



**CALIFORNIA CONTENT
STANDARD 6.6**

Early Civilizations of China

Overall Objective: Analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of China.

Read the chart below to answer questions on the next page.

<p>551 B.C. Birth of Confucius</p>	<p>Confucius</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught a code of proper conduct. • Identified five important relationships: ruler/subject; father/son; husband/wife; brothers; friends. • Believed social order, harmony, and good government should be based on family relationships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught that rulers and subjects should respect each other and that people should respect their parents and elders. • Stressed the importance of education. • Set clear family and social roles to help avoid conflict.
<p>c. 500s B.C. Life of Laozi</p>	<p>Laozi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught that a universal force called the <i>Dao</i> guides all things. • Searched for knowledge and understanding through nature. • Believed natural order is more important than social order. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stressed the importance of living simply and in harmony with nature. • Led to many advances in astronomy, alchemy, and medicine.
<p>221 B.C. Beginning of Qin Dynasty under Shi Huangdi</p>	<p>Shi Huangdi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unified and expanded China during Qin Dynasty. • Ruled harshly. • Used peasant labor to build roads to keep empire unified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instituted government standards for weights, measures, coins, and writing. • Began the Great Wall to keep out northern invaders
<p>202 B.C. Beginning of Han Dynasty</p>	<p>The Han</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a large government bureaucracy. • Instituted a state exam, testing knowledge of Confucianism, for government positions. • Expanded China's borders to include northern Vietnam, northern Korea, and southern provinces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sent paper, silk, and pottery to the west along the Silk Roads in exchange for sesame seeds, oil, metals, and precious stones. • Was influenced by ideas, such as Buddhism, through interaction along the Silk Roads. • Invented paper from old rags, mulberry bark, and hemp fibers.



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Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

“Zigong inquired about governing. The Master said, ‘Make food supplies sufficient, provide an adequate army, and give the people reason to have faith.’”

—from *Analects* by Confucius

- 1 **Based on the quotation, what would *most likely* be Confucius’s advice for rulers who want their people to have faith?**
 - A Promise the people great wealth as a reward.
 - B Enforce a strict set of religious beliefs.
 - C Treat the people with respect and rule wisely.
 - D Draft everyone into the army for a period of time.

- 2 **How did Shi Huangdi unify China?**
 - A He built roads and set up a uniform currency and writing system.
 - B He surrounded himself with high-ranking nobles.
 - C He promoted Confucianism.
 - D He banned taxes.

“Do not honor the worthy,
And the people will not compete.
Do not value rare treasures,
And the people will not steal.
Do not display what others want,
And the people will not have their
hearts confused.”

—from Laozi

- 3 **Which statement *best* paraphrases Laozi’s ideals expressed in the quotation?**
 - A Misery results when when you value material possessions and status.
 - B People should invest in rare treasures for their family’s future.
 - C Competition in a society leads to greater productivity and wealth.
 - D Most people cannot help but spend their lives in a state of confusion.

- 4 **Which statement is *true* about China under the Han?**
 - A China rejected Buddhism.
 - B China raised taxes.
 - C China refused to trade with others
 - D China expanded beyond its borders.