## China Notes

### The Dynastic Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Chinese rulers believed the gods gave their rulers the <strong>right to rule</strong>. This is called the <strong>Divine Right to Rule</strong> or the <strong>Mandate of Heaven</strong>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What I have learned?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which statement about China is a fact rather than an opinion?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) Flooding was the worst disaster to affect ancient Chinese civilizations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) <strong>The Mandate of Heaven was an idea developed in ancient China.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Early Chinese civilizations were the most important civilizations in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Dynastic governments were highly effective in China.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chinese Writing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese writing was based on <strong>characters</strong> or written symbols.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What I have learned?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On what types of bones do we find the earliest known forms of the Chinese writing (calligraphy)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal bones and tortoise shells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who then do you think were the earliest Scribes (writers)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Early Chinese Religion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Chinese believed that <strong>priests</strong> could tell the future by writing questions on <strong>bones heated over fire</strong>.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What I have learned?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does this image of the old television show, <strong>Father Knows Best</strong>, reflect what you know about Chinese society?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As a patriarchal society, the Ancient Chinese looked to the male head of the family for direction in all things.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Chinese also believed strongly in **ancestor worship** (veneration), often setting up **shrines** to them in their homes.

China is very much a **patriarchal** society, meaning that the Fathers rule all aspects of the home. Similarly, the **ruler/emperor** was considered the “Father” of the civilization.

### Chinese Geography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Because of the rugged Chinese geography, most of China’s population will be found in the east, along the coast.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What I have learned?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before the use of the Silk Road, how did geography affect early China?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) <strong>The mountains and deserts in western and southwestern China slowed the exchange of ideas.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) The northwestern region provided many fertile areas suitable for farming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) The three major river systems provided barriers against invasion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) The lack of deep-water ports on the eastern coast prevented China from developing trade with other nations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because Chinese civilization was **isolated** from other civilizations, their culture has remained **unique**.
Their isolation led the Chinese to believe they were the center of the world or also known as the Middle Kingdom.

**The Xia [shyah] Dynasty**

**Dates:**

Historians are not sure if Xia Dynasty existed because there is little archaeological evidence.

Legend says that the Xia’s greatest ruler was a man named Yu who created a dam to hold back the waters of the Huang He river also known as the Yellow River.

**What I have learned?**

Give examples of China’s unique culture.

Don’t worry about this one.

How does this picture depict what you know about the Xia Dynasty?

The damming of the Yellow River allowed the Hsia to tame the river to a degree, which allowed civilization to emerge.

**The Shang [shahng] Dynasty**

**Dates:**

Began in the valley of the Huang He (Yellow River). Nicknamed the

1. River of Sorrows
2. Yellow River

The nickname Yellow River comes from the rich mineral deposits (Silt) known as loess.

The Shang were the first to:

1. Use oracle bones
2. Create Chinese calligraphy
3. Build city walls for protection from northern invaders
4. Leave written records
5. Invented a new fabric called silk

The End for the Shang Dynasty comes when they are taken over by the Zhou Dynasty after many years of problems.

It is said then, that the Shang lost the Mandate of Heaven.

Describe the reasons for the Huang He’s nicknames.

This map shows the boundaries of the Shang Dynasty. While the Shang’s civilization began in the Valley of the Yellow River, its borders stretched south to what other important river.

**The Zhou [joh] Dynasty**

**Dates:**

Zhou Improvements:

1. Built roads & canals
2. Coined money
3. Used iron for tools and weapons

The Zhou were the first Chinese to use iron in their weapons & tools. What metal do you think this replaced?

Bronze
The Zhou also introduced a new political system to China called **feudalism**.

In **Feudalism**, Kings gave land to Nobles in exchange for their military service. In turn Nobles allowed peasants to work the land in exchange for protection.

The **End** for the Zhou dynasty came when nobles began to fight each other for control. Their weakened state left them open to invasions from the north.

It is said then, that the Zhou lost the Mandate of Heaven.

---

### The Qin [chin] Dynasty

**Dates:**

The Qin dynasty was founded by **China’s 1st Emperor**, a man named **Shi Huangdi**.

**Shi Huang di** created China’s 1st empire by:

1. Crushed all opposition
2. Defeated northern invaders

Shi Huang di then unified his empire through:

1. Introducing standard coins
2. Introducing standard weights & measurements
3. Building a road network

One of Shi Huang di’s greatest accomplishments was to connect various segments of wall to create the Great Wall of China.

Unfortunately, in order to build the wall the Qin ruler

1. charged higher taxes &
2. used forced labor,

causing him to become very unpopular.

In order to protect him in the afterlife, Shi Huang di built an **army** called the Terra-Cota Warriors.

Not discovered until **1974**, the **Terra-Cota Warriors** included:

1. Life-sized soldier statues
2. cavalry horses
3. infantry
4. wagons

---

**Qin Shi Huang di unified the Chinese world in part by**

A. conquering Russia.
B. negotiating a peace with Syria.
C. creating a single monetary system and ordering the building of a system of roads.
D. building a complex series of long canals.

**Describe how the Qin Emperor’s reforms could unify the empire?**

Roads make trade easier and allow for travel and cultural diffusion, standard weights and measures enhance commerce, and a standard currency unifies costs.

---

The map below shows the Great Wall today. What was the purpose of the wall?

**To protect China from Northern invaders**

---

**What is unique about the Terra-Cota Warriors?**

No two soldiers are alike
In order to keep power, Shi Huang di
1. Jailed or killed critics
2. Burned books with opposing ideas
3. Made nobles' families live in the capital where he could hold them hostage if needed.

A government such as Shi Huang di's, that had unlimited power used in an arbitrary manner is called an autocracy.

The End for the Qin Dynasty came when China rejected Shi Huang di's son because of the Harsh manner in which he ruled. It is said that the Qin had lost the Mandate of Heaven.

Describe the reasons Shi Huang di was considered an Autocratic ruler.

Because he wielded power in a way that was arbitrary and he shared it with no one.

Why might the Chinese people think that the Qin Dynasty had lost the “Mandate of Heaven?”

High taxes, war, and a bad life for the people are all signs that the ruling dynasty has lost the Mandate of Heaven.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Han [Hahn] Dynasty</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates:</td>
<td>What did Liu Bang do that assured the Chinese people he would not rule as Emperor Qin had?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______________ _________ erupted among the many noble groups after the death of Shi Huang di.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The victor among those nobles was a man named ______________ _________________.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In order restore stability, Liu Bang 1. 2. 3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Han’s most famous ruler was ______________.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wudi increased Chinese ________________; Established an ________________; ________________; &amp; established a ________________; ___________________________.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Civil Service consists of _________________ jobs. While these jobs usually went to the sons of the Nobles, the Han introduced the use of _________________ from which applicants were chosen for the jobs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Service exams were based on the writings of the Chinese philosopher ________________.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Han Technology included: 1. 2. 3. 4.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Han emperor Wudi
A. reduced China’s overall territory.
B. eliminated taxes on peasants.
C. broke up government monopolies
D. opened the Silk Road to the West.

How did the Civil Service system eliminate some of the social boundaries that had existed prior to its inception?

He who learns but does not think, is lost! He who thinks but does not learn is in great danger. – Confucius

Explain what Confucius meant by this statement found in the Analects.
Another important development during this time was the increase use of the trade routes known as the _________________

The End for the Han Dynasty came due to 1. 2. 3.

They still experienced China’s longest period of peace & prosperity known as the _________________

Historians often compare the Han Dynasty to the Classical civilization of _________________.

It is said that the Han lost the _________________ of _________________.

The exchange of silks and spices and the spread of Buddhism along the Silk Roads are examples of
(1) cultural diffusion
(2) self-sufficiency
(3) Ethnocentrism
(4) desertification

China under the Han dynasty and the Roman Empire were similar in that both grew wealthy because they
(1) developed extensive trade networks
(2) created classless societies
(3) encouraged democratic ideals
(4) established free-market economies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Sui [swee] Dynasty</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dates:</td>
<td>What was the primary purpose for constructing the Grand Canal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most important accomplishment?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The End of the Sui?

The Tang [tahng] Dynasty

Dates:
The Tang Dynasty was founded by _________________ who 1. 2. 3.

Perhaps one of the Tang’s most famous rulers was _________________ who became China’s only female ruler. Wu Zhao was responsible for expanding the Chinese empire to include the peninsula of _________________.

Circle the Korean peninsula on the map. Why does it make sense that Chinese culture would spread to Korea? What would be the next logical place for Chinese culture to spread?
Tang accomplishments include:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

The End for the Tang Dynasty came due to
1.
2.

“There is in China a very fine clay from which are made vases having the transparency of glass bottles; water in these vases is visible through them, and yet they are made of clay.” --Arab traveler, 861

This quote by an Arab traveler describes Chinese
A. paper.
B. glass.
C. porcelain
D. ceramic

The Song [sung] Dynasty

Dates:
The Song Dynasty never recovered lands lost during the Tang Dynasty & is broken into 2 distinct periods, the ___________________ & ___________________.

Song accomplishments include:
1.
2.

The End for the Song Dynasty came due to invasions by groups from the north known as the ________________________.

------------------

Confucianism

Confucianism was founded by a man named __________________________
(aka....__________________________)

Confucius was both a ___________________ and a __________________________.

Confucius began to develop his philosophy when he saw the _________________ in Chinese society.

Most of Confucius' writings are collected in books called the ________________________.

Confucius believed that Social Order would come through the 5 relationships:
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Confucianism had a strong impact on the development of China mainly because this philosophy
(1) established a basic structure for military rule
(2) provided a basis for social order
(3) contained the framework for a communist government
(4) stressed the importance of the individual

Which quotation from the teachings of Confucius is most similar to the Golden Rule from Judeo-Christian teaching?
(1) “If a ruler is upright, all will go well without orders.”
(2) “By nature, men are pretty much alike. It is learning and practice that set them apart.”
(3) “While a father or mother is alive, a son should not travel far.”
(4) “Do not do to others what you do not wish for yourself.

One way in which the Five Relationships, the Ten Commandments, and the Eightfold Path are similar is that they
(1) promote polytheism
(2) establish gender equality
(3) provide codes of behavior
(4) describe secularism
In each relationship, the person must meet his own responsibilities known as _______________________.

Confucius emphasized respect for parents and elders known as _______________________.

Confucius’ ideas became the foundation of Chinese _______________________.

Confucius also believed that ________________________ was the key to creating a gentleman, creating a more ordered society.

Confucius’ ideas led to the creation of the ________________________ which began during the Han Dynasty. The ________________________ became the basis for the Civil Service exams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taoism (Daoism)</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taoism was founded by a man named ________________________ or the Old ________________________.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Like Confucius, Laozi (Lao tze) was also concerned with the chaos he saw but believed that understanding the ________________________ ________________________ could alleviate that chaos.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daoists believe the ______________________<strong>, which means the “</strong>___________” is the universal force that controls all things.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laozi’s beliefs are found in the ________________________ ________________________ (“the way of virtue”)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laozi’s emphasis on nature encouraged the studies of 1. 2. 3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

After Passing the Examination
For ten years I never left my books; I went up . . . and won unmerited praise.
My high place I do not much prize;
The joy of my parents will first make me proud.
Fellow students, six or seven men,
See me off as I leave the City gate.
My covered coach is ready to drive away;
Flutes and strings blend their parting tune.
Hopes achieved still the pangs of parting;
Fumes of wine shorten the long road . . .
Shod with wings is the horse of him who rides
On a Spring day the road that leads to home.

—Po Chu-i (722-846)

Read the poem by Po Chu-i, a poet of the Tang dynasty. What aspects of Confucianism can you identify in the poem?

Taoism (Daoism) was founded by a man named ________________________ or the Old ________________________. Like Confucius, Laozi (Lao tze) was also concerned with the chaos he saw but believed that understanding the ________________________ ________________________ could alleviate that chaos.

Daoists believe the ________________________, which means the “_____________” is the universal force that controls all things.

Laozi’s beliefs are found in the ________________________ ________________________ (“the way of virtue”)

Laozi’s emphasis on nature encouraged the studies of 1. 2. 3.

Both Laozi & Confucius were concerned with the chaos they saw in China. Describe how their approaches in solving the problem were different?

How does this image of someone performing Tai Chi fit with your understanding of Daoism?

Both Laozi & Confucius were concerned with the chaos they saw in China. Describe how their approaches in solving the problem were different?
**Legalism**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legalism</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Legalism</strong> became the prominent philosophy during the _______________ Dynasty</td>
<td>The Code of Hammurabi and Chinese legalism both rely on the idea that</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalists believed...</td>
<td>(1) governments must provide their people with rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>(2) harsh laws are needed to control society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>(3) all subjects are equal under the law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legalists also <strong>advocated</strong></td>
<td>(4) religion and government must be brought closer together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>The Legalists believed that a strong ruler was needed to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>A. support Daoism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Emperor ______________________________</td>
<td>B. trade with the Indian Empire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>based his rule on Legalist principles.</td>
<td>C. keep order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D. show compassion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Yin & Yang**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yin &amp; Yang</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yin &amp; Yang</strong> represents_________________________; the opposing forces in ________________________</td>
<td>Draw an example of Yin &amp; Yang.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yin &amp; Yang symbols are found in both _________________________ &amp; _________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yin =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rule of Shi Huang di, legalism, and the tomb of terra cotta soldiers are most closely associated with the

- A. Maurya Empire
- B. Qin Dynasty
- C. Persian Empire
- D. Hellenistic Culture

Filial piety and the five relationships are most often associated with

- A. Hinduism
- B. Daoism
- C. Animism
- D. Confucianism

- Showing respect for parents
- Maintaining family honor
- Honoring all elders

Which term is most closely related to these three actions?

(1) nirvana (3) filial piety
(2) animism (4) hadj (hajj)

In China, the development of civil service examinations and a belief in filial piety reflect the influence of

(1) Shinto (3) Confucianism
(2) Jainism (4) Buddhism

The illustration shows the relationship between individuals in a society according to the ideas of

(1) Confucius
(2) Moses
(3) Mohammad
(4) Siddhartha Gautama