

Chapter 2, China (pp. 38-65)

Key Terms:

Mao Zedong/Mao Tse-Tung: Leader of the Communist revolution in China and ruler of China in the 1950s. Mao is generally credited with shaping the China that exists today.

Chiang Kai-shek: Leader of China prior to the Communist revolution. Leader of the Nationalist forces during the Communist revolution.

Long March: A retreat led by Mao Zedong that allowed his army to regroup and eventually win the conflict against the Nationalists and to gain control of China.

Tiananmen Square Massacre: A wave of student and pro-democracy protests in 1989 that was brutally suppressed by the Chinese government.



Time magazine

Soft Power: A diplomatic technique involving use of persuasion, attraction and appeal rather than military threat to get what one wants.

Communism: An economic system in which people share property with the goal of eliminating poverty. The government exercises control in the name of the people as a step on the way to the people controlling the economy directly.

Socialism: Like communism, in this economic system, the goal is for people to share wealth equally, but not all individual ownership is forbidden. The government has a responsibility to make the society more fair.

Capitalism: Allows for individual ownership and in its pure form, no interference from the government in free competition.

Silk Route/Silk Road: A crucial trade route in the ancient world (beginning in roughly 200 BCE) named for the valuable silk fabric transported along it. It played an important role in the

development of the countries which used it because it allowed for cultural as well as economic exchange.

One Belt One Road: China's strategy for development. "Belt" refers to land trade routes and "Road" refers to sea routes. It involves investments and projects all over the world.

The Ancient Silk Route



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Questions to Answer:

41. Why has China never tried to become a naval power?

42. Who are the Han? What about China's geography allowed them to dominate the other warring city states of what would later become China?

43-44. Why was the Grand Canal (604-609 CE) important in China's history?



44. What impact did the Mongol invasions of the 13th century CE have on China? How does that impact continue to affect the country to this day?

44-45. Why was the Xinjiang region an ongoing problem for the Chinese government and why might they consider that trouble to be worth it?



The Wall Street Journal.

45-46. What changes did Mao Zedong make after defeating Chiang Kai-shek for control of China?

48-49. Why is control of Tibet particularly important for China?



50-51. What important technological innovation have the Chinese brought to Tibet? What are the advantages and disadvantages of that innovation?

52. How did the Chinese government respond to the 2009 riots in Xinjiang and why did they respond that way?

54. Why is it important for China to continue to produce and sell goods?

55. What factors help explain why the Chinese view individual rights (such as free speech) so differently than we do in the West?

55-56. What problem does China face as it increases industrialization and modernization and why does China have an increasing need for a blue-water navy?

58-59. What potential conflicts does China have with Japan?

59-60. What is the status of Taiwan? Who rules it? How is China trying to increase its control there?

61-62. Why is China “creating islands” in the South China Sea?



from Radio Pakistan

63. Why is the new port that China is building at Gwadar in Pakistan so important? What will it do for China?

64-65. What weaknesses might threaten China's push to become "the greatest power in the world"?

Questions to Ask:

What would you like to discuss in class from this chapter? Write 3 questions. These might be about things you didn't understand or about ideas which interested you.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.