



# Chapter

# 7

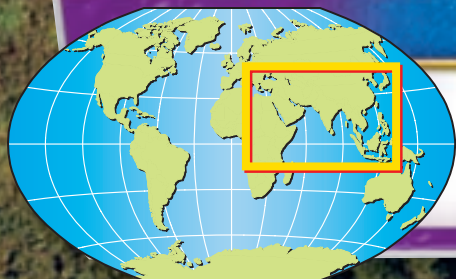
# Early China

D.E. Cox/Getty Images

The first Great Wall of China was built more than 2,000 years ago to keep out invaders. The current wall, which is about 4,000 miles long, was built about 500 years ago. ▼



## When & Where?



1800 B.C.

c. 1750 B.C. ●  
Shang dynasty begins

1150 B.C.

1045 B.C. ●  
Wu Wang creates Zhou dynasty

500 B.C.

551 B.C. ●  
Confucius is born

A.D. 150

c. A.D. 100 ●  
Silk Road established



# Chapter Preview

The ancient Chinese, like the Egyptians, established long-ruling dynasties. The Chinese valued three great philosophies: Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism.



View the Chapter 7 video in the *World History: Journey Across Time* Video Program.

## Section

### 1

## China's First Civilizations

Chinese civilization was shaped by geography such as mountains and large rivers. Long-lasting dynasties gained power through strong armies.

## Section

### 2

## Life in Ancient China

Early Chinese society had three main social classes: aristocrats, farmers, and merchants. During periods of unrest, ideas such as Confucianism and Daoism developed.

## Section

### 3

## The Qin and Han Dynasties

Both the Qin and Han dynasties created strong central governments. New inventions developed during the Han dynasty helped to improve the lives of Chinese people.

### FOLDABLES™ Study Organizer

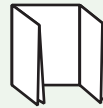
**Organizing Information** Make this foldable to help you organize information about the important people in the early history of China.

**Step 1** Fold a sheet of paper in half from side to side.

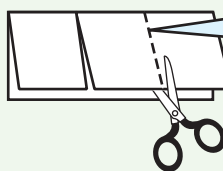


Fold it so the left edge lies about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch from the right edge.

**Step 2** Turn the paper and fold it into thirds.



**Step 3** Unfold and cut the top layer only along both folds.



This will make three tabs.

**Step 4** Turn the paper and label it as shown.



**Reading and Writing**  
As you read the chapter, list important people and what they did or taught during these periods in Chinese history.



# Reading Social Studies

Reading Skill  
Text Structure

## 1 Learn It!

### Headings and Punctuation

As you read this chapter, pay attention to bold headings and punctuation. They are used by authors to help you better understand what you are reading. Look at the heading on page 235, **Chinese Thinkers**. By putting these words in red, the author lets you know, even before you begin reading, that this part of the chapter is about famous thinkers in Chinese history. Paying attention to punctuation marks also can help you understand the text. Look at the punctuation marks in the paragraph below.

Words are indented to show where a new paragraph and a new idea begin.

→ To Confucius, the best way to behave was similar to an idea known as the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."  
—from page 236

A colon (:) tells you that the words that follow are an illustration or an explanation of the first part of the sentence.

Quotation marks have several uses. Here they are used to set off words taken from another source.

**Reading Tip**  
Read a section out loud. Say the names of the punctuation marks as you read. This will help you remember why certain punctuation marks are used.

## 2 Practice It!

### Punctuation Clues

Look at the heading and punctuation in the following paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

**The Zhou Empire Falls** Over time, the local rulers of the Zhou territories became powerful. They stopped obeying the Zhou kings and set up their own states. In 403 B.C. fighting broke out. For almost 200 years, the states battled each other. Historians call this time the “Period of the Warring States.”

—from page 231

#### Read to Write

Suppose you had a younger brother, sister, or friend who was just learning to read. How could you explain the use of punctuation marks to this person? Write a step-by-step explanation of what he or she would need to know about periods, commas, colons, and quotation marks.

1. Based on the heading, what do you think this section will be about?
2. Why do you think the phrase “Period of the Warring States” is in quotation marks?
3. How will you know when a new paragraph begins?



▲ Winged dragon from Zhou dynasty

## 3 Apply It!

As you read the chapter, jot down punctuation or section headings that you do not understand. Write them in your notebook to discuss later.

# Section

# 1

# China's First Civilizations

## Get Ready to Read!

### What's the Connection?

In earlier chapters, you learned that many civilizations developed in river valleys. The civilizations of China also began in river valleys. However, other features of the land, such as mountains and deserts, affected China's history as well.

### Focusing on the Main Ideas

- Rivers, mountains, and deserts helped shape China's civilization. (page 225)
- Rulers known as the Shang became powerful because they controlled land and had strong armies. (page 226)
- Chinese rulers claimed that the Mandate of Heaven gave them the right to rule. (page 229)

### Locating Places

Huang He (HWAHNG HUH)

Chang Jiang (CHAHNG JYAHNG)

Anyang (AHN•YAHNG)

### Meeting People

Wu Wang (WOO WAHNG)

### Building Your Vocabulary

**dynasty** (DY•nuh•stee)

**aristocrat** (uh•RIHS•tuh•KRAT)

**pictograph** (PIHK•tuh•GRAF)

**ideograph** (IH•dee•uh•GRAF)

**bureaucracy** (byu•RAH•kruh•see)

**mandate** (MAN•DAYT)

**Dao** (DOW)

### Reading Strategy

**Summarizing Information** Complete a chart like the one below describing the characteristics of the Shang and Zhou dynasties.

	Shang Dynasty	Zhou Dynasty
Dates		
Leadership		
Accomplishments		

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

## When & Where?



1750 B.C.

c. 1750 B.C.

Shang dynasty begins

975 B.C.

1045 B.C.

Wu Wang creates Zhou dynasty

200 B.C.

221 B.C.

Qin dynasty begins



# China's Geography

**Main Idea** Rivers, mountains, and deserts helped shape China's civilization.

**Reading Focus** Why do you think so many cities and towns were built beside rivers? Read to learn why rivers were important to the development of China.

The **Huang He** (HWAHNG HUH), or Yellow River, flows across China for more than 2,900 miles (4,666 km). It gets its name from the rich yellow soil it carries from Mongolia to the Pacific Ocean.

Like rivers in early Mesopotamia and Egypt, China's Huang He flooded the land. The flooding was good and bad for the Chinese. When the river overflowed, many

people drowned and many homes were destroyed. As a result, the Chinese called the Huang He "China's sorrow."

The river, however, also brought a gift. When the river flooded, it left behind rich topsoil in the Huang He valley. As a result, farmers could grow large amounts of food on very small farms.

China also has another great river, called the **Chang Jiang** (CHAHNG JYAHNG), or the Yangtze River. The Chang Jiang is even longer than the Huang He. It flows for about 3,400 miles (5,471 km) east across central China where it empties into the Yellow Sea. Like the Huang He valley, the valley of the Chang Jiang also has rich soil for farming.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

The Geography of China

In Motion

Using Geography Skills

While the country of China has one of the world's largest populations, little of its land can be farmed.

1. What is the name of the desert on China's northern border near Mongolia?
2. What effect did China's mountains and deserts have on its history?

Find NGS online map resources @ [www.nationalgeographic.com/maps](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/maps)



Even though China has rich soil along its rivers, only a little more than one-tenth of its land can be farmed. That is because mountains and deserts cover most of the land. The towering Himalaya close off China to the southwest. The Kunlun Shan and Tian Shan are mountain ranges on China's western border. The Gobi, a vast, cold, rocky desert, spreads east from the mountains. These mountains and deserts shaped much of Chinese history. They were like a wall around the Chinese, separating them from most other peoples.

Over time, the Chinese people united to form one kingdom. They called their homeland "the Middle Kingdom." To them, it was the world's center and its leading civilization. The Chinese developed a way of life that lasted into modern times.

**Reading Check Identify** Name two rivers important to early Chinese civilizations.

## The Shang Dynasty

**Main Idea** Rulers known as the Shang became powerful because they controlled land and had strong armies.

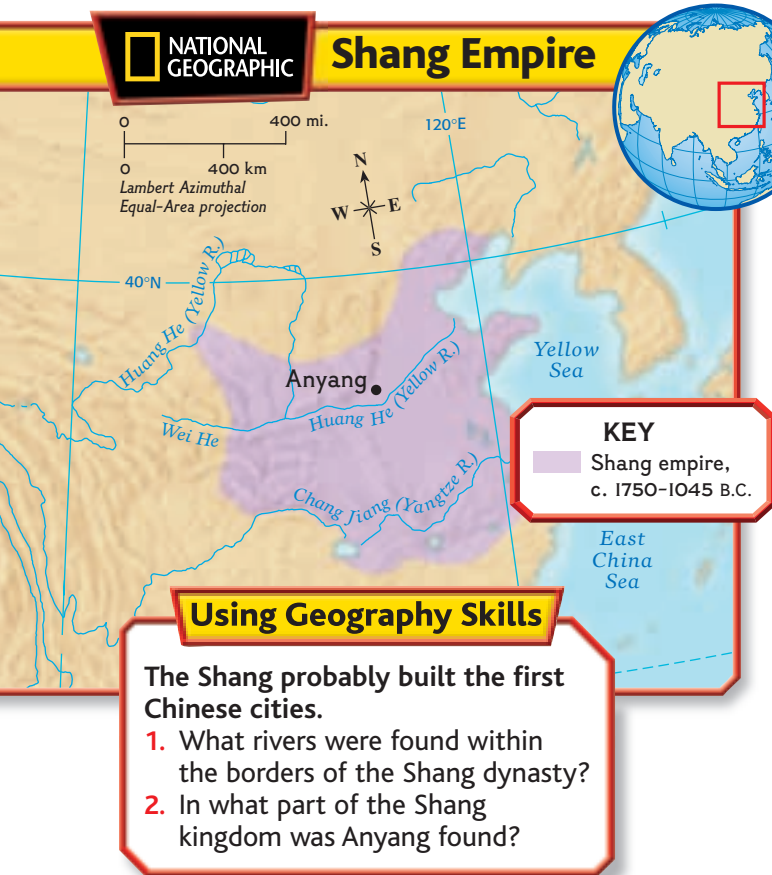
**Reading Focus** Who are the leaders in your community? What gives them their power? Read to learn why some people in early China had more power than others.

Little is known about how Chinese civilization began. Archaeologists, however, have found pottery in the Huang He valley dating back thousands of years. These artifacts show that the Huang He valley was the first center of Chinese civilization. Archaeologists think that people stayed in the valley and farmed the land because of rich soil. As their numbers rose, they began building towns, and soon after, the first Chinese civilization began.

China's first rulers were probably part of the Xia (SYAH) dynasty. A **dynasty** (DY•nuh•stee) is a line of rulers who belong to the same family. Little is known about the Xia. We know more about the next dynasty, the Shang. The Shang kings ruled from about 1750 B.C. to 1045 B.C.

**Who Were the Shang?** Archaeologists have found huge walls, royal palaces, and royal tombs from the time of the Shang. These remains show that the Shang may have built the first Chinese cities. One of these cities was **Anyang** (AHN•YAHNG) in northern China. Anyang was China's first capital. From there, the Shang kings ruled the early Chinese people.

The people of the Shang dynasty were divided into groups. The most powerful group was the king and his family. The first Shang king ruled over a small area in northern China. His armies used chariots and bronze weapons to take over nearby areas.





In time, the Shang kings ruled over most of the Huang He valley.

Later, Shang kings chose warlords to govern the kingdom's territories. Warlords are military leaders who command their own armies. However, the king controlled even larger armies who defended the kingdom's borders. The king's armies helped him stay in power.

Under the king, the warlords and other royal officials made up the upper class. They were **aristocrats** (uh•RIHS•tuh•KRATS), nobles whose wealth came from the land they owned. Aristocrats passed their land and their power from one generation to the next.

In Shang China, a few people were traders and artisans. Most Chinese, however, were farmers. They worked the land that belonged to the aristocrats. They grew grains, such as millet, wheat, and rice, and raised cattle, sheep, and chickens. A small number of enslaved people captured in war also lived in Shang China.

**Spirits and Ancestors** People in Shang China worshiped gods and spirits. Spirits were believed to live in mountains, rivers, and seas. The people believed that they had to keep the gods and spirits happy by making offerings of food and other goods. They believed that the gods and spirits would be angry if they were not treated well. Angry gods and spirits might cause farmers to have a poor harvest or armies to lose a battle.

People also honored their ancestors, or departed family members. Offerings were made in the hope that ancestors would help in times of need and bring good luck. To this day, many Chinese still remember their ancestors by going to temples and burning small paper copies of food and clothing.



▲ Bronze vessel

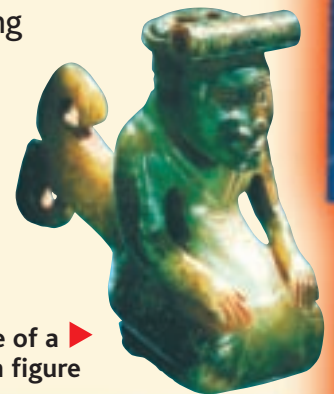
# The Way It Was

## Focus on Everyday Life

**The Role of Women** Zheng Zhenxiang was China's first female archaeologist. In 1976 she found the tomb of Fu Hao, China's first female general. In the tomb were more than 2,000 artifacts from the Shang dynasty, including weapons, bronze vessels, jade objects, and bones with Chinese characters carved on them.

Fu Hao, the wife of King Wu Ding, was given a royal burial. She was famous for her strength, martial arts skills, and military strategies. She often helped her husband defeat their enemies on the battlefield. Fu Hao was the first female in China's history to receive the highest military rank.

Her tomb and its artifacts reveal the grand civilization of China's Shang dynasty. During this period, the Chinese developed writing, a calendar, and musical instruments.



Jade sculpture of a seated human figure ▶

## Connecting to the Past

1. What was Fu Hao famous for during her life?
2. Describe what the artifacts found in Fu Hao's tomb might reveal about life during that time.





These copies represent things that their departed relatives need in the afterlife.

**Telling the Future** Shang kings believed that they received power and wisdom from the gods, the spirits, and their ancestors.

Shang religion and government were closely linked, just as they were in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt. An important duty of Shang kings was to contact the gods, the spirits, and ancestors before making important decisions.

The kings asked for the gods' help by using oracle (AWR•uh•kuhl) bones. They had priests scratch questions on the bones, such as "Will I win the battle?" and "Will I recover from my illness?" Then the priests placed hot metal rods inside the bones, causing them to crack. They believed that the pattern of the cracks formed answers from the gods. The priests interpreted the answers and wrote them down for the kings. Scratches on oracle bones are the earliest known examples of Chinese writing.

**The Chinese Language** The scratches on oracle bones show how today's Chinese writing began. However, the modern Chinese language is much more complex.

Like many other ancient languages, early Chinese writing used pictographs and ideographs. **Pictographs** (PIHK•tuh•GRAFS) are characters that stand for objects. For example, the Chinese characters for a mountain, the sun, and the moon are pictographs. **Ideographs** (IH•dee•uh•GRAFS) are another kind of character used in Chinese writing. They join two or more pictographs to represent an idea. For example, the ideograph for "east" relates to the idea of the sun rising in the east. It is a combination of pictographs that show the sun coming up behind trees.

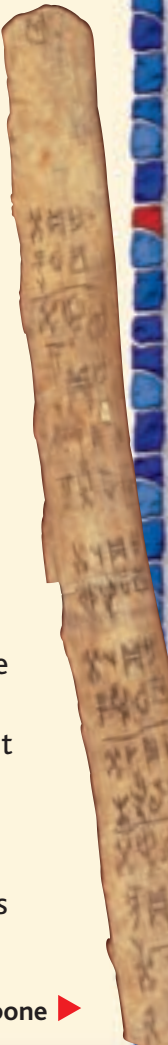
Unlike Chinese, English and many other languages have writing systems based on an alphabet. An alphabet uses characters that stand for sounds. The Chinese use some characters to stand for sounds, but most characters still represent whole words.

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC**

# HISTORY MAKERS

## Chinese Writing

The Chinese writing system was created nearly 3,500 years ago during the Shang dynasty. The earliest examples of Chinese writing have been found on animal bones. The carvings on these bones show that Chinese writing has always used symbols to represent words. Some of the carvings are pictures. For example, the verb *to go* was represented by a picture of a foot. The characters were carved in vertical columns and read from top to bottom, like modern Chinese writing. The writing on the bones recorded the Shang kings' questions about a wide range of topics—from the weather to good fortune. Chinese writing has changed in many ways, but it still reflects its ancient roots in pictures and symbols.



Oracle bone ▶



**Shang Artists** The people in Shang China developed many skills. Farmers produced silk, which weavers used to make colorful clothes. Artisans made vases and dishes from fine white clay. They also carved statues from ivory and a green stone called jade.

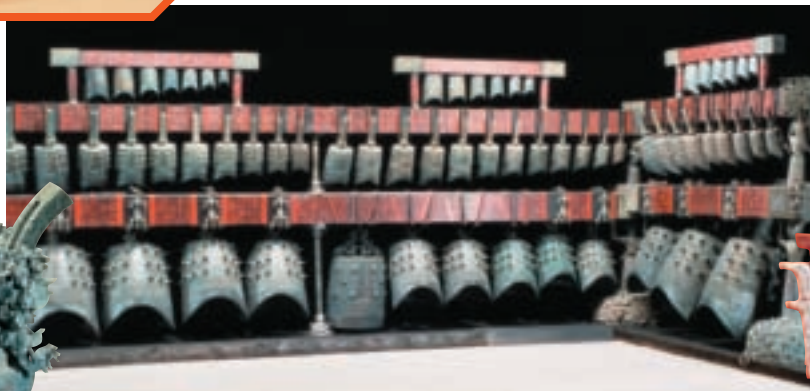
The Shang are best known for their works of bronze. To make bronze objects, artisans made clay molds in several sections. Next, they carved detailed designs into the clay. Then, they fit the pieces of the mold tightly together and poured in melted bronze. When the bronze cooled, the mold was removed. A beautifully decorated work of art remained.

Shang bronze objects included sculptures, vases, drinking cups, and containers called urns. The Shang used bronze urns to prepare and serve food for rituals honoring ancestors.

**Reading Check Explain** What was the role of Shang warlords?



◀ Buffalo-shaped bronze vessel from the Shang dynasty



▲ These bronze bells are from the Zhou dynasty. *How long did the Zhou dynasty last?*



◀ Bronze bowl and ladle from Zhou dynasty



▼ Bronze food container from the Shang dynasty

## The Zhou Dynasty

**Main Idea** Chinese rulers claimed that the Mandate of Heaven gave them the right to rule.

**Reading Focus** Who gives you permission to do the things you do? Your mother? Your teacher? Read to find out how the rulers of the Zhou dynasty turned to the heavens for permission to rule.

During the rule of the Shang, a great gap existed between the rich and the poor. Shang kings lived in luxury and began to treat people cruelly. As a result, they lost the support of the people in their kingdom. In 1045 B.C. an aristocrat named **Wu Wang** (WOO WAHNG) led a rebellion against the Shang. After defeating the Shang, Wu began a new dynasty called the Zhou (JOH).

**The Zhou Government** The Zhou dynasty ruled for more than 800 years—longer than any other dynasty in Chinese history.

Zhou kings ruled much like Shang rulers. The Zhou king was at the head of the government. Under him was a large **bureaucracy** (byu•RAH•kruh•see). A bureaucracy is made up of appointed officials who are responsible for different areas of government. Like the Shang rulers, the Zhou king was in charge of defending the kingdom.



## Zhou Empire



### Using Geography Skills

Zhou rulers maintained the longest-lasting dynasty in Chinese history.

1. What body of water made up the eastern border of Zhou territory?
2. Why did the Zhou divide their kingdom into smaller territories?

The Zhou kings copied the Shang system of dividing the kingdom into smaller territories. The kings put aristocrats they trusted in charge of each territory. The positions the aristocrats held were hereditary. That meant that when an aristocrat died, his son or another relative would take over as ruler of the territory.

The Chinese considered the king their link between heaven and earth. His chief duty was to carry out religious rituals. The Chinese believed these rituals strengthened the link between them and the gods. This belief paved the way for a new idea that the Zhou kings introduced to government. They claimed that kings ruled China because they had the Mandate of Heaven.

### What Was the Mandate of Heaven?

According to Zhou rulers, a heavenly law gave the Zhou king the power to rule. This **mandate** (MAN • DAYT), or formal order, was called the Mandate of Heaven. Based on the mandate, the king was chosen by heavenly

order because of his talent and virtue. Therefore, he would rule the people with goodness and wisdom.

The Mandate of Heaven worked in two ways. First, the people expected the king to rule according to the proper “Way,” called the **Dao** (DOW). His duty was to keep the gods happy. A natural disaster or a bad harvest was a sign that he had failed in his duty. People then had the right to overthrow and replace the king.

The Mandate of Heaven also worked another way. It gave the people, as well as the king, important rights. For example, people had the right to overthrow a dishonest or evil ruler. It also made clear that the king was not a god himself. Of course, each new dynasty claimed it had the Mandate of Heaven. The only way people could question the claim was by overthrowing the dynasty.

**New Tools and Trade** For thousands of years, Chinese farmers depended on rain to water their crops. During the Zhou dynasty, the Chinese developed irrigation and flood-control systems. As a result, farmers could grow more crops than ever before.

Improvements in farming tools also helped farmers produce more crops. By 550 B.C., the Chinese were using iron plows. These sturdy plows broke up land that had been too hard to farm with wooden plows. As a result, the Chinese could plow more and produce more crops. Because more food could support more people, the population increased. During the late Zhou dynasty, China’s population had expanded to about 50 million people.

**History online**  
**Web Activity** Visit [jat.glencoe.com](http://jat.glencoe.com) and click on *Chapter 7—Student Web Activity* to learn more about ancient China.



Trade and manufacturing grew along with farming. An important trade item during the Zhou dynasty was silk. Pieces of Chinese silk have been found throughout central Asia and as far away as Greece. This suggests that the Chinese traded far and wide.



◀ This statue of a winged dragon is from the Zhou dynasty. **From what metal did the Chinese make plows and weapons during the Zhou dynasty?**

**The Zhou Empire Falls** Over time, the local rulers of the Zhou territories became powerful. They stopped obeying the Zhou kings and set up their own states. In 403 B.C. fighting broke out. For almost 200 years, the states battled each other. Historians call this time the “Period of the Warring States.”

Instead of nobles driving chariots, the warring states used large armies of foot soldiers. To get enough soldiers, they issued laws forcing peasants to serve in the army. The armies fought with swords, spears, and

crossbows. A crossbow uses a crank to pull the string and shoots arrows with great force.

As the fighting went on, the Chinese invented the saddle and stirrup. These let soldiers ride horses and use spears and crossbows while riding. In 221 B.C. the ruler of Qin (CHIHN), one of the warring states, used a large cavalry force to defeat the other states and set up a new dynasty.

**Reading Check Identify** What was the chief duty of Chinese kings?

## Section 1 Review

**History Online**  
**Study Central™** Need help with the material in this section? Visit [jag.glencoe.com](http://jag.glencoe.com)

### Reading Summary

#### Review the Main Ideas

- China’s first civilizations formed in river valleys. The Chinese were isolated from other people by mountains and deserts.
- The rulers of the Shang dynasty controlled the area around the Huang He valley.
- The Zhou dynasty replaced the Shang and claimed to rule with the Mandate of Heaven. During the Zhou dynasty, farming methods improved and trade increased.

### What Did You Learn?

1. What is a dynasty?
2. What were oracle bones and how were they used?

#### Critical Thinking

3. **Analyze** How did the Mandate of Heaven allow for the overthrow of kings in ancient China?
4. **Summarizing Information** Draw a diagram like the one below. Add details that describe the members of Shang society.



5. **Evaluate** What were some important technological changes during the Zhou dynasty, and how did they lead to a larger population?
6. **Explain** How did ancient Chinese kings maintain control of their dynasties?
7. **Reading Text Structure** Explain why parentheses are used in the following sentence. “The Huang He (HWAHNG HUH), or Yellow River, flows across China for more than 2,900 miles (4,666 km).”

# Life in Ancient China

## Get Ready to Read!

### What's the Connection?

In Section 1, you learned about the Chinese government under the Zhou dynasty. This section describes what life was like during the Zhou dynasty.

### Focusing on the Main Ideas

- Chinese society had three main social classes: landowning aristocrats, farmers, and merchants. (page 233)
- Three Chinese philosophies, Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism, grew out of a need for order. (page 235)

### Meeting People

**Confucius** (kuhn•FYOO•shuhs)

**Laozi** (LOWD•ZOO)

**Hanfeizi** (HAN•fay•DZOO)

### Building Your Vocabulary

**social class**

**filial piety**

(FIH•lee•uhl PY•uh•tee)

**Confucianism**

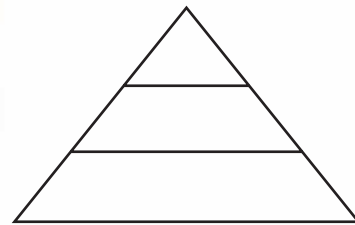
(kuhn•FYOO•shuh•NIH•zuhm)

**Daoism** (DOW•IH•zuhm)

**Legalism** (LEE•guh•LIH•zuhm)

### Reading Strategy

**Organizing Information** Create a pyramid diagram like the one below showing the social classes in ancient China from most important (top) to least important (bottom).



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

## When & Who?

600 B.C.



551 B.C.

Confucius is born

400 B.C.



c. 300 B.C.

Laozi's ideas of Daoism become popular

200 B.C.

c. 200 B.C.

Hanfeizi develops Legalism





## Life in Ancient China

**Main Idea** Chinese society had three main social classes: landowning aristocrats, farmers, and merchants.

**Reading Focus** Have you heard the terms *high society* and *working class*? They describe social classes in America. Read on to find out about social classes in early China.

A **social class** includes people who share a similar position in society. Early Chinese society had three main social classes:

- landowning aristocrats
- peasant farmers
- merchants

**Classes in Chinese Society** China's aristocratic families owned large estates in early China. They lived in large houses with tile

roofs, courtyards, and gardens. Fine furniture and silk hangings filled their rooms, and their houses were surrounded by walls to keep out bandits.

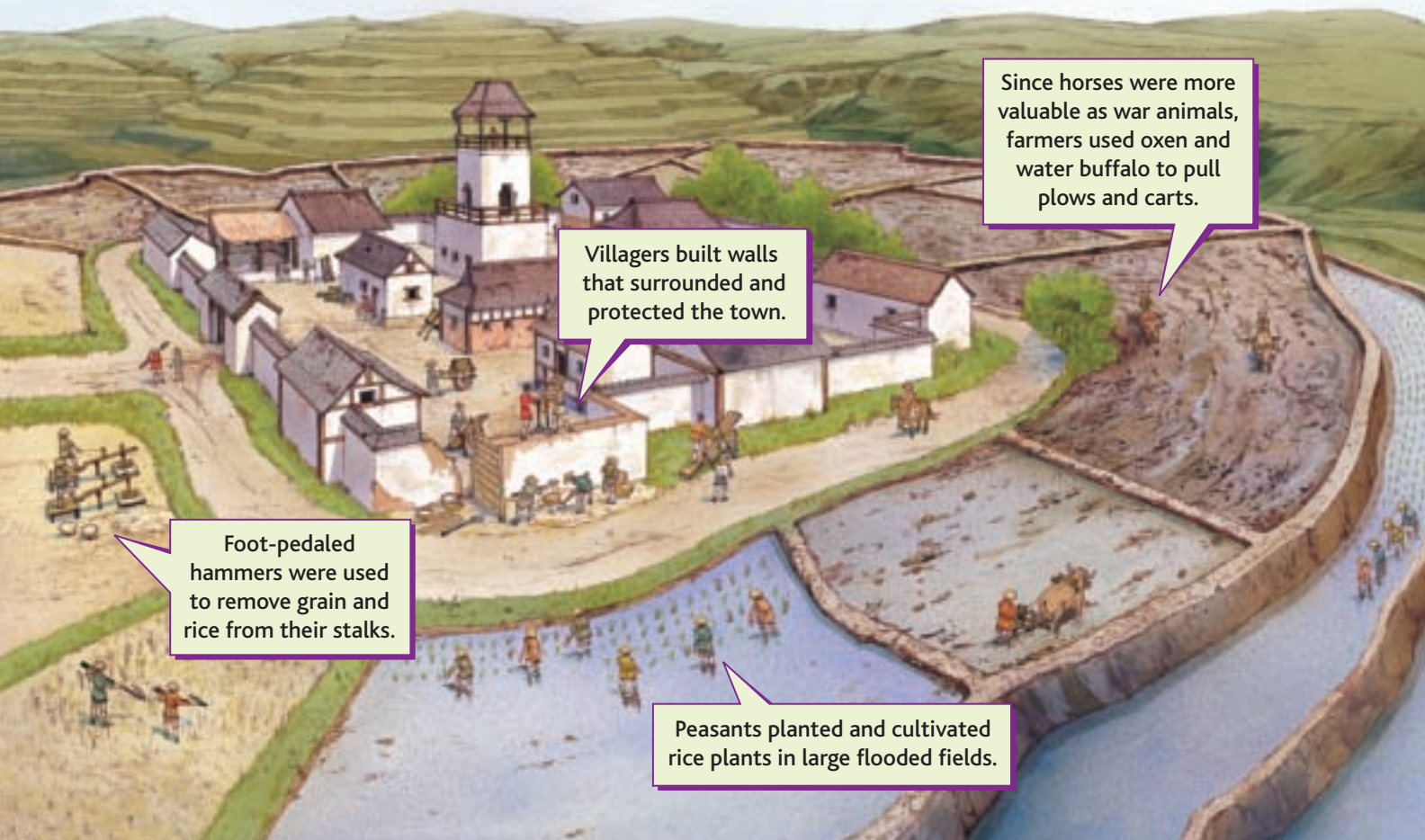
The aristocratic families did not own large estates for long. Each aristocrat divided his land among his sons. As a result, sons and grandsons owned much less property than their fathers and grandfathers had owned.

Aristocrats relied on farmers to grow the crops that made them rich. About nine out of ten Chinese were farmers. They lived in simple houses inside village walls. The aristocrats owned the fields outside the village walls. In these fields, farmers in northern China grew wheat and a grain called millet. In the south, where the climate was warmer and wetter, they were able to grow rice.

## Chinese Village

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

**How did farmers pay for the use of the land they farmed?**



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

Villagers built walls that surrounded and protected the town.

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

Peasants planted and cultivated rice plants in large flooded fields.



To pay for the use of the land, the farmers gave part of their crop to the landowners.

Most farmers also owned a small piece of land where they grew food for their family. A typical family ate fish, turnips, beans, wheat or rice, and millet. The farmers had to pay taxes and work one month each year building roads and helping on other big government projects. In wartime, the farmers also served as soldiers.

In Chinese society, farmers ranked above merchants. The merchant social class included shopkeepers, traders, and bankers. The merchants lived in towns and provided goods and services to the landowners.

Many merchants became quite rich, but landowners and farmers still looked down on them. Chinese leaders believed that government officials should not be concerned with money. As a result, merchants were not allowed to have government jobs.

## What Was Life Like in a Chinese Family?

The family was the basic building block of Chinese society. Because farming in ancient China required many workers, people had big families to help them produce more and become wealthier. Even the young children of a family worked in the fields. Older sons raised their own crops and provided food for their parents. Chinese families also took care of people in need—the aged, the young, and the sick.

Chinese families practiced **filial piety** (FIH•lee•uhl PY•uh•tee). This meant that children had to respect their parents and older relatives. Family members placed the needs and desires of the head of the family before their own. The head of the family was the oldest male, usually the father. However, a son could take on this role, and then even his mother had to obey him.

NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC

## The Way It Was

### Focus on Everyday Life

**Chinese Farming** Farmers in ancient China had to find ways to grow enough food to feed their large population. It was often difficult because of the dry, mountainous land.

Over centuries, farmers learned to cut terraces—flat areas, like a series of deep steps—into the mountain slopes. Terraces made more land available for farming and kept the soil from eroding, or wearing away. Early farmers also used the terraces as a way to irrigate their crops. As rain fell, it flowed down from one terrace to the



▲ Terrace farming in China



(1) Seattle Museum of Art/Laurene Platt Winfrey, (2) Asian Art & Archaeology/CORBIS, (3) others/Christopher Liu/ChinaStock

Men and women had very different roles in early China. Men were respected because they grew the crops. They went to school, ran the government, and fought wars. The Chinese considered these jobs more important than the work that women did. Most women raised children and managed the household.

Chinese women could not hold government posts. However, women in the royal court could influence government decisions. Wives of rulers or women in the royal family often convinced men in power to see things their way.



▲ Chinese female figurine

**Reading Check** Explain Why did the amount of land owned by each aristocrat decrease over time?

## Chinese Thinkers

**Main Idea** Three Chinese philosophies, Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism, grew out of a need for order.

**Reading Focus** If people around you were arguing and fighting, what would you do? Read to learn about early Chinese ideas for restoring order.

As the Zhou kingdom weakened in the 500s B.C., violence became common. During the Period of the Warring States, rulers sent armies to destroy enemy states. Whole villages of men, women, and children were beheaded. Many Chinese began looking for ways to restore order to society.

Between 500 B.C. and 200 B.C., Chinese thinkers developed three major theories about how to create a peaceful society. These theories are called Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism.

next, watering the crops. This method of farming, called terrace farming, is still used in China today.

Farmers in ancient China were the first to use insects to protect their crops from damage by other insects. As early as A.D. 304, Chinese farmers used ants to prevent other insects from damaging their citrus fruit trees. They also used frogs and birds for pest control.

The ancient Chinese used bronze and iron tools like those on the right, to farm their land and harvest crops.

Hoe ▶



▼ Plow blade



▲ Head of a shovel

### Connecting to the Past

1. How did farmers in ancient China increase the amount of productive farmland?
2. What three farming methods helped farmers in ancient China grow more food?





## Chinese Numbering System

Chinese Number	English Number	Chinese Number	English Number
零	0	七	7
一	1	八	8
二	2	九	9
三	3	十	10
四	4	百	100
五	5	千	1,000
六	6	万	10,000

### Examples:

二十	$(2 \times 10)$
二百	$(2 \times 100)$
三千	$(3 \times 1,000)$
四百五十六	$[(4 \times 100) + (5 \times 10) + (6)]$

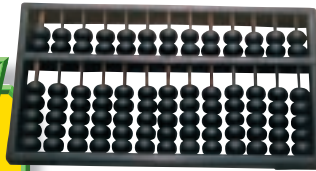
### Understanding Charts

The Chinese system of numbering is based on units of 10. It uses characters to represent 0 through 9 and the powers of 10 (10, 100, 1,000, and so forth).

1. How would you write the number 328 using the Chinese numbering system?
2. **Analyze** What is the English number for 六百四十一?

**Who Was Confucius?** **Confucius** (kuhn • FYOO • shuhs) was ancient China's first great thinker and teacher. He wanted to end the problems in China and bring peace to society.

Confucius believed that people needed to have a sense of duty. Duty meant that a person must put the needs of family and community before his or her own needs. Each person owed a duty to another person. Parents owed their children love, and children owed their parents honor. Husbands owed their wives support, and



◀ Abacuses, like this one, were used by the Chinese to solve math problems. These ancient calculators held

stones on wooden pegs, which would be moved up and down to add, subtract, multiply, and divide.

wives owed their husbands obedience. Above all, rulers had to set good examples. If a king ruled for the common good, his subjects would respect him and society would prosper.

Confucius believed that if each person did his or her duty, society as a whole would do well. He also urged people to be good and to seek knowledge:

“There are those who act without knowing; I will have none of this. To hear a lot, choose the good, and follow it, to see a lot and learn to recognize it: this is next to knowledge.”

—Confucius, *Analects*

To Confucius, the best way to behave was similar to an idea known as the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.” Confucius urged people to “measure the feelings of others by one's own,” for “within the four seas all men are brothers.”

Confucius traveled through China trying to persuade government leaders to follow his ideas. **Confucianism** (kuhn • FYOO • shuh • NIH • zuhm) taught that all men with a talent for governing should take part in government. Of course, this idea was not popular with aristocrats, and few leaders listened.

Over time, Confucius won many followers who honored him as a great teacher. They wrote down his sayings and carried his message. After Confucius died in 479 B.C., his sayings spread throughout China.

## CONFUCIUS

551–479 B.C.

Historians believe that the great thinker and teacher Confucius was born in the small state of Lu and named Kong Qui. His parents were poor, although his family had probably been wealthy at one time. One record says that Confucius was only three years old when his father died. His mother may have also died when he was young, because another record describes Confucius as an orphan.

Even as a teenager, Confucius was a talented scholar with strong, fixed beliefs. He devoted himself to learning and mastered literature, history, music, and arithmetic. He served as an apprentice to a bookkeeper and a stable manager but really wanted to obtain a government position. When he was 19, Confucius married and soon had a son and a daughter.

Confucius lived in a time when many people no longer held to traditional values and the government was struggling. Because he was concerned about these problems, Confucius took a government job to help improve society. He taught that the most important thing was for people to do their duty. In addition, he taught that people should honor their promises to others, use education to improve themselves, avoid extreme actions or feelings, and avoid bad people. Confucius also wanted everyone to return to the beliefs and rituals of their ancestors.

Government officials in Lu were not interested in his ideas, so at age 30 Confucius left politics and began a teaching career. He devoted the rest of his life to improving society through learning and teaching. Confucius did not write down any of his ideas, but his followers put together a book of his sayings called the *Lun Yü (Analects)*.

Confucius ▶



**“What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others.”**

—Confucius

### Then and Now

Give an example of how the above quote from Confucius might help society today.



## Chinese Philosophers

### Confucianism

#### Founder

Confucius



#### Main Ideas

People should put the needs of their family and community first.

#### 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

Laozi



People should give up worldly desires in favor of nature and the Dao.

Daoism teaches the importance of nature and encourages people to treat nature with respect and reverence.

### Legalism

Hanfeizi



Society needs a system of harsh laws and strict punishment.

Legalists developed laws that became an important part of Chinese history.

### Understanding Charts

Three philosophies developed in early China.

1. Which philosophy encourages followers to concentrate on duty and humanity?
2. **Conclude** Which of these philosophies do you think would be most popular in the world today? Explain.



▲ Some legends state that Laozi rode his water buffalo westward into a great desert and disappeared after writing *Dao De Jing*. **When did the ideas of Daoism become popular?**

**What Is Daoism?** **Daoism** (DOW•IH•zuhm) is another Chinese philosophy that promotes a peaceful society. Daoism (also called Taoism) is based on the teachings of **Laozi** (LOWD•ZOO). Laozi, or the Old Master, lived around the same time as Confucius. Scholars do not know if Laozi was a real person. However, the ideas credited to him became popular between 500 B.C. and 300 B.C.

The ideas of Daoism are written in *Dao De Jing* (The Way of the Dao). Like Confucianism, Daoism tells people how to behave. Daoists believed that people should give up worldly desires. They should turn to nature and the Dao—the



force that guides all things. To show how to follow the Dao, Daoists used examples from nature:

“Higher good is like water:  
the good in water benefits all,  
and does so without contention.  
It rests where people dislike to be,  
so it is close to the Way.  
Where it dwells becomes  
good ground;  
profound is the good in its heart,  
Benevolent the good it bestows.”

—Laozi, *Tao Te Ching*

In some ways, Daoism is the opposite of Confucianism. Followers of Confucius taught that people should work hard to improve the world. Daoism called on people to give up their concerns about the world. It said they should seek inner peace and live in harmony with nature. Many Chinese followed both Confucianism and Daoism.

**What Is Legalism?** A third group of thinkers disagreed with the idea that honorable men in government could bring peace to society. Instead, they argued for a system of laws. People called their thinking **Legalism** (LEE•guh•LIH•zuhm), or the “School of Law.”

A scholar named **Hanfeizi** (HAN•fay•DZOO) developed the teachings of Legalism during the 200s B.C. Unlike Confucius or Laozi, Hanfeizi taught that humans were naturally evil. He believed that they needed harsh laws and stiff punishments to force them to do their duty. His followers believed that a strong ruler was needed to keep order in society.

Many aristocrats liked Legalism because it favored force and power, and did not require rulers to show kindness or understanding. Its ideas led to the cruel laws and punishments often used to control Chinese farmers.

**Reading Check Explain** Why did Hanfeizi believe that people needed laws and punishments?

## Section 2 Review

History online

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### Reading Summary

#### Review the **Main Ideas**

- Early Chinese society had three main social classes: aristocrats, farmers, and merchants. The family was the basis of Chinese society.
- During a time of disorder, three new philosophies developed in China: Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism.

### What Did You Learn?

1. Describe the concept of filial piety.
2. Why did many aristocrats favor the philosophy of Legalism?
3. **Critical Thinking Compare** Draw a table to compare the three main classes of ancient Chinese society.
4. **Contrast** How did Daoism differ from Confucianism?
5. **Writing Questions** Suppose you could interview Confucius about his concept of duty. Write five questions you might ask him about the subject. Include possible responses.
6. **Expository Writing** Do you think any of the Chinese philosophies studied in this section are reflected in our society today? Write an essay explaining your answer.

Chinese Society		
Aristocrats	Farmers	Merchants

# The Qin and Han Dynasties

## Get Ready to Read!

### What's the Connection?

Each of China's early dynasties was led by rulers who were very different. In this section, you will see how the Qin and Han dynasties differed because of their rulers.

### Focusing on the **Main Ideas**

- Qin Shihuangdi used harsh methods to unify and defend China. (page 241)
- Developments during the Han dynasty improved life for all Chinese. (page 244)
- The Silk Road carried Chinese goods as far as Greece and Rome. (page 246)
- Unrest in China helped Buddhism to spread. (page 248)

### Locating Places

Guangzhou (GWAHNG•JOH)

Silk Road

Luoyang (loo•WOH•YAHNG)

### Meeting People

**Qin Shihuangdi** (CHIHN SHEE•hwahng•dee)

**Liu Bang** (lee•OO BAHNG)

**Han Wudi** (HAHN WOO•DEE)

### Building Your Vocabulary

**acupuncture** (A•kyuh•PUHNGK•chuhr)

### Reading Strategy

#### Determining Cause and Effect

Complete a diagram like the one below showing the inventions of the Han dynasty and the resulting impact on society.

Invention	→	Effect
<input type="text"/>	→	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	→	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	→	<input type="text"/>



## When & Where?



200 B.C.

202 B.C.

Liu Bang founds Han dynasty

A.D. 1

c. A.D. 100

Silk Road established

A.D. 200

A.D. 190

Rebel armies attack Han capital



# Emperor Qin Shihuangdi

**Main Idea** Qin Shihuangdi used harsh methods to unify and defend China.

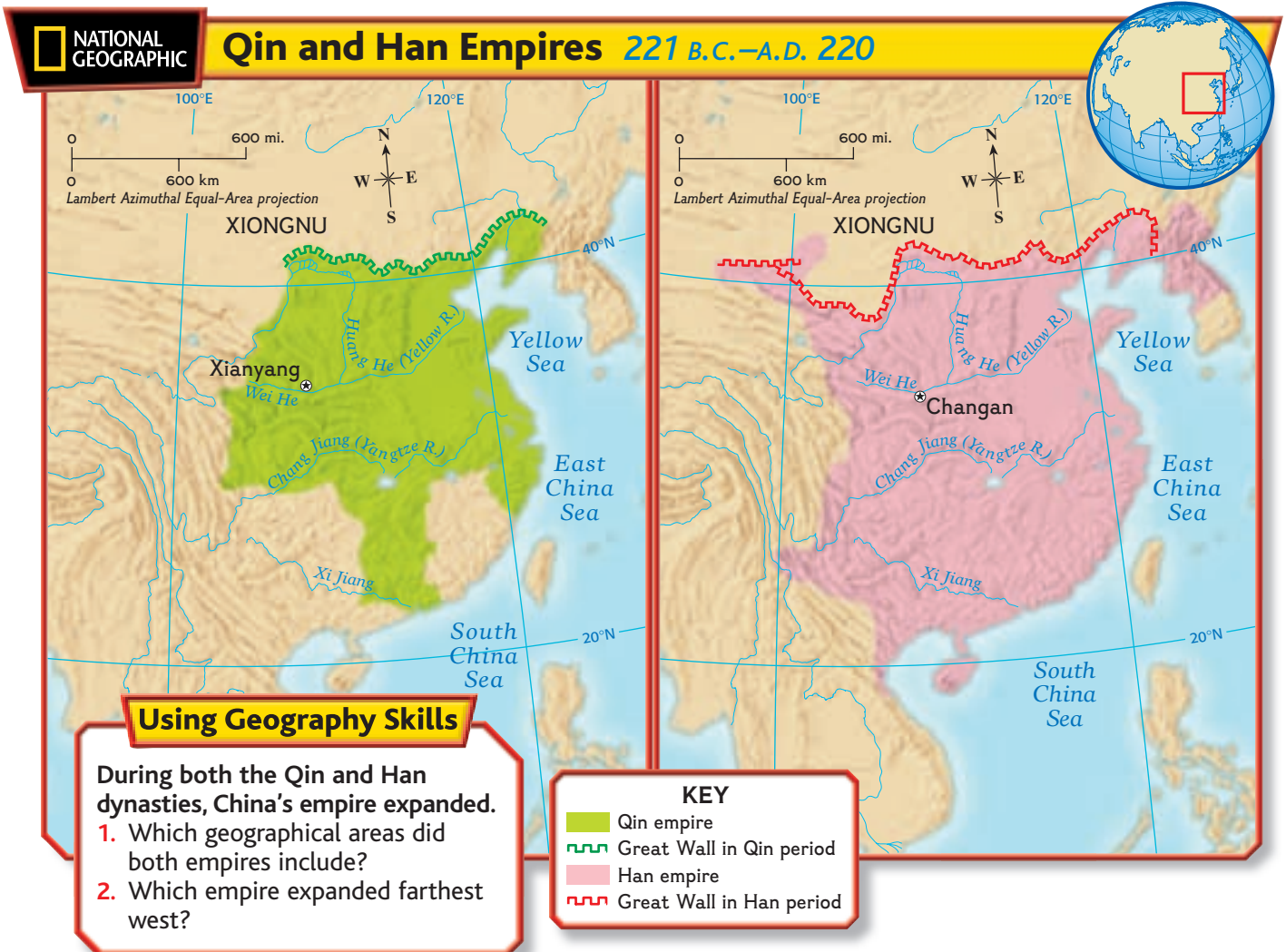
**Reading Focus** Imagine your city or state without any roads. How would people get from one place to another? Read to find out how a Chinese ruler used roads and canals to unite China.

You have read about the problems in China from about 400 B.C. to 200 B.C. The rulers of powerful local states fought one another and ignored the Zhou kings. One of these states was called Qin. Its ruler took over neighboring states one by one. In 221 B.C. the Qin ruler declared himself **Qin Shihuangdi** (CHIHN SHEE • hwahng • dee),

which means “the First Qin Emperor.” The Qin ruler made changes in China’s government that would last for 2,000 years.

**A Powerful Ruler** Qin based his rule on the ideas of Legalism. He had everyone who opposed him punished or killed. Books opposing his views were publicly burned. Qin made the central government stronger than ever before. He appointed government officials, called censors, to make sure government officials did their jobs.

Second in power to the central government were provinces and counties. Under Zhou kings, officials who ran these areas passed on their posts to sons or relatives. Under Qin, only he could fill these posts.






Qin Shihuangdi unified China. He created one currency, or type of money, to be used throughout the empire. He also ordered the building of roads 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. He used the canal to ship supplies to his troops in far-off territories.

**The Great Wall** Northern China was bordered by the vast Gobi. 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 masters at fighting on horseback. They often attacked Chinese farms and villages. Several Chinese rulers in the north built walls to keep out the Xiongnu.

Qin Shihuangdi forced farmers to leave their fields and work on connecting and strengthening the walls. The result was the Great Wall of China, built with stone, sand, and piled rubble. However, Qin did not build the wall that we know today. It was built 1,500 years later.

**Why Did People Rebel?** Many Chinese viewed Qin Shihuangdi as a cruel leader. Aristocrats were angry because he reduced their power. Scholars hated him for burning their writings. Farmers hated him for forcing them to build roads and the Great Wall. Four years after the emperor died in 210 B.C., the people overthrew his dynasty. Civil war followed, and a new dynasty soon arose.

 **Reading Check Explain** Why did Qin face little opposition during most of his reign?

◀ This artwork shows the Great Wall many years after the reign of Qin Shihuangdi. Most of the wall built by Qin was made of stone and rubble, and was located north of the Great Wall we see today. Little remains of Qin's wall. **Who was the wall meant to keep out?**

# Biography

## QIN SHIHUANGDI

c. 259–210 B.C.

At the age 13, Ying Zheng became the leader of the Chinese state of Qin. The state was already very powerful because of Zheng's father, the previous ruler. Its government and military were well organized. With the help of his generals, young Zheng defeated Qin's six rival states. By 221 B.C., he had united all of the Chinese states under his rule. To mark a new beginning for China and to show his supremacy, Zheng gave himself the title Qin Shihuangdi—"The First Qin Emperor."

Qin Shihuangdi energetically went to work organizing his country. He divided the land into 36 districts, each with its own governor and a representative who reported directly to him. He made laws and taxes uniform throughout the country. He also standardized weights and measurements. Throughout China, the emperor had his achievements inscribed on stone tablets.

Qin Shihuangdi did strengthen and organize China, but many people disliked him because of his harsh laws and punishments. Many people also disliked how he spent lavish amounts of money to build palaces and a gigantic tomb for himself. He had an entire lifelike army—over 6,000 soldiers and horses—built of clay and placed in the tomb.



▲ Qin Shihuangdi

**"I have brought order to the mass of beings."**  
—Qin Shihuangdi



▲ Part of the terra-cotta army found in Qin Shihuangdi's tomb

### Then and Now

Why do you think modern historians disagree in their evaluation of Qin Shihuangdi's leadership?





# The Han Dynasty

**Main Idea** Developments during the Han dynasty improved life for all Chinese.

**Reading Focus** How much time do you spend studying for tests? Find out why some Chinese people spent years studying for one special test.

In 202 B.C. **Liu Bang** (lee•OO BAHNG) founded the Han dynasty. Liu Bang, who was once a peasant, became a military leader and defeated his rivals. He declared himself Han Gaozu—"Exalted Emperor of Han." Although Han Gaozu threw out the harsh policies of the Qin dynasty, he continued to use censors and also divided the empire into provinces and counties.

**What Was the Civil Service?** The Han reached its peak under the leadership of **Han Wudi** (HAHN WOO•DEE), which means "Martial Emperor of Han." He ruled from

141 B.C. to 87 B.C. Because Wudi wanted talented people to fill government posts, job seekers had to take long, difficult tests to qualify for openings in the bureaucracy. Those with the highest scores got the jobs.

In time, Wudi's tests became the civil service examinations. This system for choosing officials remained part of Chinese civilization for 2,000 years. The system was supposed to help anyone with the right skills get a job with the government. However, it actually favored the rich. Only wealthy families could afford to educate their sons for the difficult exams.

Students preparing for these tests learned law, history, and the teachings of Confucius. They began to memorize the works of Confucius at age seven. After many years of schooling, the students took their civil service examinations. Only one in five passed. Those who failed taught school, took jobs as assistants to officials, or were supported by their families.

**The Chinese Empire Grows** A large bureaucracy was needed to rule the rapidly growing empire. The population had grown from about 20 million under Han Gaozu to more than 60 million under Han Wudi.

Because farmers had to divide their lands among more and more sons, by the middle of the Han Dynasty the average farmer owned only about one acre of land. With so little land, farm families could not raise enough to live. As a result, many sold their land to aristocrats and became tenant farmers. Tenant farmers work on land that is owned by someone else and pay rent in crops. The aristocrats now owned thousands of acres, but peasants remained trapped in poverty.

China's empire grew in size as well as in population. Han armies added lands to the south and pushed Chinese borders westward. The Han dynasty also made the



▲ This painting shows students taking a civil service examination. **Why did the civil service system favor rich job seekers?**



# Linking Past & Present

## Papermaking

**THEN** The Chinese were the first people to make paper. The oldest piece of paper found in China dates from the first century B.C. Papermakers soaked tree bark, hemp, and rags in water and pounded it into pulp. They lowered a bamboo screen into a vat of the pulp and then lifted it out. It held a thin sheet of pulp which dried into a single sheet of paper.



▲ A modern artist demonstrates an ancient way of making paper.

▼ Modern papermaking



**NOW** Papermaking today is a huge international industry. Most paper is made in paper mills by machines, but the basic process is the same. Instead of tree bark, rags, and hemp, most paper today is made from wood pulp. *Why do you think some modern artists continue to make paper using pulp and a frame?*

country more secure. After Wudi's armies drove back the Xiongnu—the nomads to the north—the Chinese lived in peace for almost 150 years.

During this period of peace, new forms of Chinese literature appeared. Scholars and historians wrote new histories of current events and made copies of old literature. The focus of art also changed during the Han dynasty. Wealthy families commissioned products made of the best quality silk and wall carvings featuring scenes of everyday life.

**An Era of Inventions** New inventions during the Han dynasty helped Chinese workers produce more than ever. Millers used newly invented waterwheels to grind more grain, and miners used new iron drill bits to mine more salt. Ironworkers invented steel. Paper, another Han invention, was used by government officials to record a growing amount of information.

Chinese medicine also improved under the Han. Doctors discovered that certain foods prevented disease. They used herbs to cure illnesses and eased pain by sticking



thin needles into patients' skin. This treatment is known as **acupuncture** (A • kyuh • PUHNGK • chuhr).

The Chinese also invented the rudder and a new way to move the sails of ships. These changes allowed ships to sail into the wind for the first time. Chinese merchant ships could now travel to the islands of Southeast Asia and into the Indian Ocean. As a result, China established trade as far away as India and the Mediterranean Sea.

**Reading Check Explain** How did China's empire increase in size during the Han dynasty?

## The Silk Road

**Main Idea** The Silk Road carried Chinese goods as far as Greece and Rome.

**Reading Focus** Many of the things we buy today are made in China. Read to learn how goods made in China long ago made it all the way to Europe.

Emperor Han Wudi ordered a general named Zhang Qian (JAHNG CHYEHN) to explore areas west of China. Zhang was sent on this mission to find allies for China against its enemies, especially the Xiongnu



### Using Geography Skills


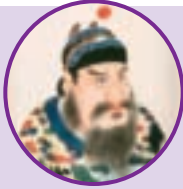
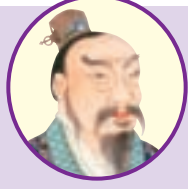
The Silk Road allowed the transport of expensive goods all the way from China to the Middle East and beyond.

1. What were some trade goods produced by China?
2. What regions were near or along the route of the Silk Road?

KEY			
Silk Road	Cloves	Grains	Pearls
Other trade routes	Copper	Horns/Tusks	Sandalwood
Black pepper	Cotton cloth	Leopard skins	Semiprecious stones
Cardamom	Frankincense/Myrrh	Nutmeg	Silk
Cinnamon	Gold	Oils	Teakwood
	Ginger	Papyrus	



## Four Chinese Dynasties

	SHANG	ZHOU	QIN	HAN
<b>When</b>	1750–1045 B.C.	1045–256 B.C.	221–206 B.C.	202 B.C.–A.D. 220
<b>Important Leaders</b>	Numerous kings with large armies and control over the land; ruled from capital city of Anyang	 Wu	 Qin Shihuangdi	 Liu Bang
<b>Main Ideas and Accomplishments</b>	Developed social classes that included farmers, merchants, aristocrats, and royal family	Longest-lasting dynasty in Chinese history; established Mandate of Heaven	Strengthened central government; created single monetary system	Population and landmass grew under Han; opened China to trade and commerce by building Silk Road
<b>Influences on Chinese Culture</b>	Influenced Chinese religion and culture; created Chinese written language	Developed irrigation and flood-control systems to help farmers grow more crops	Introduced use of censors to check on government officials; Qin built the first Great Wall to keep out invaders	Created government's civil service examination; major inventions: steel, paper, acupuncture, advanced sea travel

### Understanding Charts

The four dynasties of early China were separated by brief periods of unrest.

1. Under which dynasty was a single monetary system put in place?
2. **Evaluate** Which dynasty do you think contributed the most to Chinese culture? Why?

to the north. After a journey of about 13 years, Zhang returned to China. He failed to find allies, but he told of a mighty empire to the west with large cities full of people “who cut their hair short, wear embroidered clothes, and ride in very small chariots.” Zhang was describing the Roman Empire. He had also discovered another kingdom, perhaps in Kazakhstan, where there were horses of exceptional strength and size.

Emperor Wudi was delighted to hear this because the cavalry of the Xiongnu gave them a great advantage over his army, which was mostly infantry. The emperor

encouraged trade to get these horses. The result was the **Silk Road**, a large network of trade routes stretching 4,000 miles (6,436 km) from western China to southwest Asia.

Merchants used camels to carry their goods across deserts and mountains to central Asia. From there Arabs carried the goods to the Mediterranean Sea. The trip over the Silk Road was expensive because it was difficult and dangerous. Merchants had to pay taxes to many kingdoms as they moved the goods east and west. For this reason, they carried only high-priced goods such as silk, spices, tea, and porcelain.

 **Reading Check Conclude** Why were only expensive goods carried on the Silk Road?



# Major Changes in China

**Main Idea** Unrest in China helped Buddhism to spread.

**Reading Focus** What do you do when you feel frightened or unsafe? Read to find out how those feelings triggered the spread of Buddhism from India to China.

As you read in Chapter 6, Buddhism began in India, but it soon spread to other countries as well. Merchants and teachers from India brought Buddhism to China during the A.D. 100s. At first, only a few merchants and scholars were interested in the new religion. In time, however, Buddhism became very popular. One of the most important reasons that the Chinese people began to believe in Buddhism was the fall of the Han dynasty.

The Han emperors after Wudi were weak and foolish. As a result, the central government lost respect and power. At the

same time, as you read earlier, the aristocrats began grabbing more land and wealth. Dishonest officials and greedy aristocrats caused unrest among the farmers.

Wars, rebellions, and plots against the emperor put an end to the Han dynasty. In A.D. 190 a rebel army attacked the Han capital, **Luoyang** (loo•WOH•YAHNG). By A.D. 220, China had plunged into civil war. To make the situation worse, the northern nomads invaded the country.

The collapse of the government and the beginning of the civil war frightened many Chinese. They felt unsafe. Buddhist ideas helped people cope with the stress and their fear. Even the followers of other religions found Buddhism attractive. Followers of Confucius and Daoists admired Buddhist ideas. By the 400s, Buddhism had become popular in China.

**Reading Check Identify** What groups in China were the first to adopt Buddhism?

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## Section 3 Review

### Reading Summary

#### Review the Main Ideas

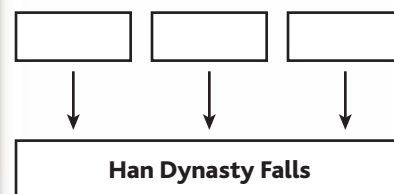
- The short-lived Qin dynasty helped to unify China.
- During the Han dynasty, people began taking tests for government jobs. New inventions, such as the waterwheel and paper, were created.
- The Silk Road was an important trade route that linked China to the West.
- As the Han dynasty lost power, many Chinese became followers of Buddhism.

### What Did You Learn?

1. Why did Qin Shihuangdi have the Great Wall built?
2. What were civil service examinations and why were they created?
4. **Geography Skills** What barriers did merchants who used the Silk Road have to cross?
5. **Explain** How did Qin Shihuangdi make China's central government stronger?

#### Critical Thinking

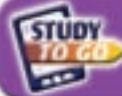
3. **Cause and Effect** Draw a diagram to show the factors that caused the Han dynasty to fall.



6. **Analyze** Why did the Qin dynasty fall?
7. **Descriptive Writing** Zhang Qian wrote that Romans had short hair, wore embroidered clothes, and rode in chariots. Name three things that he might have written about people in the United States after seeing them for the first time.

# Chapter 7

# Reading Review



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## Section 1 China's First Civilizations

### Vocabulary

dynasty  
aristocrat  
pictograph  
ideograph  
bureaucracy  
mandate  
Dao

### Focusing on the Main Ideas

- Rivers, mountains, and deserts helped shape China's civilization. (page 225)
- Rulers known as the Shang became powerful because they controlled land and had strong armies. (page 226)
- Chinese rulers claimed that the Mandate of Heaven gave them the right to rule. (page 229)



Bronze bowl and ladle  
from Zhou dynasty

## Section 2 Life in Ancient China

### Vocabulary

social class  
filial piety  
Confucianism  
Daoism  
Legalism

### Focusing on the Main Ideas

- Chinese society had three main social classes: landowning aristocrats, farmers, and merchants. (page 233)
- Three Chinese philosophies, Confucianism, Daoism, and Legalism, grew out of a need for order. (page 235)



Laozi

## Section 3 The Qin and Han Dynasties

### Vocabulary

acupuncture

### Focusing on the Main Ideas

- Qin Shihuangdi used harsh methods to unify and defend China. (page 241)
- Developments during the Han dynasty improved life for all Chinese. (page 244)
- The Silk Road carried Chinese goods as far as Greece and Rome. (page 246)
- Unrest in China helped Buddhism to spread. (page 248)

# Assessment and Activities

## Review Vocabulary

Match the words with the definitions below.

- \_\_\_ 1. dynasty  
 \_\_\_ 2. aristocrat  
 \_\_\_ 3. bureaucracy  
 \_\_\_ 4. mandate  
 \_\_\_ 5. social class  
 \_\_\_ 6. filial piety  
 \_\_\_ 7. acupuncture  
 \_\_\_ 8. Daoism  
 \_\_\_ 9. Confucianism
- a. right to command  
 b. line of rulers in the same family  
 c. member of the upper class whose wealth is based on land  
 d. The ideas of \_\_\_ included a duty to participate in government.  
 e. appointed government officials  
 f. head of family honored by other members  
 g. medical treatment using thin needles  
 h. people with a similar position in society  
 i. The teachings of Laozi are the basis of \_\_\_.

## Review Main Ideas

### Section 1 • China's First Civilizations

10. What geographical features shaped China's civilizations?  
 11. Why did the Shang rulers become powerful?

### Section 2 • Life in Ancient China

12. What were the three main classes in Chinese society?  
 13. Identify three Chinese philosophies and the reason they emerged.

### Section 3 • The Qin and Han Dynasties

14. How did developments during the Han dynasty affect the Chinese people?  
 15. What was the purpose of the Silk Road?

## Critical Thinking

16. **Contrast** How is the ancient Chinese writing system different from cuneiform and hieroglyphic writing?  
 17. **Describe** How did Shang artisans create bronze urns?  
 18. **Analyze** How is Daoism the opposite of Confucianism in some ways?

Review

Reading Skill

Text Structure

## Headings and Punctuation

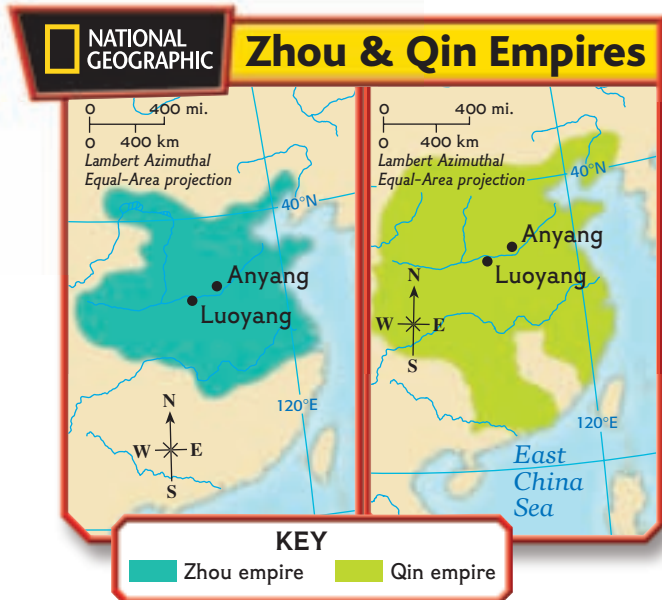
19. Read each of the headings below. Three could be subheads in a chapter about ancient China. Which one would most likely be the main head?  
 a. The Ideas of Confucius  
 b. Daoist Beliefs  
 c. Chinese Philosophy  
 d. Hanfeizi
20. What would be a good main head for these subheads: Papermaking, Civil Service Examinations, Acupuncture?  
 e. The Rise of the Zhou Dynasty  
 f. Inventions of the Qin Dynasty  
 g. Developments of the Han Dynasty  
 h. Life in the Shang Dynasty

To review this skill, see pages 222–223.

## Geography Skills

Study the map below and answer the following questions.

- Human/Environment Interaction** Which dynasty controlled the most land?
- Location** In what direction did the Qin dynasty expand the most?
- Analyze** How do you think the East China Sea affected expansion?



## Read to Write

- Expository Writing** Imagine you are planning a trip on the Silk Road and you need someone to go with you. Write a want ad describing the type of person you need. Explain what will be expected of that person on the trip.
- Using Your FOLDABLES™** Choose one person that you included in your foldable. Write a list of 10 questions that you would ask that person in an interview. Exchange lists with a partner and play the role of the person being interviewed.

## Using Technology

- Internet Research** The Chinese built the Great Wall of China to protect themselves. Use the Internet and your local library to research ways other countries have protected themselves from enemies. Describe at least two examples to your classmates.

## Building Citizenship Skills

- Plan a Debate** With your class, plan and participate in a three-way debate. Divide into three teams. One team will represent the Legalists, one will represent followers of Confucius, and one will represent Daoists. As a team, research each philosophy. Record key points on note cards for easy reference. Begin the debate by asking the question “Which philosophy is best reflected in a democratic society such as that of the United States?”

## Primary Source

### Analyze

The main ideas of Daoism are explained in a book titled *Dao De Jing* (The Way of the Dao). This passage describes the Daoist position against violence.

“When leading by the way of the Tao [Dao], abominate [hate] the use of force, for it causes resistance, and loss of strength. . . .

Achieve results but not through violence, for it is against the natural way, and damages both others’ and one’s own true self. . . .

The wise leader achieves results, but does not glory in them . . . and does not boast of them.

He knows that boasting is not the natural way, and that he who goes against that way, will fail in his endeavours.”

—“A Caveat Against Violence,”  
*The Tao Te Ching*, Stan Rosenthal, trans.

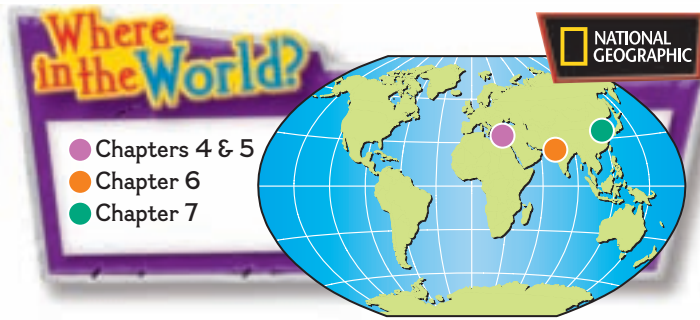
## DBQ Document-Based Questions




- According to Daoist thought, what is the result of using force or violence?
- What do you think the following statement means?  
“The wise leader achieves results, but does not glory in them.”



# Comparing Civilizations

Compare the civilizations that you have read about by reviewing the information below. Can you see how the people of these civilizations helped to build the world we live in today?



	<b>Ancient Greece</b> <i>Chapters 4 &amp; 5</i>	<b>Early India</b> <i>Chapter 6</i>	<b>Early China</b> <i>Chapter 7</i>
<b>Where did these civilizations develop?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On Mediterranean islands and the Balkan Peninsula</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Indus River valley</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Huang He valley</li> </ul>
<b>Who were some important people in these civilizations?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homer, c. 750 B.C.</li> <li>• Pericles, c. 495–429 B.C.</li> <li>• Socrates, c. 470–399 B.C.</li> <li>• Alexander the Great, c. 356–323 B.C.</li> </ul> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siddhartha Gautama, c. 563–483 B.C.</li> <li>• Chandragupta Maurya, ruled c. 321–298 B.C.</li> <li>• Asoka, ruled c. 273–232 B.C.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wu Wang, ruled c. 1045–1043 B.C.</li> <li>• Confucius, 551–479 B.C.</li> <li>• Qin Shihuangdi, ruled 221–210 B.C.</li> <li>• Liu Bang, ruled 202–195 B.C.</li> </ul> 
<b>Where did most of the people live?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Greeks lived on estates near walled palaces</li> <li>• Later Greeks lived in a polis and in nearby farms and villages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many lived in farming villages and towns near major rivers</li> <li>• Some lived in very large cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landowning aristocrats lived in large houses with gardens and courtyards</li> <li>• Most people were farmers living in simple houses in villages or cities</li> </ul>

## Ancient Greece

Chapters 4 & 5

## Early India

Chapter 6

## Early China

Chapter 7

**What were these people's beliefs?**

- Greeks worshiped many gods and goddesses and believed in fate



- Hinduism: complex religion with many deities representing an eternal spirit
- Buddhism: enlightenment available to anyone



- Confucianism: duty directs your life
- Daoism: people should try to be in harmony with nature
- Legalism: people need harsh laws to be good
- Worship of ancestors

**What was their government like?**

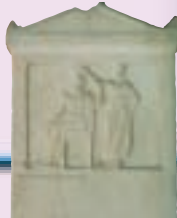
- Early Greeks were ruled by kings
- Later, some Greeks developed governments run by citizens

- The warrior class ran the government, usually ruled by a king

- A king or emperor ruled the country
- Aristocrats ran the provinces

**What was their language and writing like?**

- Greek: used characters to form letters and words



- Sanskrit: used characters to form letters and words

- Chinese: symbols that represent objects were combined to represent ideas

**What contributions did they make?**

- Introduced democracy
- Architecture was copied by others
- Developed the idea of theater and drama

- Made advances in medicine, mathematics, science, and literature
- Developed two major religions

- Invented paper and gunpowder
- Cultivated silk

**How do these contributions affect me? *Can you add any?***

- We have a democratic government in the United States
- Modern plays, movies, and television shows have their roots in Greek theater

- "0" is now a part of our number system
- Many people still practice Buddhism and Hinduism

- The papermaking process allows us to create books, newspapers, and other paper products
- Gunpowder and silk are still in use