

Ancient China Discovery Quiz with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To recall and apply knowledge about the achievements and daily life of the Ancient Chinese civilisation.

Join Ellie the Elephant on a journey through time! Read the questions carefully and use your knowledge of the Shang Dynasty and Ancient China to answer. Good luck, young historians!

Answer Key: 1. A (Yellow River), 2. False, 3. True, 4. Silk, 5. C (Oracle Bones), 6. True, 7. B (Bronze), 8. True, 9. False, 10. D (Writing).

Word bank: Dynasty · Silk · Yellow River · Oracle Bones · Emperor · Invention · Terracotta

1. 1. Ancient Chinese civilisation began along which major waterway? A) The Yellow River*, B) The Amazon, C) The Nile, D) The Thames (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: The Ancient Chinese people only ever used stone tools. (1 mark)

3. 3. True or False: The Ancient Chinese invented paper and silk. (1 mark)

4. 4. What precious fabric, traded along the 'Silk Road', was a secret kept by the Chinese for many years? (1 mark)

5. 5. What did the Shang people use to try and predict the future? A) Crystal balls, B) Maps, C) Oracle Bones*, D) Clocks (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: The Emperor was the most powerful person in Ancient China. (1 mark)

7. 7. Which metal was the Shang Dynasty famous for working with? A) Gold, B) Bronze*, C) Iron, D) Aluminium (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Archaeologists have found an army of thousands of clay soldiers buried in China. (1 mark)

9. 9. True or False: Ancient China had no system of writing. (1 mark)

10. 10. Which of these was a major achievement of the Shang Dynasty? A) Building aeroplanes, B) The internet, C) Discovering electricity, D) Developing a system of writing* (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene showing life by the Yellow River. Include a farmer working in the fields and a traditional Chinese building in the background.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why the Yellow River was so important for the survival of the first Chinese settlements. 2. Compare and contrast the life of a royal person in the Shang Dynasty with the life of a peasant farmer. 3. Justify why the invention of paper might have changed how history was recorded. 4. What might happen if the Ancient Chinese had never discovered how to make silk? 5. Why do you think archaeologists consider 'Oracle Bones' to be such an important primary source? 6. Imagine you are an explorer discovering the Terracotta Army for the first time. Write a short diary entry describing your feelings.