

Vocabulary Builder Activity

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Early China

A. Content Vocabulary

Directions: Select the vocabulary term from the box that best completes each sentence. Write the term(s) in the blank.

warlord
aristocrat
ancestor
pictograph
ideograph
bureaucracy

hereditary
Mandate of
Heaven
Dao
Confucianism
Daoism
Legalism

social class
filial piety
censor
currency
civil service
tenant farmer
acupuncture

1. Zhou rulers claimed that the _____ gave them the right to rule China.
2. Every year, a(n) _____ had to give part of his crop to the lord who owned the land he farmed.
3. The Zhou king ruled with the help of a(n) _____, selected officials who carry out different government jobs.
4. To this day many Chinese doctors continue to use _____ to help their patients.
5. The Chinese philosophy of _____ stressed the importance of laws.
6. A clerk could lose his job if the _____ found him sleeping at his desk.
7. You had to take a difficult test to get a job in the _____.

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8. Each army was led by a different _____.
9. Zhou rulers were expected to rule in the proper "Way," which was known as the _____.
10. It was easier for merchants to buy and sell goods when everyone used the same _____.
11. The son of a(n) _____ could expect someday to own the land that belonged to his father.
12. The idea of duty is central to the philosophy of _____.
13. People who belong to the same _____ have the same economic and social position.
14. Ancient Chinese writing began with a(n) _____, a character that represents an object.
15. Someone who likes to spend time outside in nature might be interested in the Chinese philosophy of _____.
16. Land ownership in early China was _____, passed down from fathers to sons.
17. Followers of Confucius, who believe in the idea of _____, expect children to take care of their parents when they are old.
18. Before making an important decision, the Chinese ruler wished to consult with a(n) _____ he believed could help him.
19. Three small trees form the Chinese _____ that expresses the idea of "forest."

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B. Academic Vocabulary

Directions: Complete the chart by writing an entry in each box. You may not be able to fill in all the boxes.

Word	Definition	Use the word in a sentence.	Synonym	Antonym
emerge				
military				
rely				
philosophy				
generation				
link				
unify				
individual				
similar				

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C. Combined Vocabulary Reinforcement

Directions: Use the vocabulary words in the box to fill in the blanks and complete this summary of Chapter 10. You may have to change the form of the word. For example, you may use the plural form of a noun (aristocrats) or the past tense of a verb (emerged).

civil service

Legalism

filial piety

emerge

aristocrat

currency

Daoism

unify

pictograph

military

Confucianism

philosophy

warlord

ancestor

link

ideograph

Mandate of Heaven

China's first dynasty was the Shang. Shang kings ruled China from 1750 B.C. to 1045 B.C. The Shang king was the political, religious, and 1) _____ leader of the country. Leaders of territories, known as 2) _____ and other royal officials formed an upper class of 3) _____. Most Shang people, however, were farmers.

The Shang worshipped many gods. They honored their 4) _____ and used oracle bones to seek their guidance. Oracle bones show us examples of early Chinese writing. Early Chinese writing used 5) _____ to represent objects and 6) _____ to represent ideas.

The Zhou dynasty followed the Shang. The Zhou ruled for 800 years. Zhou kings had strong armies and soon ruled over a larger territory than the Shang. Zhou kings claimed that their right to rule from the 7) _____, the belief that a king's right to rule came from the gods.

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Between 500 B.C. and 200 B.C., three major systems of belief, or 8) _____ developed in China. The famous Chinese philosopher Confucius urged people to follow the ways of their ancestors. He believed people should place the needs of others above their own needs. His philosophy became known as 9) _____. Confucius stressed the idea of 10) _____. He believed children had an obligation to take care of their parents when they were old.

The ideas of Laozi gave rise to 11) _____. According to Laozi, people should free themselves from worldly desires and live in harmony with nature. Hanfeizi introduced the ideas of 12) _____. He stressed the importance of laws and the need for harsh punishments.

In 221 B.C., a new dynasty, the Qin, 13) _____. Qin Shihuangdi ruled China with absolute power and harsh punishments. Qin sought to 14) _____ the country. He established a single 15) _____ that everyone had to use. He undertook huge building projects, including a canal to 16) _____ two regions of China. The Qin dynasty ended in 206 B.C.

In 202 B.C. the Han dynasty came to power. The first strong Han ruler was Han Wudi. In an effort to improve the government, he instituted an examination system for the 17) _____. During the Han dynasty, trade expanded. The Silk Road brought Chinese goods to the West. Buddhism also made its way to China along the Silk Road.