudder and a new way to move the sails of ships. With these inventions, ships could sail against the wind for the first time. They could also travel farther than ever before. As a result, China's merchants shipped their goods to areas as far away as India and the Red Sea.

Several inventions of the Han Dynasty including porcelain, moveable type, and the magnetic compass became important in later centuries. Porcelain is made of fine clay baked at high temperatures. Later forms of porcelain were traded worldwide. The Han also experimented with ways to repeat print with moveable, woodblock characters. This technology would be used to produce the first printed book around 600 C.E. Han inventors created the first magnetic compass, which later became a central tool for navigation.



In early China, people made paper one sheet at a time from hemp or rag pulp. This modern artist (above) makes paper the ancient way. Today's paper mills (below) manufacture huge rolls of paper on machines like this one.

INFERRING What would be the effect on today's publishing industry if all paper were once again made by hand?

MEDICAL ADVANCES

Chinese medicine advanced under the Han. Doctors discovered that certain foods prevented disease. They used a variety of herbs to treat illnesses. Doctors also relieved pain by piercing patients' skin at vital points with thin needles. This treatment is known as **acupuncture** (A•kyuh•puhngk•chuh). Acupuncture renews the body by increasing the flow of energy.

✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **EXPLAINING ISSUES** Why did Han rulers create civil service examinations?
2. **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** What led to the development of the tenant farming system?

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

1. ANALYZING INDIVIDUALS

How does the information about Zhang Qian add to your knowledge about Emperor Han Wudi?

2. **SUMMARIZING** Explain in your own words the kind of work writers did during the Han period.

Acupuncture is based on finding pressure spots in the human body to help ease pain. Chinese doctors detected certain places on the body that correspond to spots on the foot. Needles can be applied to these spots to help the pain.

ON THE SILK ROAD

GUIDING QUESTION *How did the Silk Road benefit China and the rest of the world?*

During the Han period, Chinese traders grew rich by sending expensive goods to other parts of the world. Over time, both sea and land trade routes led to an exchange of many different goods and ideas between China and other areas.

NEW CONTACTS WITH THE WEST

China's trade increased in part as a result of Chinese exploration. In 139 B.C.E., the emperor Han Wudi sent out a general named Zhang Qian (JAHNG CHYEHN) to explore areas west of China. Zhang's mission was to recruit allies to help China fight against its enemies, especially the Xiongnu to the north.

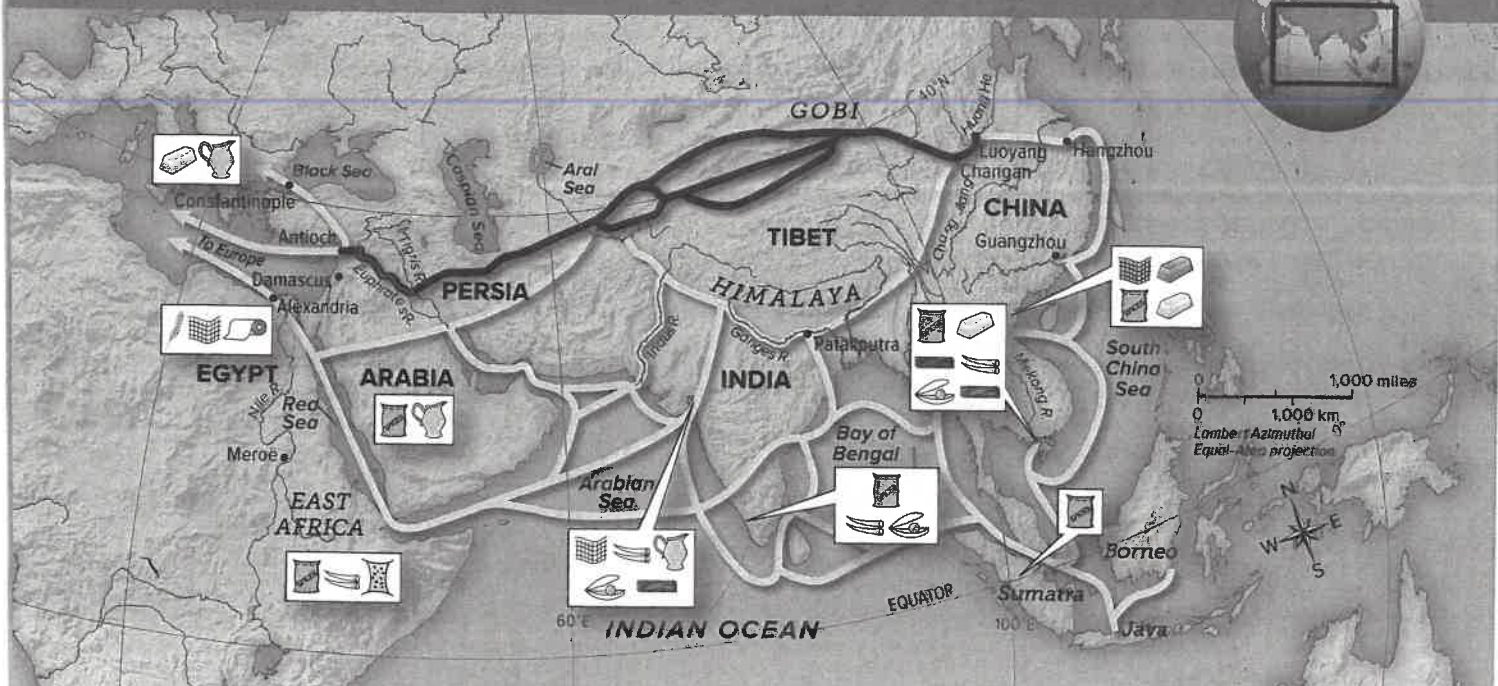
Thirteen years later, Zhang returned to China. He had failed to find allies. He had learned, however, about the people, geography, and culture of the areas west of China. He also visited a kingdom far to the west, probably in the area of present-day Kazakhstan. There, he saw horses of great strength and size.

Emperor Han Wudi was delighted to hear this report. He wanted horses for his soldiers, so he encouraged trade between China and western regions. At the end of the second century B.C.E., the Han dynasty exchanged diplomats with the Parthian Empire in Persia. The Chinese diplomats gave the Parthians gifts of silk cloth. They also gave silk to representatives of the Kushans and other Central Asian states. This would set a trend.

Foot Reflexology Chart



TRADING IN THE ANCIENT WORLD c. 100s C.E.



KEY			
Silk Road	Gold	Oils	Silk
Other trade routes	Grains	Papyrus	Spices
Copper	Horns/Tusks	Pearls	Teakwood
Cotton cloth	Leopard skins	Sandalwood	

Chinese merchants began trading silk, spices, and other luxury goods with Central Asian states in exchange for horses. Merchants from all across Asia soon realized the value of the soft but durable silk. They began to trade regularly with Chinese merchants to obtain this valuable cloth. The trade route to the west was later called the Silk Road in honor of China's most famous export.

TRADE EXPANDS

The Silk Road was not just one road. It was a **network** of trade routes. When the road was completed in the 100s C.E., it was 4,000 miles (6,436 km) long and stretched from western China to the Mediterranean. The distance, rough terrain, and bandits along the road made travel difficult and dangerous. Goods were also traded on sea routes that extended from the East China Sea, to the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea beyond.

Over the years, merchants traded many items in addition to luxury goods. These included fruits, vegetables, flowers, and grains. For example, China sent peaches and pears to India, while India sent cotton and spinach to China. In time, Chinese inventions, such as paper, would also travel to other regions along the Silk Road.

GEOGRAPHIC REASONING

The Silk Road allowed the transport of expensive goods all the way from China to the Middle East and beyond.

- 1. EXPLORING REGIONS** What regions were near or along the route of the Silk Road?
- 2. EXPLORING CULTURE** Chinese merchants sold many products along the Silk Road. What products do you think Chinese merchants bought as they traveled and traded?



Buddha statues adorn the walls at the Yungang grottoes in northern China. These cave temples were created in the 400s and 500s C.E.

ANALYZING SOURCES

- 1. DISTINGUISHING FACT AND OPINION** Are the details in this excerpt fact or opinion? How do you know?
- 2. DRAWING CONCLUSIONS** Why do you think the author mentioned gold, silver, and jewels in his description?

UNDERSTANDING CRAFT AND STRUCTURE

- 1. ANALYZING TEXT** How does the first paragraph contribute to the main idea of the section?
- 2. ANALYZING TEXT PRESENTATION** How is the information in the section about Buddhism presented?

Through trade, China encountered other civilizations. A huge variety of items awaited the ancient traders. Chinese writers described a mighty empire to the far west:

“It has more than four hundred walled towns. ... The walls of the towns are made of stone. ... The common people are farmers. ... The country produces plenty of gold, silver, and precious jewels. ... They make gold and silver coins. ... ”

—from *Hou Hanshu 88, Second Edition*, original c. 432-437 C.E.

The Chinese writers were describing the Roman Empire. For more than 1,000 years, the Silk Road was the main trade **link** between Asia and Europe.

✓ CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

- 1. EXPLAINING CAUSES** What developments led to the creation of the Silk Road?
- 2. SUMMARIZING** Other than the exchange of goods, what else did the Silk Road offer?

BUDDHISM REACHES CHINA

GUIDING QUESTION *Why did Buddhism become a popular religion in China?*

Ideas as well as trade goods traveled along the Silk Road. The Silk Road served as a way to spread knowledge, culture, and religions. Buddhism, in particular, spread across the Silk Road from India to China. Buddhism won few followers in China at first. The fall of the Han dynasty and the long period of unrest that followed, however, allowed for the spread of Buddhism.

WHY DID THE HAN DYNASTY COLLAPSE?

Many of the emperors who succeeded Han Wudi were weak and dishonest. Corrupt officials and greedy aristocrats took over more of the land, forcing many farmers to give up their property. People began to rise up and rebel against the Han rulers.

Rebel armies destroyed the Han capital, Luoyang (LWAW•YAHNG) in 190 C.E. By 220 C.E., civil war divided China. For the next 400 years, China remained divided into many small kingdoms.

Other imperial dynasties would rule China in the future. These new dynasties would pattern themselves after the Han dynasty. Like the Han, these new dynasties would unite several smaller Chinese territories under their centralized rule. These new dynasties would govern their empire by Confucian principles. They would use the same type of civil servants and scholar-officials as the Han dynasty. Most importantly they would try to keep the Mandate of Heaven.

BUDDHISM WINS FOLLOWERS

The fall of the Han dynasty and the long years of civil war frightened many Chinese. Feeling anxious, fearful, and unsafe, many people turned to Buddhist ideas. Followers of Confucius and Daoists also admired Buddhist ideas, which influenced their own religious rituals and moral ideas. By the 400s C.E., Buddhism had become one of China's major religions.

CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. **EXPLAINING ISSUES** Why did the fall of the Han dynasty help Buddhism spread in China?
2. **IDENTIFYING CAUSES** List some causes of the Han dynasty collapse.

LESSON 3 REVIEW AND ACTIVITIES

Time and Place

1. **USING MAPS** Look at the map showing the Qin and Han Empires. In what directions did the Han Empire expand?

Building History-Social Science Analysis Skills

2. **EXPLAINING ISSUES** How did the civil service system change China's government?
3. **DESCRIBING** Evaluate the changes in China under the Qin emperor's rule?
4. **SUMMARIZING** What caused the downfall of the Han dynasty?

Writing About History

5. **EXPLANATORY WRITING** How do you think early China's history would be different if the Silk Road had never developed? Write a paragraph expressing your view.

Collaborating

6. **PRESENTING** You and other group members are close advisors for the new emperor, Han Wudi. What teachings of Confucius will help Han Wudi govern? Contribute to a letter to the emperor explaining which teachings he should keep in mind as he rules and why.



Include this lesson's information in your Foldable®.

EARLY CHINA

Philosophers and teachers in early China taught about virtue (good behavior). Many writings stress the ideas of filial piety, duty, and humaneness. Why were these ideas important in early Chinese civilization? What did it mean to show filial piety, to do one's duty, or to be humane?

PRIMARY SOURCE: BOOK

THE BOOKS OF KÂU

In *The Books of Kâu* (c. 1000 B.C.E.-1 B.C.E.), the legendary king, Wü, discusses how good and bad rulers behave and explains the duty that kings have.

“[The] king . . . made a clear declaration to all his officers. He said, . . . ‘[F]rom Heaven [come] the **illustrious** courses of duty, of which the . . . requirements are quite plain. And now Shang, the king of Shang, treats with **contemptuous** slight the five regular [**virtues**], and abandons himself to wild idleness and **irreverence**. He has cut himself off from Heaven, and brought **enmity** between himself and the people.’”

ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. **ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW** What criticisms does the speaker make of Shang? What do they suggest about the speaker's definition of a bad ruler?
2. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** According to the passage, what is the consequence for a king who does not properly carry out the duties of a ruler?

VOCABULARY

illustrious: glorious
contemptuous: expressing disapproval
virtue: behavior showing moral standards
irreverence: disrespect
enmity: mutual hatred
benevolent: good
righteousness: being morally right
frugality: spending little; not wasteful

PRIMARY SOURCE: BOOK

CONFUCIAN ANALECTS

Confucius

Confucius's students wrote down his teachings in a series of books known as the *Analects*, which were likely compiled between c. 475 B.C.E. and 221 B.C.E. In the following excerpts from Books 1 and 4, Confucius discusses what virtuous, righteous behavior looks like.

From Book 1:2:

“They are few who, being filial [respectful sons] and fraternal [brotherly], are fond of offending against their superiors. There have been none, who, not liking to offend against their superiors, have been fond of stirring up confusion. The superior man bends his attention to what is radical. That being established, all practical courses naturally grow up. Filial piety and fraternal submission!—are they not the root of all **benevolent** actions?”

From Book 4:16-19:

“The Master said, ‘The mind of the superior man is conversant with [knowledgeable about] **righteousness**; the mind of the mean [common]

man is conversant with gain.' The Master said, 'When we see men of worth, we should think of equalling them; when we see men of a contrary [difficult] character, we should turn inwards and examine ourselves.' The Master said, 'In serving his parents, a son may remonstrate with [criticize] them, but gently; when he sees that they do not incline to follow his advice, he shows an increased degree of reverence [respect], but does not abandon his purpose; and should they punish him, he does not allow himself to murmur [grumble].' ”

ANALYZE THE TEXT

1. **SUMMARIZING** Confucius states: "Filial piety and fraternal submission!—are they not the root of all benevolent actions?" In your own words, explain what this statement means.
2. **DESCRIBING** According to the excerpt from Book 1:2, what is the result of being filial and fraternal?
3. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** According to the excerpt from Book 4:16-19, how should people address conflicts and disagreements with elders and parents? What words in the passage show this?



MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

Compare the descriptions of virtuous behavior in all three sources. What do these descriptions have in common? How do they differ? Explain.

PRIMARY SOURCE: BOOK

THE SAYINGS OF LAOZI

Laozi

Laozi is a semi-legendary philosopher who lived during the 500s B.C.E. His collected sayings express the central ideas of Daoism. In this excerpt, Laozi explains the three qualities he considers most important and valuable.

“I have three precious things which I hold fast and prize. The first is gentleness; the second is **frugality**; the third is humility, which keeps me from putting myself before others. Be gentle and you can be bold; be frugal and you can be liberal; avoid putting yourself before others and you can become a leader among men.”

ANALYZE THE TEXT

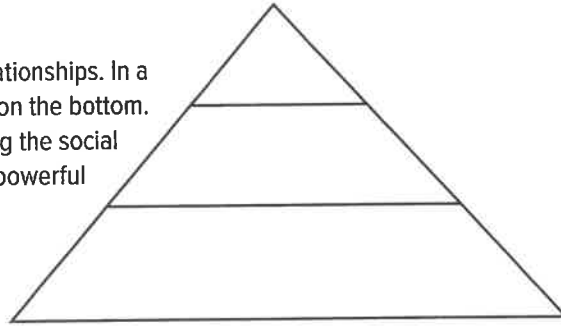
1. **IDENTIFYING PATTERNS** In what ways do Laozi's views reflect the same ideas that Confucius stresses?
2. **CITING TEXT EVIDENCE** Which words from the text support the argument that Laozi valued the idea of duty?

CHAPTER 8 Analysis Skills Activities

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

Thinking Like a Historian

- DESCRIBING** A pyramid diagram can be used to show relationships. In a pyramid diagram, the group with the most members goes on the bottom. Create a pyramid diagram like the one shown here showing the social classes in ancient China from most powerful (top) to least powerful (bottom).



Understanding Time

- SEQUENCING** Create a time line showing significant dates, events, and developments in the history of Early China.

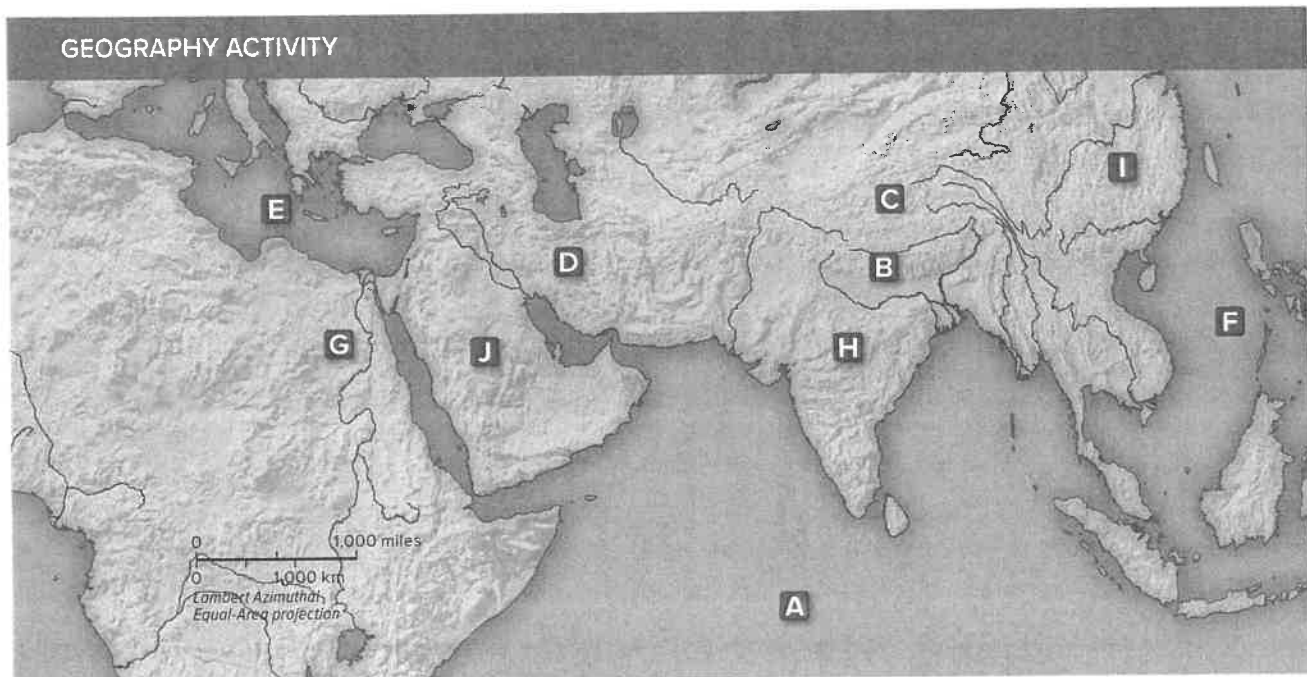
Building Citizenship

- CIVIC AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS** In the United States today many people work in civil service at the national, state, county, or city level. Park rangers, post office employees, workers in government agencies such as the IRS or the Department of Education are all part of the civil service. Why does our society have a civil service? Are the reasons similar to or different than the reasons the early Chinese had a civil service? Do you think it is a good idea to require that people pass tough exams before getting positions in civil service? Write a paragraph explaining and supporting your ideas.

Geographic Reasoning

Use the map to answer the following questions.

- EXPLORING REGION** Match the letters on the map with the numbered places listed below.
 - Egypt
 - Arabia
 - Persia
 - India
 - Tibet
 - China
 - Indian Ocean
 - South China Sea
 - Himalaya
 - Mediterranean Sea
 10. Mediterranean Sea



CHAPTER 8 Assessment

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

Vocabulary Practice

- 1 Define each of the following terms.
- A. warlord
 - B. aristocrat
 - C. bureaucracy
 - D. Mandate of Heaven
 - E. Dao
 - F. Confucianism
 - G. Daoism
 - H. legalism
 - I. censor
 - J. currency
 - K. civil service
 - L. acupuncture

Short Answer

- 2 **IDENTIFYING** What natural features isolated China from other regions and cultures?
- 3 **EXPLAINING** Along which rivers did Chinese civilization first develop? Why did this occur?
- 4 **EXPLAINING ISSUES** How did Shang kings rule over their large kingdoms?
- 5 **EXPLAINING ISSUES** What was the Mandate of Heaven?
- 6 **DESCRIBING** What is one way Confucianism differs from Daoism?
- 7 **SUMMARIZING** Which was the largest social class of ancient China?
- 8 **DETERMINING CENTRAL IDEAS** Who was Qin Shihuangdi, and why was he important?
- 9 **SUMMARIZING** What were the main medical and technological advancements of the Han dynasty?
- 10 **EXPLAINING ISSUES** How did trade along the Silk Road impact China?
- 11 **EXPLAINING CAUSES** How did Buddhist ideas spread to China?
- 12 **INFERRING** How do you think ancient China's geographic isolation from other cultures affected the Chinese view of themselves and the world? Explain.
- 13 **INFERRING** What do oracle bones tell us about the development of the Chinese language?
- 14 **EXPLAINING ISSUES** How might the Chinese have used the Mandate of Heaven to justify rebellions against their rulers?
- 15 **IDENTIFYING PATTERNS** What are the advantages and disadvantages of organizing a society around the ideas of Hanfeizi?
- 16 **EXPLAINING ISSUES** How does the concept of filial piety relate to the teachings of Confucius about how society should function?
- 17 **EXPLAINING CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why was the Qin dynasty so short-lived?
- 18 **EXPLAINING IDEAS** Did the civil service examination system implemented by Han Wudi result in better governance of China? Why or why not?
- 19 **IDENTIFYING PATTERNS** What do you believe was the most important achievement of Han inventors? Explain.
- 20 **EXPLAINING EFFECTS** How did the Silk Road benefit China and the rest of the world?
- 21 **EXPLAINING EFFECTS** Why were Buddhist ideas appealing to people after the fall of the Han dynasty?

Need Extra Help?

If You've Missed Question	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Review Lesson	1, 2, 3	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3

CHAPTER 8 Assessment, continued

Write your answers on a separate piece of paper.

Analyzing Primary Sources

The text of the *Classic of Filial Piety* is thought to have been written between c. 206 B.C.E. and 220 C.E. and reflects a conversation between Confucius and one of his disciples, Zengzi. In this excerpt, Confucius, known as The Master, describes filial piety. He quotes from a poem to help make his point:

“The Master said, ‘The Teaching of filial piety by the superior man does not require that he should go to family after family, and daily see members of each. His teaching of filial piety is a tribute of reverence to all the fathers under heaven; his teaching of fraternal [brotherly] submission is a tribute of reverence to all the elder brothers under heaven; his teaching of the duty of a subject is a tribute of reverence to all the rulers under heaven. It is said in the Book of Poetry,

“The happy and courteous sovereign [ruler]
Is the parent of the people.”

If it were not a perfect virtue, how could it be recognized as in accordance [harmony] with their nature by the people so extensively as this?’”

—from the *Classic of Filial Piety* or the *Hsiao King*, by Confucius

22 ANALYZING TEXT PRESENTATION Which strategy best describes the way Confucius makes his point in the excerpt?

- A. asking questions
- B. showing repetition
- C. ordering details
- D. describing causes

23 ANALYZING POINT OF VIEW Which statement best shows Confucius’s point of view in the excerpt?

- A. Filial piety is honorable.
- B. Many people lack filial piety.
- C. Filial piety is difficult to master.
- D. People must learn to give filial piety.

24 CITING TEXT EVIDENCE Which words from the excerpt support the argument that Confucius believes filial piety should be shown to all elders, not just members of one’s own family?

- A. “go to family after family”
- B. “daily see members of each”
- C. “all the fathers under heaven”
- D. “If it were not a perfect virtue”

25 ANALYZING TEXT Read the following statement.

“[H]is teaching of fraternal [brotherly] submission is a tribute of reverence to all the elder brothers under heaven.”

How does this statement contribute to the development of the main ideas of the excerpt?

26 DETERMINING MEANING Read the following lines from the excerpt.

“The happy and courteous sovereign [ruler]
Is the parent of the people.”

Write a brief explanation of what these lines mean and how they relate to the Confucian main point.

Extended Response Essay

27 INFORMATIVE WRITING Write a brief report that compares and contrasts the characteristics of the four ancient Chinese dynasties you have read about.

Need Extra Help?

If You’ve Missed Question	22	23	24	25	26	27
Review Lesson	2	2	2	2	2	2