

China's First Civilizations

_____ geography plays a role in how civilizations develop and decline.

Chinese civilization was shaped by geography such as mountains and large rivers.

Long lasting dynasties gained power through strong _____.

In earlier chapters, you learned that many civilizations developed in river valleys.

China's civilization also began in a river valley, but mountains and deserts also affected its development.

Main Ideas

- Rivers, mountains, and deserts helped shape China's civilization. (page 277)
- Rulers known as the _____ became powerful because they controlled land and had strong armies. (page 278)
- Chinese rulers claimed that the Mandate of Heaven gave them the right to rule. (page 281)

Locating Places

Place Names - Huang He, Chang Jiang, & Anyang

Meeting People

People - Wu Wang

Content Vocabulary

Vocabulary - dynasty, aristocrat, pictograph, ideograph, bureaucracy, mandate

Academic Vocabulary

Vocabulary – recover, interpret, link, & item

China's Geography

- A. The Huang He, or the _____ River, flows for more than 2,900 miles across China. Flooding of the river brought destruction but also good farming conditions to China.
- B. The Chang Jiang, or the _____ River, is about 3,400 miles long and flows across central China.
- C. China has very little farmland because much of the country is either _____ or deserts.
- D. The "Middle Kingdom" was created after the Chinese people united to form one kingdom.

What effect did the mountains and deserts have on the Chinese people? _____

The Shang Dynasty

- A. Archaeologists believe the _____ valley was the center of Chinese civilization.
- B. The first rulers were probably part of the _____ dynasty. Little is known about them.
- C. Archaeologists know much more about the next dynasty, the _____. The Shang kings ruled from about 1750 B.C. to 1045 B.C.
- D. Anyang was China's first _____. It was built during the Shang dynasty.

- E. People of the Shang dynasty were divided into _____.
The king and his family were the most powerful group.
Warlords and other royal officials were in the class below the kings. They were aristocrats, nobles whose wealth came from the _____ they owned.
_____ and artisans were below the aristocrats.
Most of the lower classes were _____.
_____ captured during wars were the lowest class of people.
- F. People in the Shang dynasty believed in many _____ and gods and honored ancestors with offerings.
- G. Shang _____ believed they received wisdom and power from the gods, spirits, and ancestors. Kings asked for help by using oracle bones.
- H. Early Chinese writing used _____, or characters that stand for objects.
Ideographs are two or more pictographs joined to represent an idea.
- I. Artisans created many works of _____ and _____ but are best known for their bronze objects.

The Zhou Dynasty

- A. Wu Wang and his followers rebelled against the Shang dynasty and created the _____ dynasty.
- B. The Zhou dynasty ruled _____ than any other dynasty in Chinese history.
- C. Kings in the Zhou dynasty served at the head of the government.
A _____—officials who are responsible for different areas of government—served under the king.
- D. The Zhou kingdom was divided into smaller territories. Each territory was led by an _____.
- E. Zhou kings were thought to be the link between the _____ and people.
- F. The Mandate of Heaven was a heavenly law that gave Zhou kings the power to rule. The Mandate of Heaven also gave people the right to overthrow an evil _____.
- G. The Dao was the proper way kings were to _____ their people.
- H. Irrigation and flood control systems were developed during the Zhou dynasty. Farm tools, such as the _____, were developed.
- I. _____ was an important trade item during the Zhou dynasty.
- J. The “Period of the Warring States” occurred before the fall of the Zhou dynasty. During this time, the local rulers began _____ with each other.