

China Unit Vocabulary

Artocracy	Civil Service Examinations	Meritocracy
Song Dynasty	Mandate of Heaven	Mongols
Bureaucracy	Kublai Khan	Warlord
Ming Dynasty	Urbanization	Typhoons
Harrow	Chain Pump	Paddies
Baige	Currency	Junk
Lodestone	Paddlewheel Boat	Canal Lock
Segmental Arch Bridge		Woodblock Printing
Movable Type	Alchemy	Inoculate
Vaccine	Xuan Zang	Buddhism
Tribaries	Kowtow	Silk Road
Zhen He	Ming Dynasty	Marco Polo

Introduction to Confucianism: Confucianism is a system of beliefs based on the teachings of Kong Fu Zi (first called Confucius by Europeans), who lived in China from 551 to 479 B.C. Confucius developed a practical philosophy for life and government—which focused on proper conduct, respect for elders, education, and government service—that he felt would create a peaceful, stable society. Confucius based his ideas on ancient Chinese traditions of respect and hard work. The code of behavior he taught revolved around five relationships: 1) ruler and subject, 2) parent and child, 3) husband and wife, 4) sibling and sibling, 5) friend and friend. Confucius believed these relationships would be harmonious if the people involved were loyal, courteous, honest, faithful, and obedient to those in authority. Confucianism taught, for example, that harmony in the family would result from a child showing absolute respect for the parent's authority. Confucius also believed that if the ruler lived according to strong virtues, then the ruler's subjects would follow his or her example and a harmonious, stable society would be possible.

Introduction to Buddhism: Buddhism is a religion based on the life and teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, known as the Buddha, which means "enlightened one." Gautama lived in India from 563 to 483 B.C. Buddhism was brought to China around A.D. 200 by Buddhist monks and traders who traveled to China from India and central Asia along the Silk Road. The Buddha's teachings are summed up in the Four Noble Truths: 1) all life is suffering and pain; 2) suffering and pain are caused by desire for wealth, pleasure, fame, and power; 3) to end suffering one must overcome desire; 4) to overcome desire, one must follow the Middle Way. The Middle Way stresses virtuous (morally excellent) conduct and compassion for all living things, which leads to calmness and purity of mind. Buddhism preaches reincarnation—the idea that when a person dies, the soul is reborn in a new body. The first goal in life, Buddhists believe, is to attain nirvana, the condition of desiring nothing. When one attains nirvana, he or she breaks the cycle of life and death and no longer is reincarnated into an earthly life of suffering. The final goal for Buddhists is to devote their lives to bringing others to enlightenment.

Introduction to Daoism: Daoism is a religion based on the teachings of Laozi, believed to be the first Daoist philosopher, who lived from 606 to 530 B.C. Laozi taught that the goal of life was to achieve oneness with the Dao, a universal force connected to nature that cannot be defined, only experienced and felt. Daoism teaches that humans should see themselves as part of nature and should understand change as part of everything. Daoism stresses that the best way for humans to find peace is by living simply, in harmony with nature. To discover how nature acts, taught: Laozi, sit by a river, feel a breeze, and observe a drifting cloud. Notice that nothing in nature strives for fame, power, or knowledge. The river, the breeze, and the stream move without effort because they follow the Dao, the way of nature that guides all things. Daoists do not believe in strong government, but that happiness and peace can be achieved by contemplating (thinking about) nature and leading a balanced life in tune with nature, not by following societal rules and laws. Daoism teaches that harmony comes from balancing the opposite forces of nature, called *yin* and *yang*. *Yin*'s attributes include female, earth, dark, and cold; *yang* includes male, sky, light, and heat.



READING NOTES

Read Sections 16.2 to 16.6. Answer the related questions as if you were a candidate for a government (civil service) position in China.

16.2 The Government of Imperial China



1. According to the Mandate of Heaven, when can people overthrow the emperor?
2. What is a bureaucracy? What happened when the bureaucracy in China became corrupt?
3. What happened to China when the Han dynasty lost the Mandate of Heaven? Who reunited China?

16.3 Aristocracy: The Tang Dynasty



1. Who were scholar-officials?
2. What was the examination for scholar-officials primarily based on?
3. Why did aristocrats continue to hold most offices?

Imperial China Question 1

Label the Sea of Japan, the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, the South China Sea, the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea, the Persian Gulf, and the Red Sea.

Look at the map of Asia on page 423. What three island chains east of China might have become important Chinese trading partners?

Imperial China Question 2

Label the Plateau of Tibet, the Tian Shan, and the Himalayas.

Why would these geographic features make sea trade more popular than overland trade?

Imperial China Question 3

Label the Huang He and the Chang Jiang.

Why do you think the land near these rivers would be heavily populated?

Imperial China Question 4

Label the Taklamakan and Gobi Deserts.

When traders wished to take a land route to the eastern Mediterranean, they had to travel across these deserts. Explain why each of these might be important to such travelers: oases, camels, and military posts.

Imperial China Question 5

Draw a line showing a possible sea route from China to the southern tip of India. Begin at the mouth of the Chang Jiang.

Why might knowledge of the compass have allowed the Chinese to be the world's greatest sea power at one time?

Imperial China Question 6

Look at the maps of Asia on pages 422-423 of your book.

What large country is separated from China by the Himalayas?

What countries are located on the peninsula northeast of China?

Imperial China Question 7

Look at the map of Asia on page 423.

How large is China compared with other countries in Asia?

List two geographical reasons why governing a united China might be difficult.

Imperial China Question 8

Look at the map of Asia on page 423.

What country north of China is located nearest the Huang He?

Give one reason why people living in this area might have often attacked China.



16.4 Meritocracy: The Song Dynasty

1. According to emperors and scholars, knowledge of Confucius would produce what type of government official?

2. What new group of people was allowed to become government officials during the Song period?

3. Why did people want government jobs?



16.5 Government by Foreigners: The Period of Mongol Rule

1. Whom did Kublai Khan choose to fill important government positions?

2. What happened to Chinese scholars during the Mongol rule?





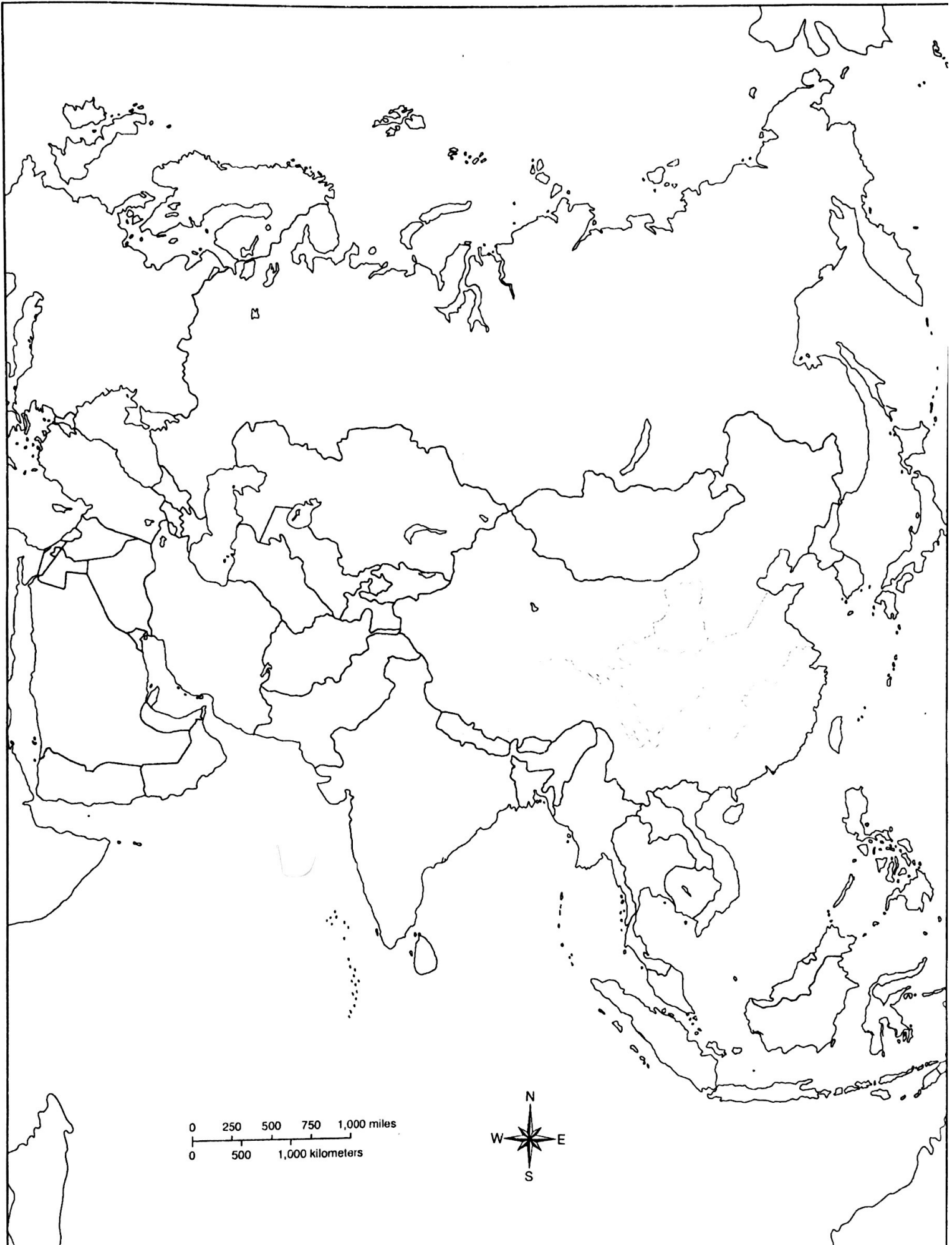
16.6 The Revival of the Civil Service System



1. How did hiring scholars help China?

2. How did hiring scholars hurt China?

GEOGRAPHY CHALLENGE 4





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To complete each Geography Challenge card, answer the questions in complete sentences. Label the map on the opposite page as directed.

Question 1 _____

Question 2 _____

Question 3 _____

Question 4 _____

Question 5 _____

Question 6 _____

Question 7 _____

Question 8 _____
