

# China's Lasting Ideas

Read closely to connect land, people, and inventions in ancient China.

**3.5** "The student will apply history and social science skills to describe the geographic, political, economic, and social structures and innovations of ancient China by locating ancient China on a map of the world..."

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1 READ AND MARK \_\_\_\_\_ Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline words that tell where China was or how its land supported people. Circle economy and government details, then write 1 by an art or invention detail and 2 by an architecture detail.

### Life in Ancient China

- ① Ancient China was in eastern Asia, on the continent of Asia. High mountains and dry deserts stood to its west and north. The Pacific Ocean lay to the east. Two long rivers, the Huang He and the Chang Jiang, carried water across the land. People settled near these rivers because river water and rich soil helped them grow food.
- ② Farmers raised rice in wet southern fields and grew wheat and millet in drier northern areas. They traded silk, tea, and pottery along routes with other people. China was often ruled by an emperor, a powerful leader. Government workers helped collect taxes, make laws, and organize projects. The emperor and workers helped rule the large land.
- ③ Chinese artists made silk paintings, carved jade, and shaped pottery. Inventors developed paper, the compass, and printing. Builders made the Great Wall from stone, brick, and packed earth to help defend northern borders. They also built curved-roof buildings with wooden posts. The Great Wall is still famous today. Curved roofs and other Chinese building ideas influenced architecture in places around the world.

**2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE** \_\_\_\_\_ Use the passage

**1** Where was ancient China? Use two location details from the passage.

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**2** How did the Huang He and Chang Jiang help people earn or grow what they needed?

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**3** Who ruled ancient China, and what were two jobs of government workers?

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**4** Name one Chinese art and one invention. Then name a building and its purpose, and tell one way Chinese architecture influenced buildings today.

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**3 YOUR TURN** \_\_\_\_\_ Your own words

Make a three-panel sketch that teaches about ancient China. In panel 1, show a river helping farmers; in panel 2, show an emperor and a government worker; in panel 3, show an invention beside a Great Wall or curved-roof building. Write a caption in each panel to explain why the details mattered.

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**PART 1 • READ AND MARK**

Underline words that tell where China was or how its land supported people. Circle economy and government details, then write 1 by an art or invention detail and 2 by an architecture detail. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

**PART 2 • ANSWERS**

| # | QUESTION                                                                                                                                        | ANSWER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Where was ancient China? Use two location details from the passage.                                                                             | <b>Ancient China was in eastern Asia. Mountains and deserts were west and north of it, and the Pacific Ocean was east of it.</b>                                                                                                                                       |
| 2 | How did the Huang He and Chang Jiang help people earn or grow what they needed?                                                                 | <b>The rivers gave people water and rich soil to grow food. Farmers grew crops such as rice, wheat, and millet.</b>                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3 | Who ruled ancient China, and what were two jobs of government workers?                                                                          | <b>An emperor ruled ancient China. Government workers collected taxes, made laws, and organized projects.</b>                                                                                                                                                          |
| 4 | Name one Chinese art and one invention. Then name a building and its purpose, and tell one way Chinese architecture influenced buildings today. | <b>Answers may include silk paintings, jade carvings, or pottery for art; paper, the compass, or printing for an invention. The Great Wall helped defend northern borders. Curved roofs and other Chinese building ideas influenced architecture around the world.</b> |

**PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)**

Panel 1: A river flows beside a rice field. Caption: River water and rich soil helped farmers grow food. Panel 2: An emperor gives directions to a worker. Caption: Government workers collected taxes and helped make laws. Panel 3: A sheet of paper is beside a curved-roof building. Caption: Chinese inventors developed paper, and curved roofs influenced buildings around the world.

Accept equivalent location details, crops, government jobs, arts, inventions, and architecture details stated in the passage. For the sketch, check that each panel includes the requested idea and that each caption accurately explains its importance.