

Name: _____

Due Date: _____

**Unit II: The Classical Period, 1000 B.C.E. – 500 C.E.,
Uniting Large Regions
&
Chapter 2 Reading Guide
Classical Civilization: CHINA**

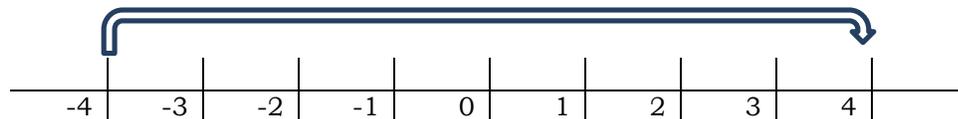
UNIT SUMMARY

The major development during the classical period was the formation of large regional civilizations in China, India, the Mediterranean, and the Middle East. These areas had by far the largest concentration of population. Furthermore, the influence these civilizations extended into surrounding regions outside their direct control. Much of the development of each civilization was separate and the establishment of distinctive cultural and institutional patterns was a key legacy of this period. One of the triggers for the clear transition into the classical period was the introduction of iron tools and weapons. With this development each classical civilization developed its own social structure, religion, political system, system of science, and style of art. While the introduction of iron in the classical period, the period itself did not witness sweeping technological developments. Patriarchal culture prevailed with a new emphasis on the respect for the achievement of old age.

INTRODUCTION (P. 30-33)

1. World History dating methods can be confusing at first. **Notice the time period at the top of the page.** At first glance, it seems the time period only covers 500 years. On 2nd glance it seems like the dates are getting smaller (1000 to 500) whereas our dates increase over time (ex. 2009-2011). To make matters more confusing, APWH uses BCE and CE (Before Common Era and Common Era) while in the West most people use BC and AD (Before Christ and Anno Domini – Latin for “in the Year of Our Lord” as Christians believe Jesus Christ is alive in Heaven today, ex. 2010 AD). BC/AD is a common dating method in the West and around the world but it refers directly to one religion – Christianity. Most historians have moved to BCE/CE to get away from referring to a single religion but it means THE SAME THING.
 - BCE = BC
 - CE = AD

Now think of a number line with negative and positive numbers.



The distance between -4 to 4 is 8.

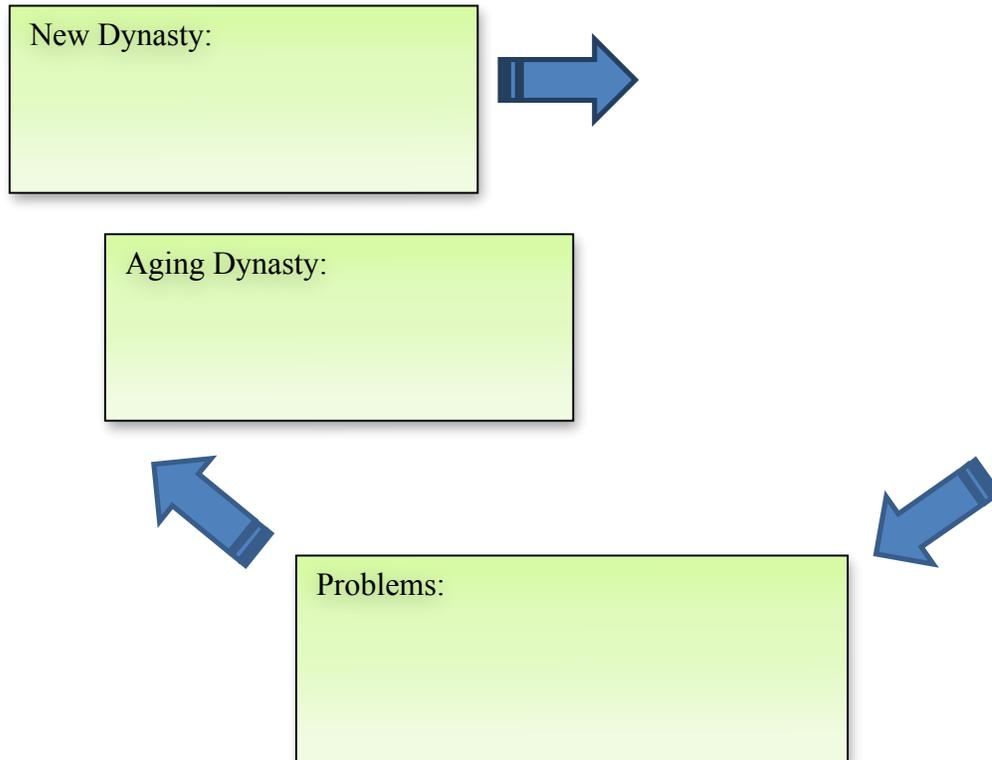


How much time does the Classical Period cover?

2. In this section it states that the classical civilizations were larger than the river valley civilizations. What technological development led to this?
3. Give two specific examples of new developments that helped unite territories into empires.

PATTERNS IN CLASSICAL CHINA (P. 36)

5. Define: dynasty –
6. Your text describes Chinese views of history and political change as “cycles”. Annotate the diagram below according to these views. (Describe what happens at each stage)



7. What are the three dynasties that ruled classical China?
8. Were the Zhou native to China? If not, what does that make them?
9. How did Zhou rulers encourage loyalty?
10. The land in between the Huanghe (Yellow) River and the Yangtze River was known as what?
11. What impact was felt on the population of China when the lands around the two rivers were united under the Zhou?
12. **KEY AP TOPIC!** This relates to the dynasty cycle diagram above. The Zhou claimed they had a right to replace the Shang as China’s rulers because heaven (the gods) had transferred its mandate (permission) to rule to the Zhou emperors because the Shang were not ruling well. What was this concept called?
13. How did the Zhou promote cultural unity in China?

14. What was occurring in the Zhou kingdom at the time of Confucius?
15. What was the period between 402 BCE and 201 BCE known as?
16. How did the name “China” arise? (HINT: Q’s are pronounced “cha” in China).
17. What does “Qin Shi Huangdi” mean in Chinese?
18. Why did Shi Huangdi purposely appoint (pick) people from non-aristocratic groups to be his officials? (HINT: “aristocratic” means you have lots of land because you were born to it – your father had it before you and your grandfather before him. Aristocrats are usually right below a ruler in power.)
19. Besides expanding the size of China, what did Shi Huangdi most known for and what was its purpose?
20. What innovations in China’s politics and culture occurred during the Qin dynasty?
21. What was the MAIN reason Shi Huangdi was unpopular?
22. What dynasty replaced the Qin dynasty?
23. How did this new dynasty’s rule compare to the Qin’s?
24. What philosophy did the Han focus on?
25. What happened after about 200 years of Han rule? (HINT: remember the dynastic cycle)
26. What group overthrew the Han and where did they come from?

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS (P. 39)

27. Describe the typical Chinese family of the Qin and Han periods.
28. **KEY AP TOPIC!** The Han dynasty is known for creating the world’s largest, most effective what? Write the word AND write its definition below. (Look it up online if you want.)
29. **KEY AP TOPIC!** What exams did the Han develop for young men who wanted to join the organization above?
30. What did Emperor Wu Ti establish to help train men?
31. Why were most bureaucrats from the upper classes?
32. The Han period began in 202 BCE. How long did the Chinese bureaucracy established during the Han dynasty last?
33. What does the Chinese proverb “heaven is high, and the emperor is far away” reveal about how much control the government had over ordinary people during the Han period?

RELIGION AND CULTURE (P. 40)

34. “The Chinese during the Zhou dynasty were very religious.” Assess the validity of that statement. (i.e., explain whether it’s true or false and to what extent or to what degree)
35. Define: Secular –
36. Confucius promoted respect for one’s social superiors and fathers and husbands were superior in the family. What would he say about a father who abused his children or a husband who beat his wife?
37. Why would a government like the Han encourage Confucian learning? (Be skeptical. There’s a selfish reason why any government would love its people to practice Confucianism. Mrs. Schwartz would like you to be a Confucianist too. ☺)
38. In what way does Confucianism restrain a ruler and protect the people under him?
39. What rival system of thought developed during the Qing and early Han periods?
40. How did this new system view ordinary people?
41. If people were that way (above), that would require the government to be what?
42. What was lacking in Confucianism that many ordinary Chinese people needed?
43. What other philosophy filled the need above for many Chinese?
44. Who was its chief promoter? (some texts state he is its founder)
45. Why were emperors not threatened by Daoism? (HINT: look back a paragraph or two and see what Daoism said about politics)
46. What were the Five Classics used for?
47. Being able to recite poetry indicated a person was what?
48. Why would Confucianism tend to dissuade Chinese emperors from building massive monuments to themselves, like the pyramids built for the Pharaohs in Egypt? (HINT: this is tough and there’s not a right or wrong answer BUT . . . think about what Confucianism obligated rulers to be or to do for the people and what might be required to build a massive monument. HINT 2: what does an emperor’s monument do for the people?)
49. How far ahead of Europeans in astronomy could you argue the Chinese were?
50. How did Chinese research in math and science compare to Western thinkers like the Greeks?

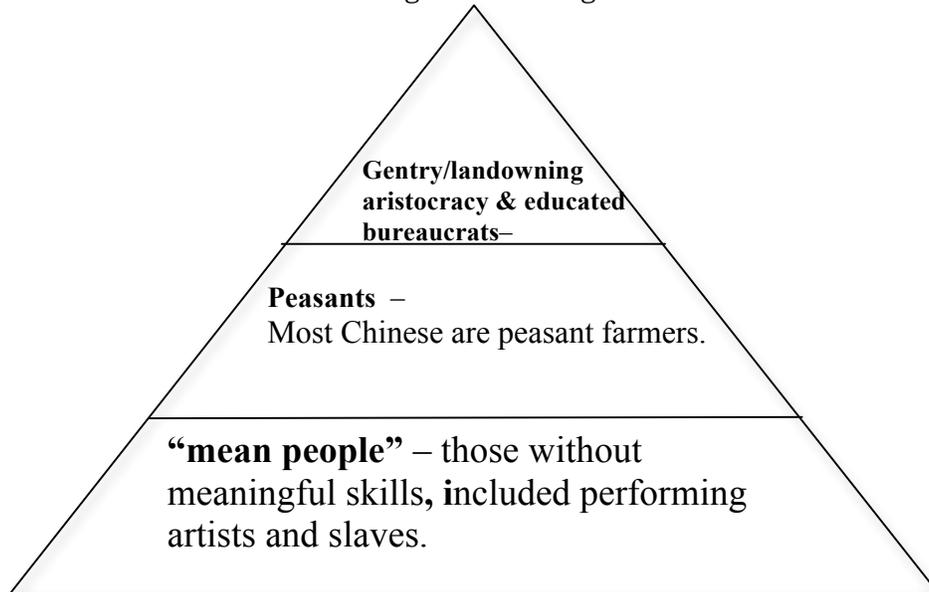
51. Examine the picture on p. 44, figure 2.1. What can pictures like this tell us about technology during the Han period? (HINT: captions are your friend)

DOCUMENT: TEACHING OF THE RIVAL CHINESE SCHOOLS (P. 42)

52. Identify the first passage as either Confucian or Daoist. (It's not both.)
53. Identify the second passage as either Confucian or Daoist. (It's not both.)

ECONOMY AND SOCIETY (P. 45)

54. This is a diagram showing Chinese social structure during the Han period. Notice that peasants are in the middle – something unique to China compared to the West. Where do merchants go on this diagram?



55. List the technological innovations of the Chinese during the Han period.
56. Recall your answer to #47 about abusive fathers. After reading about Chinese families and the Chinese legal system, has your answer changed? How so?
57. What child enjoyed the most status in the family?

HOW CHINESE CIVILIZATION FITS TOGETHER (P. 46)

58. Use the diagram below to describe how the Chinese saw the world during the Han period and still do to an extent today. Label/annotate the inner and outer circles.

