

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Ch. 6 – Ancient China

Study Guide

Map of Ancient China

Taklimakan Desert & Tarim Basin	Qinling Shandi
Plateau of Tibet	Chang Jiang (Yangzi) River
Himalayas	Huang He (Yellow) River
Gobi Desert	East China Sea
North China Plain	Yellow Sea
Manchurian Plain	South China Sea
Greater Khingan Range	Great Wall of China



Chapter 6 Section 1 Notes Geography and Early China

China's Physical Geography

Geographically speaking, what separates China from its neighbors to the north?

What separates China from its neighbors to the west? _____

What is most of China's eastern border consist of? _____

What separates northern China from southern China? _____, which is a

What is China's climate in the northeast? _____

-northwest? _____

-east? _____

-southeast? _____

What are the two major rivers in China? _____ and
_____. These rivers flow from _____ to

Which river floods leaving a rich layer of silt? _____

The two rivers allow travel from _____ China to _____ China. But the
_____ between the two rivers offers limited contact.

Civilization Begins

Why is China similar to all the other civilizations that we have studied so far?

Because of the river flooding leaving a rich layer of silt; farmers were able to grow

Chinese didn't just farm; they also got food from _____

Describe in some ways how early Chinese settlements are similar to that of other early civilizations
we've learned about. _____

China's First Dynasties

Who founded one of the earliest dynasties known as the Xia dynasty? _____

Why were the ancient stories about Xia rulers important? _____

The first dynasty where there is clear evidence is the _____, which
developed in the _____

Who was the center of the Shang political and religious life? _____

Who was 'under' the king? _____

Who else was higher up in the social standing in ancient China? _____

Who was at middle level of importance in ancient China? _____

Below them were the _____ then _____

One of China's greatest advances was during the Shang period and was the development of _____

What was the importance of cattle bones and turtle shells? _____

Name three other achievements during the Shang dynasty?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Chapter 6 Section 2 Notes The Zhou Dynasty and New Ideas

The Zhou Dynasty

The Zhou came to power by attacking and conquering the _____ Dynasty and lasted _____

The Zhou kings came to possess the _____

This idea said that heaven _____, if the king was bad then _____

Where was the Zhou Dynasty located (and don't say China, be specific)? _____

Why would the Zhou give land to certain people? _____

Complete the boxes below about the Zhou Society

Class Name	Job Description

Overtime, how did the political order begin to break down? _____

Why did the king's army not rush to help him when invaders reached the capital in 771BC? _____

What is the Warring States Period? _____

How did the decline of the Zhou weaken the Chinese family structure? _____

What was China lacking during the Warring States Period? _____

Confucius and Society

One of the most influential teachers in Chinese history is _____.

What did Confucius say needed to be done in order to return China to 'normal'?

What were Confucius's ideas about how a family should be structured? _____

What were Confucius's ideas on how government should be structured? _____

Confucius's ideas were compiled in a book called _____

People believe that Confucius ideas are much more than a philosophy but also a form of a

Daoism and Legalism

What is Daoism? _____

How did Daoists feel about government? _____

They believe people should be like water and simply let things _____

Daoists felt the universe is a _____

What is the main difference between Daoists and Confucius ideas? _____

Who was the most famous Daoist teacher? _____

Another Chinese belief is _____, or the belief that _____

What made Legalism different from Confucianism and Daoism? _____

Legalists felt that society needed _____

Confused Yet????? Complete the boxes below to sort out your thoughts 😊

Belief	Main Ideas
Confucianism	
Daoism	
Legalism	

Chapter 6 Section 3 Notes

The Qin Dynasty

The Qin Emperor's Strong Government

What is the Warring States period? _____

Eventually the Qin _____ the country under one government

What was the name of the first emperor of Qin? _____

What political beliefs did he follow? _____

He created a strong government with _____ and _____

Why did he burn a lot of books? _____

Those who opposed the burning of the books were _____

What were the borders of the Qin dynasty under Shi Huangdi? _____

What did he have his soldiers do after they destroyed a city? _____

How did Shi Huangdi treat his lords? _____

How were workers of this time treated? _____

How did Shi Huangdi control his large territory? _____

This helped him to _____

A Unified China

Because of geography China was divided by rivers and mountains, different regions had different _____

Because Shi Huangdi wanted all those to be the same he _____

So what did he make the same for all of China? _____

Any citizen who disobeyed these laws would _____

What were some other Qin achievements? _____

What did the new roads do? _____

What else was improved and how did it help? _____

Because of the threat of invaders from the north, the emperor built _____
_____ or _____

Was Shi Huangdi liked? Yes/No

After Shi Huangdi died what happened? _____

Chapter 6 Section 4 Notes The Han Dynasty

Han Dynasty Government

Who became the first emperor of the Han Dynasty and how long did it last?

What was so different about this emperor than other Chinese emperors? _____

What changes did Liu Bang bring to China that was different from the Qin Dynasty?

Emperor Wudi wanted to create a stronger central government, how did he do that?

Under Wudi, what was China's official government philosophy? _____

Explain how the 'exams' worked? _____

Family Life

How was the social class structure organized under the Han?

- Upper:
- Second:
- Third:
- Lowest:

Why were wealthy merchants in the lower class? _____

How were Han social classes different than most social divisions? _____

What were Confucius's ideas about the family? _____

Why were sons more highly valued than daughters? _____

Han Achievements

Identify and describe some of the cultural and scientific achievements of the Han.

Chapter 6 Section 5 Notes Han Contacts with Other Cultures

Farming and Manufacturing

How did wheelbarrows help farmers? _____

How was silk made in ancient China? _____

Why did the Chinese keep silk-making methods a secret? _____

Trade Routes

Where did the Silk Road begin and end? _____

What information would you use to support the argument that the silk trade must have been very valuable? _____

Buddhism Comes to China

What is diffusion and how is the spread of Buddhism an example of it? _____

What Buddhist beliefs appealed to millions of Chinese peasants? _____

