

Guided Reading



Early China

Lesson 1 *The Birth of Chinese Civilization*

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What makes a culture unique?

The Land of China

Completing a Chart Fill in the chart with information about how each geographic feature helped to shape Chinese civilization.

Rivers	Mountains	Deserts

Guided Reading *Cont.*



Early China

The First Chinese Dynasty

1. **Assessing** How did the Shang kings control China?

2. **Identifying** What did most people living in Shang China do for work?

3. **Describing** What was religion like in Shang China?

4. **Explaining** What is the difference between a pictograph and an ideograph?

5. **Sequencing** What were the steps used by Shang artists to create bronze objects?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

6. **Describing** How were bones used during the Shang dynasty to predict the future?

Guided Reading *Cont.*

The logo for 'networks' features the word in a bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' is replaced by a stylized globe icon with several lines radiating from it, suggesting a network or global connection.

Early China

The Zhou: China's Longest Dynasty

Directions Fill in the blanks.

Zhou kings governed China much like Shang rulers. The king led the government, ruling with the help of a(n) _____. The Zhou king divided the kingdom into _____. He assigned loyal _____ to govern each of the territories. These positions were _____—when an aristocrat died, a son or another member of his family governed the territory.

Zhou kings introduced a new idea to Chinese government. They claimed that the king's right to rule came from the _____. This is called the _____. The king must rule by the proper "Way," known as the _____.

Under Zhou kings, the Chinese developed new systems to _____ the land. With a better water supply, farmers were able to grow more crops than ever before. China's trade also expanded. _____ have found pieces of Chinese silk in central Asia and as far away as Greece. Their findings suggest that Chinese _____ reached many different areas of the world.

Over time, the _____ who ruled the territories of the Zhou kingdom grew more powerful. These rulers began to fight one another for power. These wars began in the 400s B.C. and went on for nearly 200 years. Because each aristocrat formed his own state, this time in China's history is called the "_____."

Guided Reading *Cont.*



Early China

Speculating Write three questions you think a Shang king might use oracle bones to ask the gods and his ancestors.
