

ANCIENT CHINA GEOGRAPHY

Use the clues below to **label** the following on your map (you do not need to include words in brackets). If you cannot locate one of the items on the list, come back to it as you locate others. Some items will require you to use multiple clues.

1) Yángzǐ Jiāng River (Yangtze River)

The longest river in Asia and third-largest in the world.

2) Huang He River (Yellow River)

Often called the “cradle of Chinese civilization,” as it was along this river that the first Chinese civilizations formed. It is the second longest river in China.

3) The Great Wall (Han Dynasty)

The longest version of the Great Wall. The deserts in China helped to isolate them from other civilizations, but because the Xiongnu (later the Mongolian Empire) lived in the Gobi Desert, they were not stopped by the desert, hence the Great Wall was built along the Southern border of the desert.

4) Zhujiang River (Pearl River)

China's third-longest river.

5) Fen River

Joins the Huang He River from the West.

6) Han River

Joins the Yángzǐ Jiāng River from the East.

7) Wei River

Joins the Huang He River from the East.

8) Northern Silk Road

Northern route of the Silk Road, a vital trade route that connected Asia and Europe. The Great Wall was created to protect this trade route. It began in the city of Chang'an, and left China around the Taklamakan Desert.

9) Tea-Horse Road

Also known as the Southern Silk Road.

10) Eastern Han Dynasty

The second dynasty of China, and the longest dynasty, spanning four centuries from 206 BCE and 220 CE. Considered a golden age. The end of the dynasty led to the Three Kingdoms, a time of frequent war. Label all in capital letters.

11) Gobi Desert

The largest desert in Asia, located in Northern China and Southern Mongolia. The Han dynasty built the Great Wall along the Southern edge of the desert to protect them from the Xiongnu (Mongols).

12) Taklamakan Desert

In Northwest China, between the Northern Silk Road route.

13) Himalayas

Created a nearly impassible border for China, protecting them from other civilizations. They are a long mountain range between China and ancient India. They are considered sacred to some sects of Buddhism.

14) South China Sea

Located South of China.

15) East China Sea

Located East of China.

16) Yellow Sea

North of the East China Sea, between China and Korea.

17) Bo Sea (Bohai Sea)

The Huang He River feeds into the Bo Sea, which is Northwest of the Yellow Sea.

18) Korea Bay

North of the Yellow Sea, between China and Korea. East of the Bo Sea.

19) Sea of Japan

Between Korea and Japan.

20) Arabian Sea

West of India.

21) Bay of Bengal

Between India and Myanmar (Burma). East of India.

22) Pacific Ocean

East of China, beyond the East China Sea.

23) Jicheng (Beijing)

China's modern-day capital. Located near the Bo Sea. After China was united in the Qin dynasty, Jicheng became a prefectural capital (administrative jurisdiction) for the region.

24) Guangzhou

An important port city located in Southern China.

25) Kunming

A profitable city along the Southern caravan roads. Wanting control over the Tea-Horse Road, the Han dynasty took over the city.

26) Xianyang

Capital city of the Qin dynasty, the first dynasty of Imperial China. Emperor Qin Shi Huang built his massive mausoleum, which included the Terracotta Army near the city. Located to the North of the Wei River.

27) Chang'an (Xi'an)

Capital city of the Han dynasty. One of the oldest cities in China. Southeast of Xianyang.

28) Aodu

A prehistorical city that was already in ruins long before the Qin dynasty. Established by the Shang dynasty who existed from the 16th century BCE to 1046 BCE. The Shang is the earliest dynasty of traditional Chinese history supported by archaeological evidence.

29) Jinyang (Taiyuan)

Being a strategically located city made it one of the economic, political, military, and cultural centers of Northern China. In 453 BCE the Fen River was diverted into the city, causing significant damage.

30) Nanchang

First incorporated into China during the Qin dynasty, and named Nanchang by the Han dynasty. Nanchang means "Southern flourishing." There are signs tribes were living in the area as long as 50,000 years ago.

31) Hanyang (Wuhan)

A busy port in the Han dynasty. One of the most famous battles in Chinese history was fought near Hanyang.

32) Xining

A history of over 21,000 years, that was a leading commercial hub of the Hexi Corridor, which also included part of Northern Silk Road. They traded timber, wool, salt, and silk.

33) Lanzhou

Once called the Golden City as it was a major link of the Northern Silk Road. Located Southeast of Xining.

34) Chengdu

The brocade produced in Chengdu became fashionable under the Han and was exported all over China. Brocade is a richly decorative fabric often made in coloured silk. The area around this Southern city was called the “Land of Abundance.”

35) Battle of Red Cliffs

One of the most famous battles in ancient Chinese history, and considered one of the largest naval battles in history. The defending army of 50,000 troops were able to defeat the invading army of at least 230,000 through their knowledge of the land. The exact location of this battle is unknown, but the leading belief of scholars place it near Hanyang between the Wei and Yángzǐ Jiāng Rivers. Mark it with an “X.”

Colour the following on your map:

- 1) Outline all bodies of water in **BLUE**.
- 2) Draw a **BLUE** line over all rivers.
- 3) Outline the Han Dynasty in **GREEN**.
- 4) Draw a **RED** line over the Northern Silk Road.
- 5) Draw a **PURPLE** line over the Tea-Horse Road.
- 6) Draw a **BROWN** string of triangles where the Himalayas are.
- 7) Colour all deserts **YELLOW**.
- 8) Draw an **ORANGE** line over the Great Wall.