

The Civilization of Early China

Directions:

This chapter begins on page 4. It is a good practice to read the chapter first before attempting to answer the questions in this worksheet. Be aware that not every possible test question is covered by this worksheet. Any material in the chapter may appear on a test. Answer each question as completely as you can. Any unfamiliar bold words in the chapter are defined in the margins nearby. Be sure to know the definitions!

How can geography encourage civilization?

1. British Columbia is home to more than _____ Canadians with Chinese ancestry.
2. Chinese civilization began to take shape in the _____ Valley with the _____ in about 1650 BCE.
3. Most of China's geography provided good _____ from outsiders. China's one weak point lay to the _____, where the land consists of _____. These _____ gave invaders easy access into China.
4. There are two main rivers in China, the _____ in the north and the _____ River in the south. These rivers are among the _____ in the world.
5. What does, 'Huang He' mean and, why was the river given this name?

6. In China's far north, the climate is _____. There are cold winters and dry summers and there can be massive _____. The south has a _____ climate with mild temperatures and lots of _____.

How do we know when a civilization has begun?

7. What is believed to have been the very first Chinese Dynasty, predating even the Shang Dynasty?

8. How do we know about life during the Shang Dynasty?

9. What are some of the differences between how the rich and poor lived in the Shang Dynasty?

10. What were three notable developments in Shang arts and culture?

11. Explain the meaning of yin and yang.

12. What is the 'mandate of heaven'?

How can people live together in harmony?

13. In the _____ States period, four individuals--_____, Han Feizi, Laozi and _____--independently sought out answers to the question of how to live in _____.

14. What were the five virtues that Confucius believed could help people build a harmonious society

15. For most of China's history, major crimes have been punished _____. Minor crimes are punished harshly by _____ and _____.
16. _____ is based on the teachings of the philosopher, Laozi who promoted the idea that harmony is found in studying and understand _____. Whereas Siddhartha introduced _____ which, taught that people should seek to free themselves of worldly concerns through _____.

How can central government advance civilization?

17. Who was Ying Zheng and what did he accomplish?

18. Shi Huangdi created a strong central government and used it to improve the _____ and standardized the systems of _____, weights and measures so that _____ with China would be easier. He also standardized the _____ system.

19. Why did Shi Huangdi build the Great Wall?

20. The Sui Dynasty established the capital, _____ which became the largest city in the world with a population over _____ people. The Sui ruled with great _____ however.

21. Write the definitions for the words below:

Public works

Taxes

Nirvana

Monastery

Meditation

Alchemist

Metallurgy

Mercury

Exile

Treason

22. Describe the Grand Canal.

How can freedoms advance a civilization?

23. The Tang Dynasty reigned over China's _____ when everything seemed to go right. The Tang made China a _____ empire that was the envy of the world.

24. What happened in terms of women's rights and freedoms under the Tang government?

25. The Tang improvements to the _____ and _____ systems are among their most important lasting achievements. Greater freedoms also came to artists who began to express their _____. Potters, painters, _____ and other artists created _____.