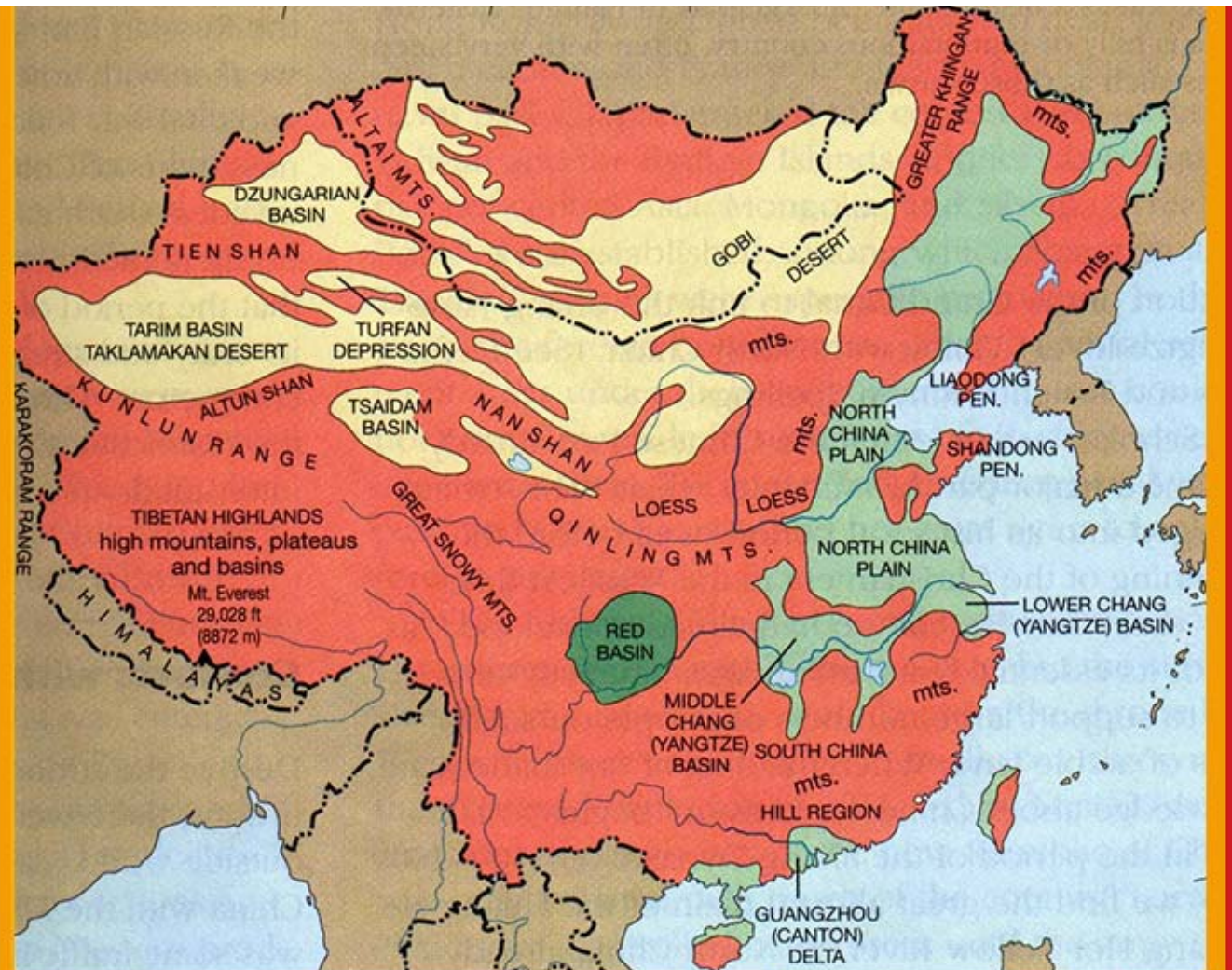


HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA

FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY



Shang dynasty bronze
as from Shandong

Lifesize terracotta warrior,
excavated near the tomb
of Qin Shi Huang di.



Bronze flying horse,
Later Han dynasty,
2nd century AD.



Yuan dynasty porcelain vase
with underglaze decoration



The Great Wall



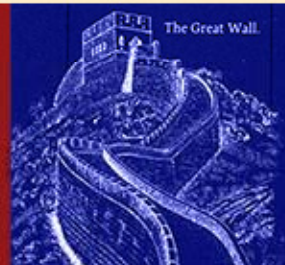
Marble barge,
Summer Palace, Beijing



The great leader,
Chairman Mao.

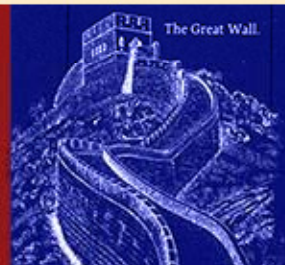
When I think of China...

- When you think of China, what do you think of?
- Write down the first three thoughts that come to you...
- Now, let us share them...



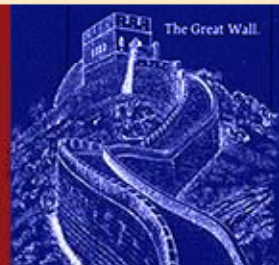
China Today

- China makes news every day!
- Most people think of China as a growing economic giant.
- Other people think about China and the upcoming summer Olympic games.
- Yet others think about China and her long storied historical past, both imperial and communist.
- Many people think of places associated with China like the Great Wall or the Forbidden City.
- Some think of China's rivers and the massive dam that is being built.



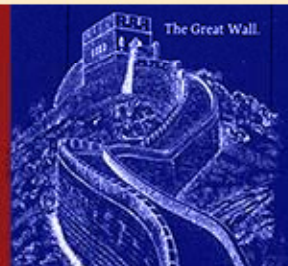
CHINA TODAY AS SEEN FROM SPACE!

- China is all of these things and more!



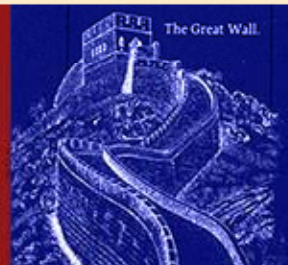
How can we understand such a complex country?

- We can better understand the China of today by understanding her past.
- We can also understand China by looking at the geography of the largest country on earth and how that geography has impacted her historical development.
- By becoming historical geographers we can make sense of modern China by linking history and geography together.

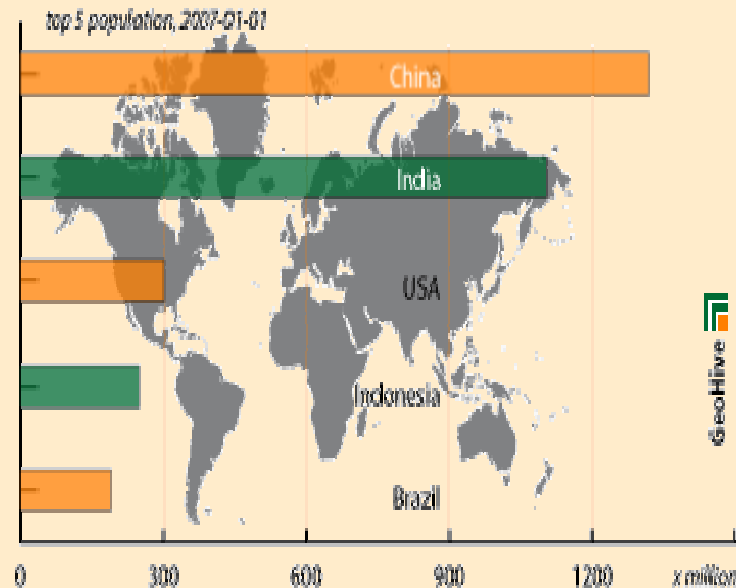


AN INQUIRY INTO CHINA'S HISTORICAL PAST THROUGH GEOGRAPHY

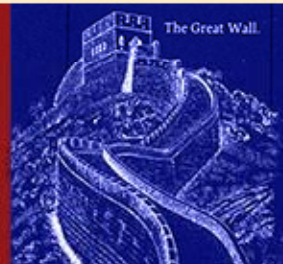
- In order to understand China's history, one needs to first understand the physical China.
- To understand the physical China, there is a need to view the country's geography in a variety of ways.
- Here are ten major geographical qualities of China as set forth by De Blij, H. J. & Peter O. Muller. *Geographic Regions and Concepts*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 1991.



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



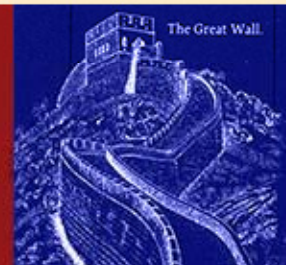
- 1. China's population represents over one-fifth of all humanity. Territorially, China ranks third among the world's countries.



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



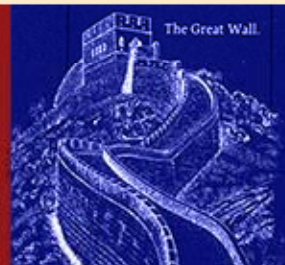
- 2. China is one of the world's oldest continuous civilizations.
- Banpo Village - 6,000 years old!



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



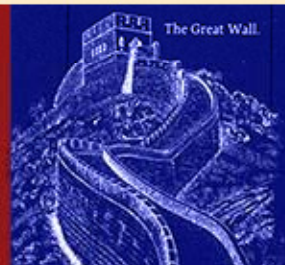
- 3. China's civilization developed over a long period in considerable isolation, protected by physiographic barriers and by sheer distance from other source areas.



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 4. The Chinese state and national culture evolved from a core area that emerged in the north, near the present capital of Beijing. China's cultural hearth has remained there ever since.



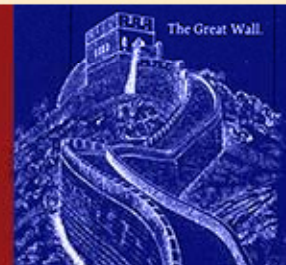
Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 5. Foreign intervention had disastrous impacts on Chinese society, from European colonialism to Japanese imperialism. Intensified regionalism and territorial losses are only two of the many resulting afflictions.



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong



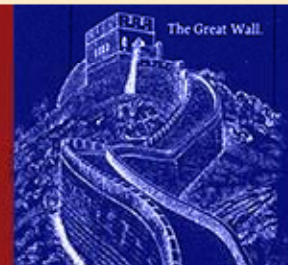
Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 6. China occupies the eastern flank of Eurasia. Its sphere of influence was reduced by Russian expansionism in East Asia.



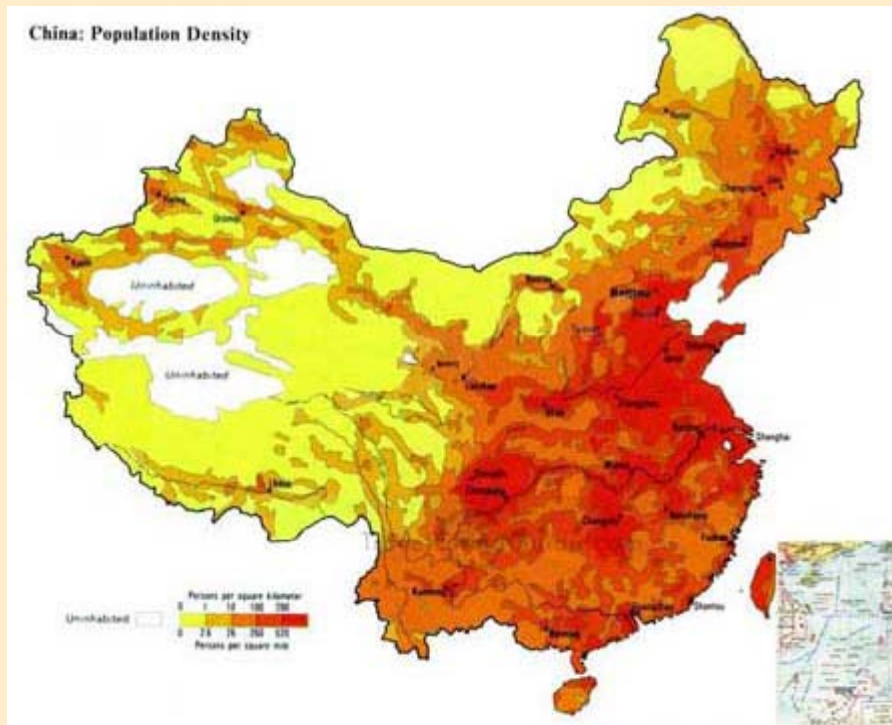
Shang dynasty bronze ax from Shandong



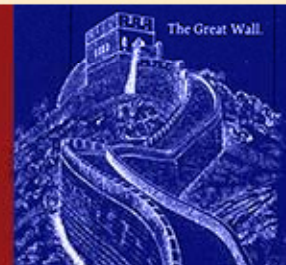
The Great Wall



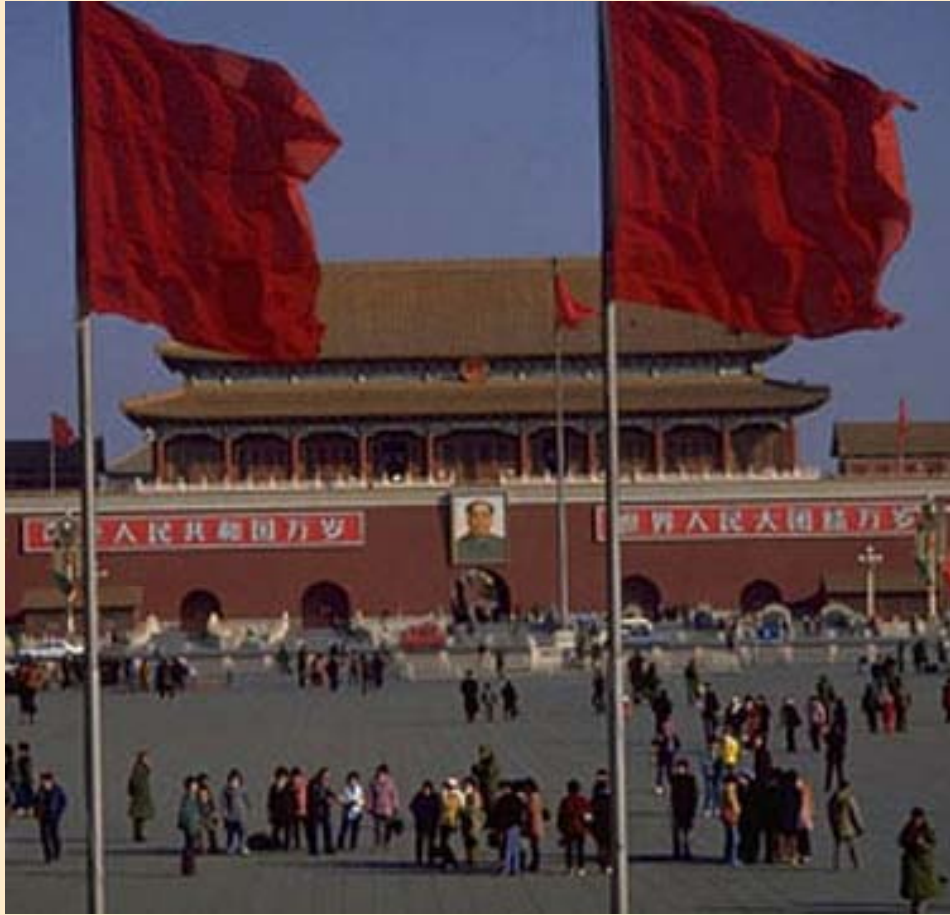
Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 7. China's enormous population is strongly concentrated in the country's eastern regions. Western zones remain comparatively empty and open, and are also more arid and far less productive.



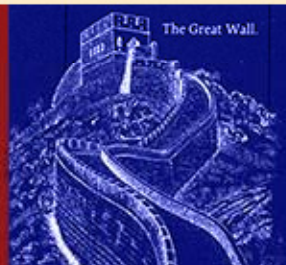
Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 8. China's communist-designed transformation after 1949 involved unprecedented regimentation and the imposition of effective central authority, with results that are perhaps permanently imprinted on the cultural landscape.



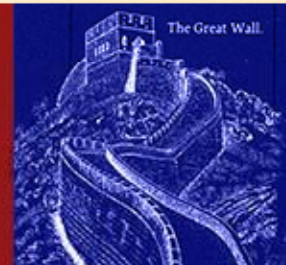
Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China



- 9. China's recent modernizing drive notwithstanding, the country remains a dominantly rural society with limited urbanization and industrialization.



Ten Major Geographic Qualities of China

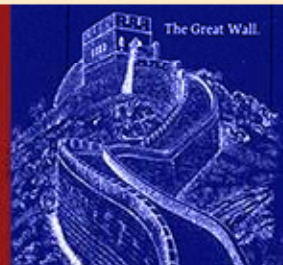


- 10. Rural China is a land of enduring traditions. Neither the Communist Revolution nor the modernization drive has truly changed the villagers' way of life. Many old values persist, and the teachings of Confucius are still remembered.

- De Blij, H. J. & Muller, Peter.
Geographic Regions and Concepts (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 1991).

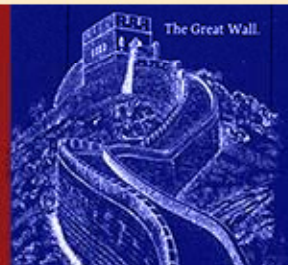


Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.



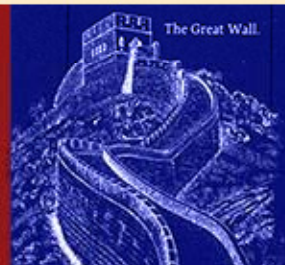
Your Task

- Now that you know something about the various geographic qualities of China, we can also apply the *Five Themes of Geography* to China for a closer look!
- Students generally associate geography with knowing where someplace is located.
- However, there is more to being able to plot coordinates on a map in order to understand the geography of a country.



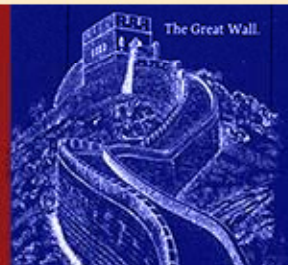
THE FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY

- Geographers use a framework known as the *Five Themes of Geography* to create an understanding of a country's geography.
- This framework deepens understanding of a country as more than a mere place on the earth's surface.
- This framework allows for a comprehensive investigation of a country's geography by allowing a deeper glimpse into what sets one place on earth apart from another.
- Geography can be physical, cultural, economic, political, or historical.



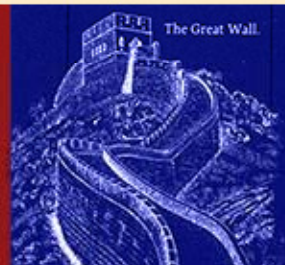
THE FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY

- What are the *Five Themes of Geography*?
 - Geographers have developed the following themes in order to deepen understanding of a country:
 - LOCATION
 - PLACE
 - MOVEMENT
 - INTERACTION
 - REGION



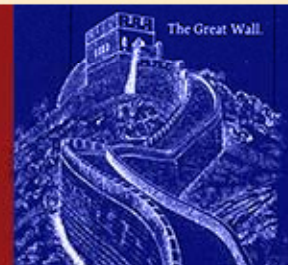
FIVE THEMES OF GEOGRAPHY DEFINED

- The following are the definitions of the *Five Themes of Geography*.
- Along with the definitions of the themes, you will find examples of the various themes as applied to China.



#1 LOCATION

- Every place on earth can be located in one of two ways:
 - Absolute Location: Latitude and longitude may be utilized to absolutely locate a place. Example:
 - The absolute location of Beijing is 39.55° North latitude, 116.25° East longitude.
 - Relative Location: Describes how a place is related to the areas it is near. Example:
 - Hong Kong is a small island located in southern China near the mouth of the Pearl River.

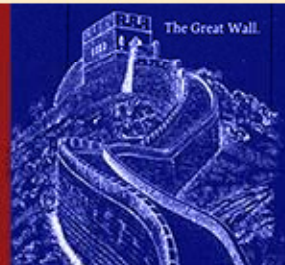


#2 PLACE

- Every place on earth has unique characteristics that set it apart from every other place on earth. There are qualities of every place that are like no other place! Place answers the question “What is it like?” as a geographic theme.



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.

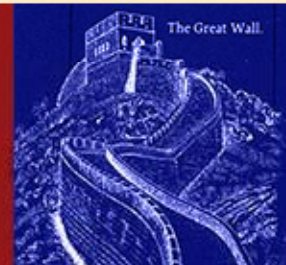
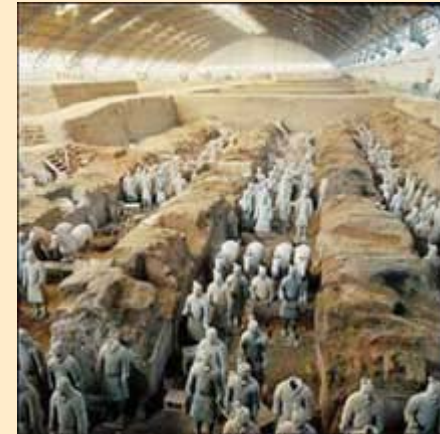


The Great Wall.



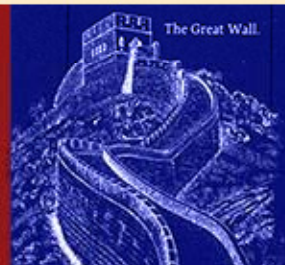
China: A Unique Place!

- A place like no other on earth!



#3 MOVEMENT

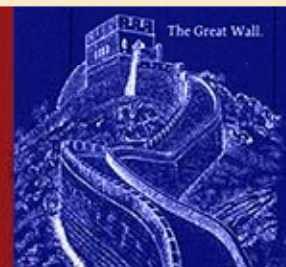
- Throughout history, the movement of peoples, goods, and ideas has transformed the world!
- Movement of peoples, goods, and ideas throughout China's long history has served to create the China that exists today.



Peoples: The Portuguese in Macau



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.



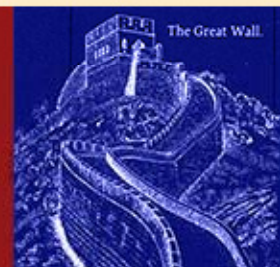
The Great Wall.



Goods: Wal*Mart Comes to China!



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.



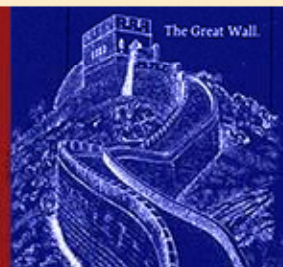
The Great Wall.



Ideas: An Islamic Mosque in Xian

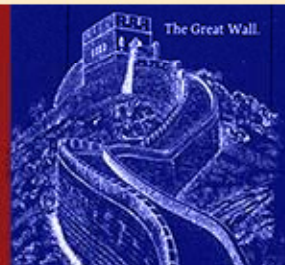


Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.



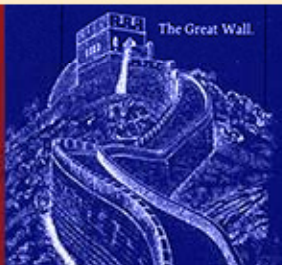
#4 INTERACTION

- Throughout history man has interacted with the earth in a variety of ways.
- Man has altered the landscape in order to meet the basic necessities of life.
- Man has used the earth and its resources for a variety of purposes.
- Man has allowed the physical characteristics to both unify and to separate them from other peoples.



China's Canals

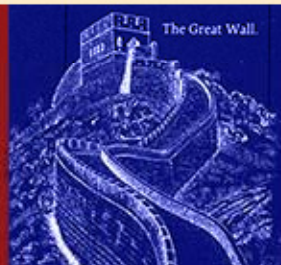
- Shuzhou



Chinese Fields



- Throughout China's long history, man has altered the landscape in a variety of ways in order to survive.
 - Rice paddies in the south of China!

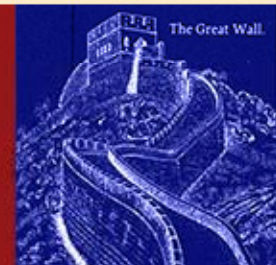


Mining in China

China: Fuels, Power, Minerals, and Metals



- Man takes mineral wealth from the earth...



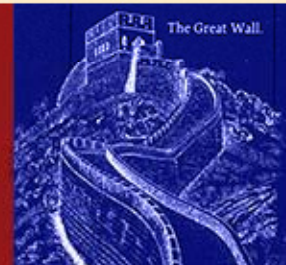
The Three Gorges Dam



- China is building the world's largest dam in order to control floodwaters, allow for navigation of larger vessels into the core region of China, and to harness the power of the river.



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong

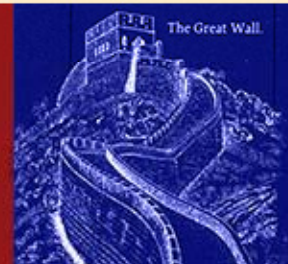


Olympic Stadium

- China will welcome the world!



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong.

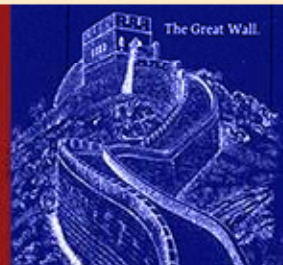


Housing in Beijing

- Traditional housing and modern housing...



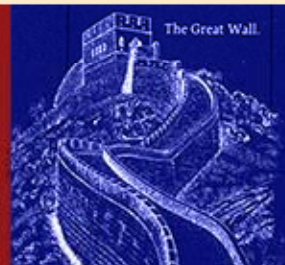
Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong



Hong Kong! Buildings reaching to the sky!



Shang dynasty bronze
ax from Shandong

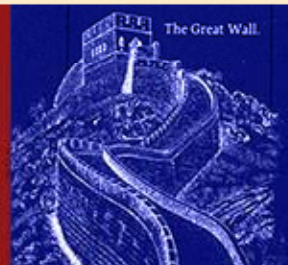


The Great Wall.

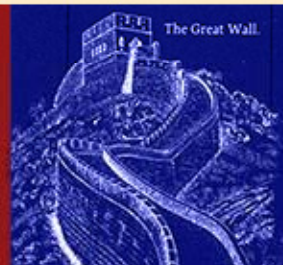


#5 REGION

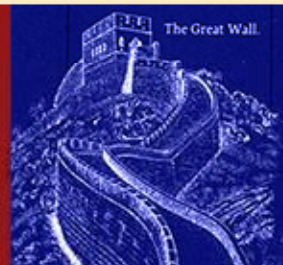
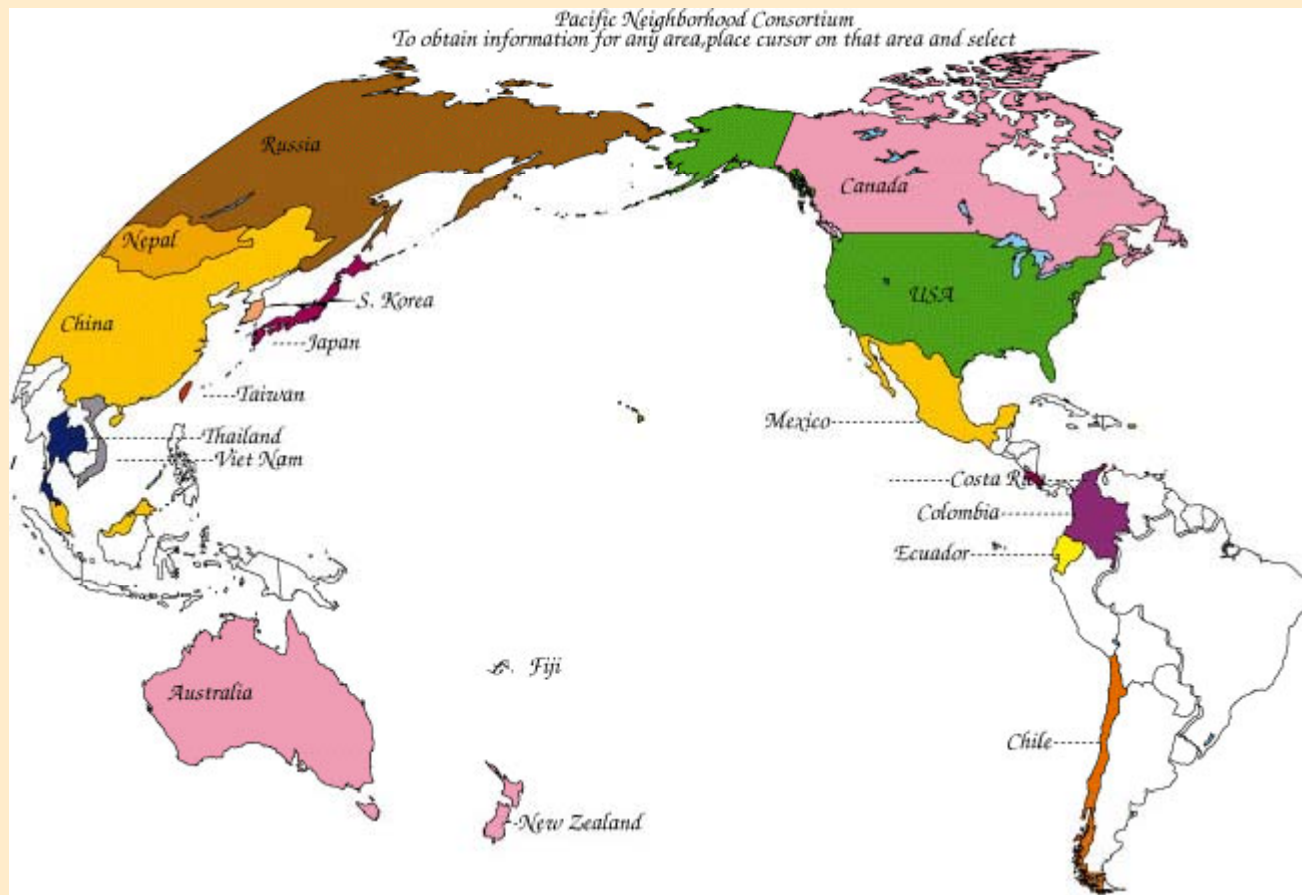
- Every place on earth is tied into larger unified regions.
- No place exists entirely independent of every other place.
- All countries may be linked to larger regions in a variety of ways:
 - Historically
 - Geographically
 - Politically
 - Religiously
 - Economically



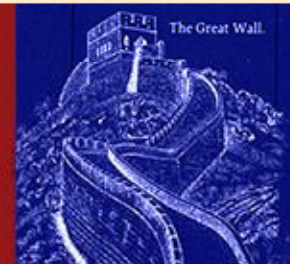
Historically: Ancient River Valley Civilizations



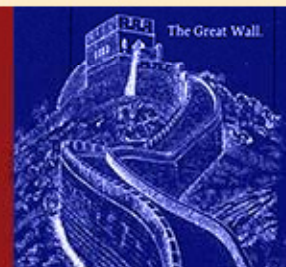
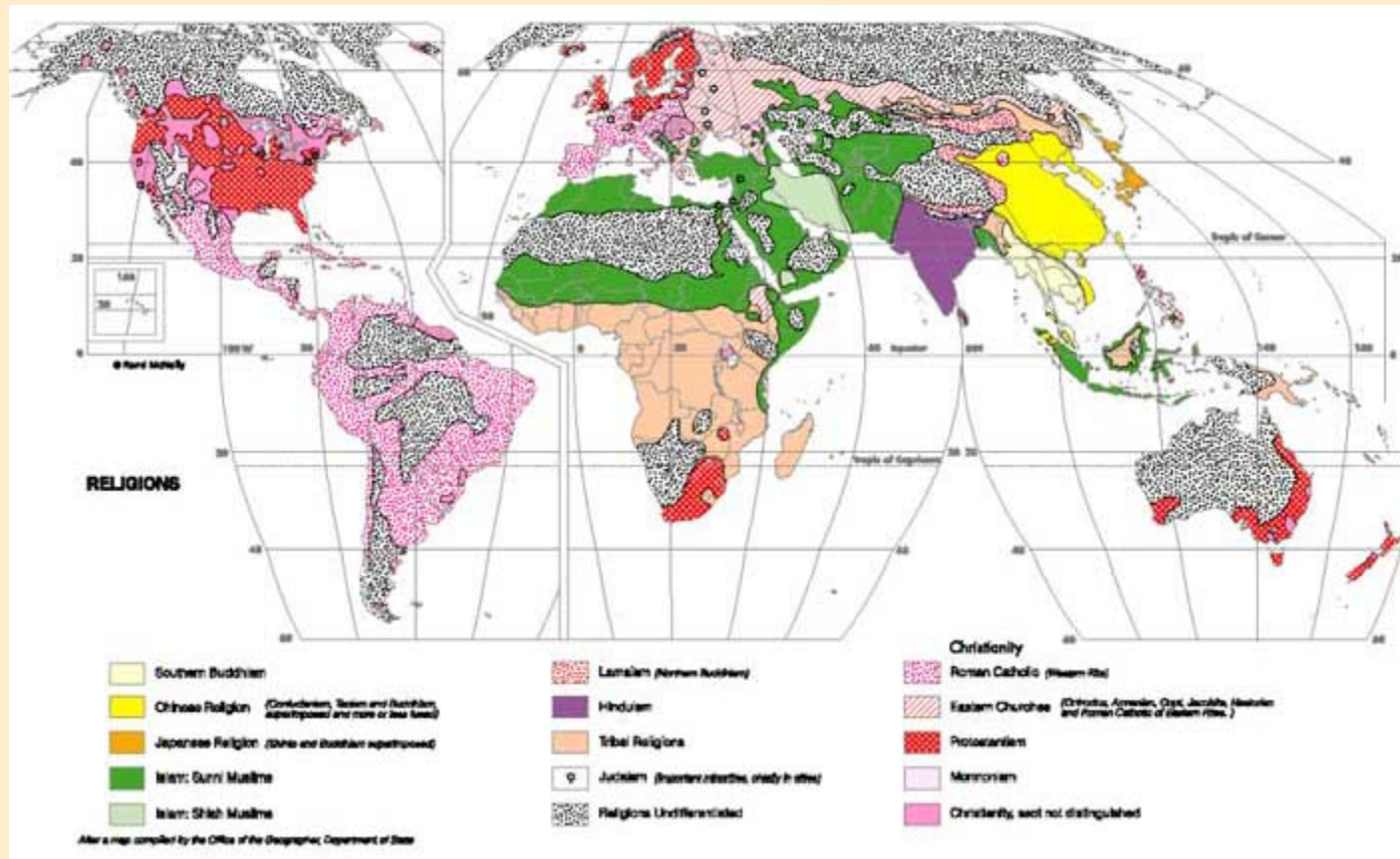
Geographically: Pacific Rim Nations



Politically: East Asian Nations

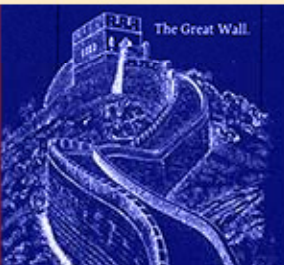
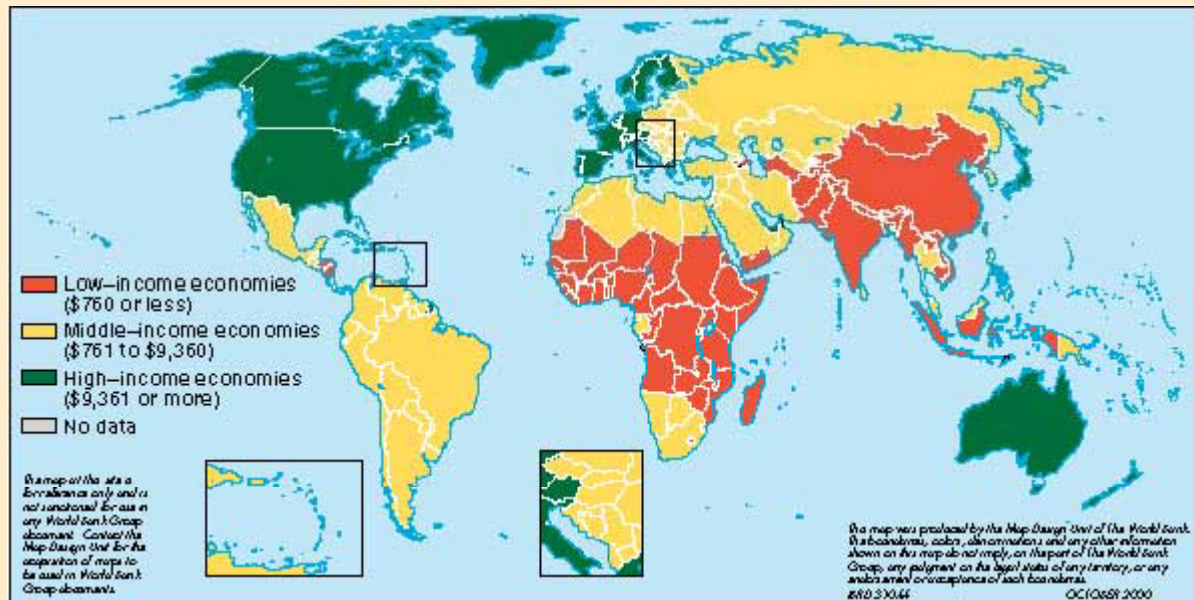


Religiously – Buddhist Regions



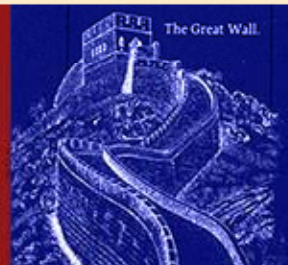
Economically- Member of a Number of Nations with Low Income per Capita

- China, although a leader in economic growth, is also a nation where there is an unequal distribution of income among its citizens



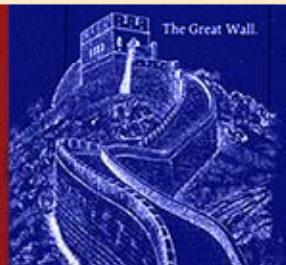
THE ASSIGNMENT

- Now that you have a basic working understanding of the *Five Themes of Geography*, it is your turn to become historical geographers.
- In groups of five, you will be undertaking a Web Quest of a historical period of Chinese history.
- Utilizing a listing of electronic and internet resources, you will be responsible for making a presentation to your classmates on your assigned topic.
- You will incorporate the *Five Themes of Geography* into your assigned historical time period.



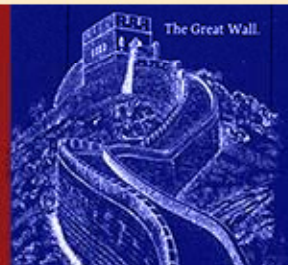
YOUR TASK

- Time periods are as follows:
 - Ancient China Qin - Han Dynasties
 - Imperial China Sui - Tang - Song Dynasties
 - Early Modern China Ming Dynasty
 - Modern China Qing Dynasty
 - Communist China PRC 1949 - 1997
 - China Today 1997 - Present



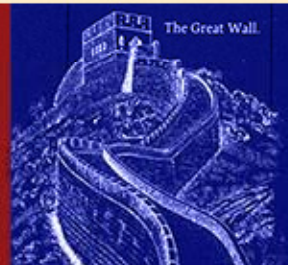
YOUR TASK

- The following are the parameters of the assignment:
 - Creation of a PowerPoint presentation
 - 10 PowerPoint slides
 - No more than fifteen words per slide
 - Minimum of one image per slide
 - Slides are to focus on historical time period and are to be tied to the *Five Themes of Geography*
 - Oral presentation on your topic to the class
 - Major focus will be on a brief overview of the historical time period assigned to the group
 - Presentation will last an entire class period (40 minutes)
 - All group members will participate in the presentation
 - Written process paper on how you researched your topic and a brief overview of what you learned



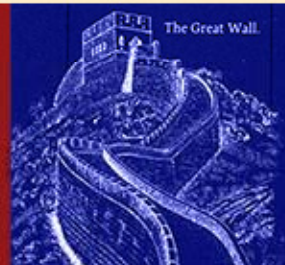
EVALUATION

- The assignment will be worth a total of 100 points.
- The rubric is attached to the handout on the project that all students will be given today.
- This point total includes the following:
 - PowerPoint
 - Presentation
 - Process Paper



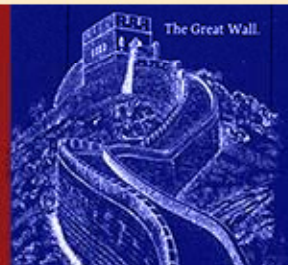
Written Assignment

- Process Paper
 - Please refer to your copy of the written assignment which you will receive today.



WEBSITES

- The following are the websites you are to use when researching your historical time period.
 - [Ancient China](#)
 - [Asia for Educators](#)
 - [China WWW Sites](#)
 - [Chinese Cultural Studies](#)
 - [Chinese History Chart](#)
 - [Chinese Internet Resources](#)
 - [Internet East Asian History Source](#)
 - [The Silk Road Project](#)
 - [The Earth and Its Peoples](#)
 - [Traditions and Encounters](#)



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