

Geography and Early China



Section 1: Geography and Early China

How does China's geography
affect the culture?

Continents of the World

Label the continents.

Where is China located?



Where is China located?





Maps.com

The World POLITICAL

0 3000 Km Miller Projection



key

Georgia

menia

Azerbaijan

q

Turkmenistan

Uzbekistan

Kyrgyzstan

Tajikistan

Iran

Afghanistan

Pakistan

UAE

Jordan

oman

Arabian

Sea

Maldives

Sri Lanka

Bay of Bengal

Andaman Sea

India Bangladesh

Nepal

Bhutan

Myanmar

China

Mongolia

North Korea

South Korea

Sea of Japan

Japan

Taiwan

Philippine Sea

Philippines

Laos

Thailand

Cambodia

Vietnam

South China Sea

Brunei

Malaysia

40

20

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In your groups, begin filling out your KW charts.

Use your knowledge of China's geographical location to help you to come up with questions about this civilization.

Use your knowledge of other ancient lands that we have learned about thus far to spark some questions.



China Guessing Game

- US Population: 311,067,033
- China Population: 1,331,460,000
- In the United States, how many cities are there with over a million people? 9
- In China, how many cities are there with over a million people? 160

Physical Map: China

What geographical features do we notice?

How might these geographical features affect Chinese culture?



Section 1: Geography and Early China

Read pages 160-161.

How does China's geography
affect the culture?

Geographical Features of China:

- Islands:
- Deltas:
- Deserts:
- Mountains:
- Rivers:
- Peninsulas:
- Plateaus:
- Plains:

Geographical Features of China:

- **Islands:** A land mass completely surrounded by water.
- **Deltas:** An area of land formed by deposits of silt as a river empties into the sea. A delta often has fertile land which is good for farming.
- **Deserts:** A dry, barren region that can support little or no vegetation.
- **Mountains:** A natural elevation of the earth's surface higher than a hill.
- **Rivers:** A relatively large natural stream of water.
- **Peninsulas:** A long, narrow piece of land that projects into water from a larger land mass.
- **Plateaus:** A leveled expanse of elevated land.
- **Plains:** An extensive region of level, treeless land.

Physical Map: China



Chinese Rivers



The Chinese civilization first began in northern China in the valley of Huang He (hwang huh), or the Yellow River.



How do you think the river got its name?

Huang He (Yellow River)

- What would be some reasons as to why the Chinese Civilization began in the valley of the Huang He?



Huang He (hwanhng huh)

Yellow River

Why do you think the Chinese civilization first arose in northern China in the valley of the Yellow River? (Think about Egypt and the Nile).

How do you think the Yellow River got its name?



Huang He (Yellow River)

- 3,000 miles long in northern China
- Floods and leaves behind silt
- Floods can be very dangerous and sometimes the river is called the “China’s Sorrows.”

Chang Jiang or Yangzi

- River in central China
- Longest river in Asia
- These two rivers helped increase contact between different parts of the country.

Chinese Mountains



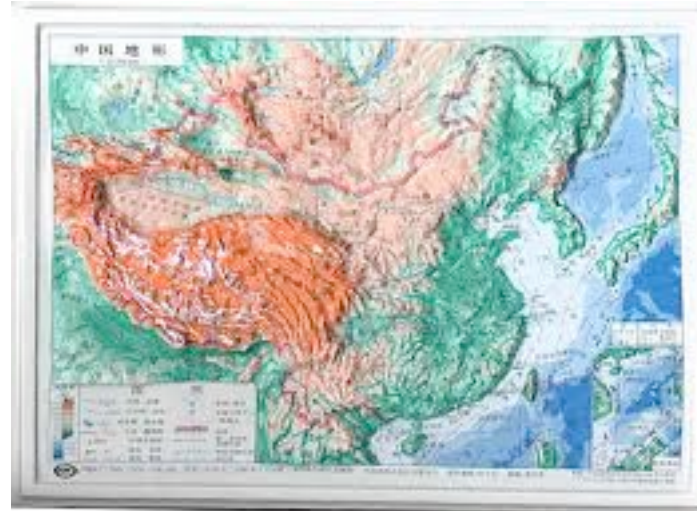
Changbai Mountain



Mountain Ranges

- To the west are mountain ranges (the Himalayas) that protect China from western invasions.
- There are other smaller mountain ranges within the country, one being the Qinling Shandi which separates the north from the south.

Physical Map: China



Why do you think that early Chinese civilization was isolated from the rest of the world?

Yangtze Delta



Chinese Islands:



Chinese Plateau

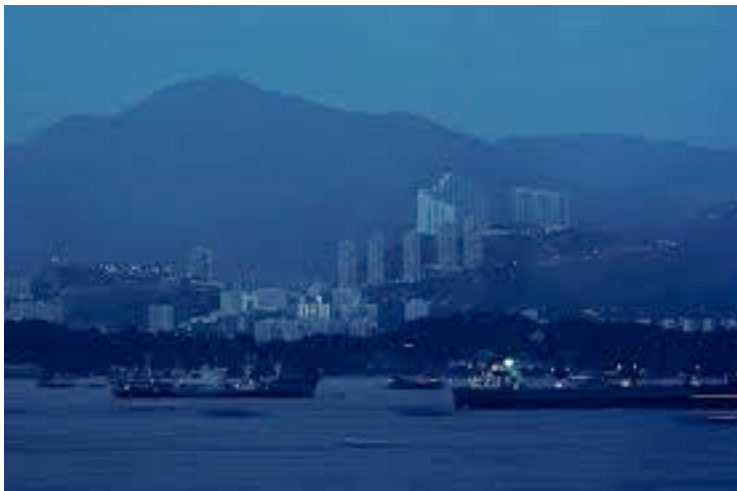
Leoss Plateau



Kowloon Peninsula



© Peter Laginbuhl



North China Plain



Chinese Deserts



Gobi Desert

- A harsh desert
- Provides a barrier between China and its neighbors to the north
- Helps to protect China from invasions from the north

Eastern Plains

- These plains are “one of the world’s largest farming regions.”
- Allowed for a farming economy to begin in China
- The Pacific Ocean provides a natural barrier along the east.

Farming:

- Farming begins as a result of China's climate and the fertile soil along the banks of rivers.
- The Chinese grew rice, as well as millet and wheat.
- People also fished and hunted to supplement their diet.
- They also had domesticated animals.
- Food surplus and variation = population growth.
- Over time Chinese civilization developed and became more advanced.

Weather and Climate

- The climate of China is very varied across the continent.
- Some areas are very dry, others are well suited for crops, and some are very wet due to monsoons.



Effects of China's Geographical Features:



Begin filling out your study guide. Be sure to list the page number as to where you find your information.

- Why is the Huang He (Yellow River) called China's sorrow?

- What kinds of crops are grown in China?

