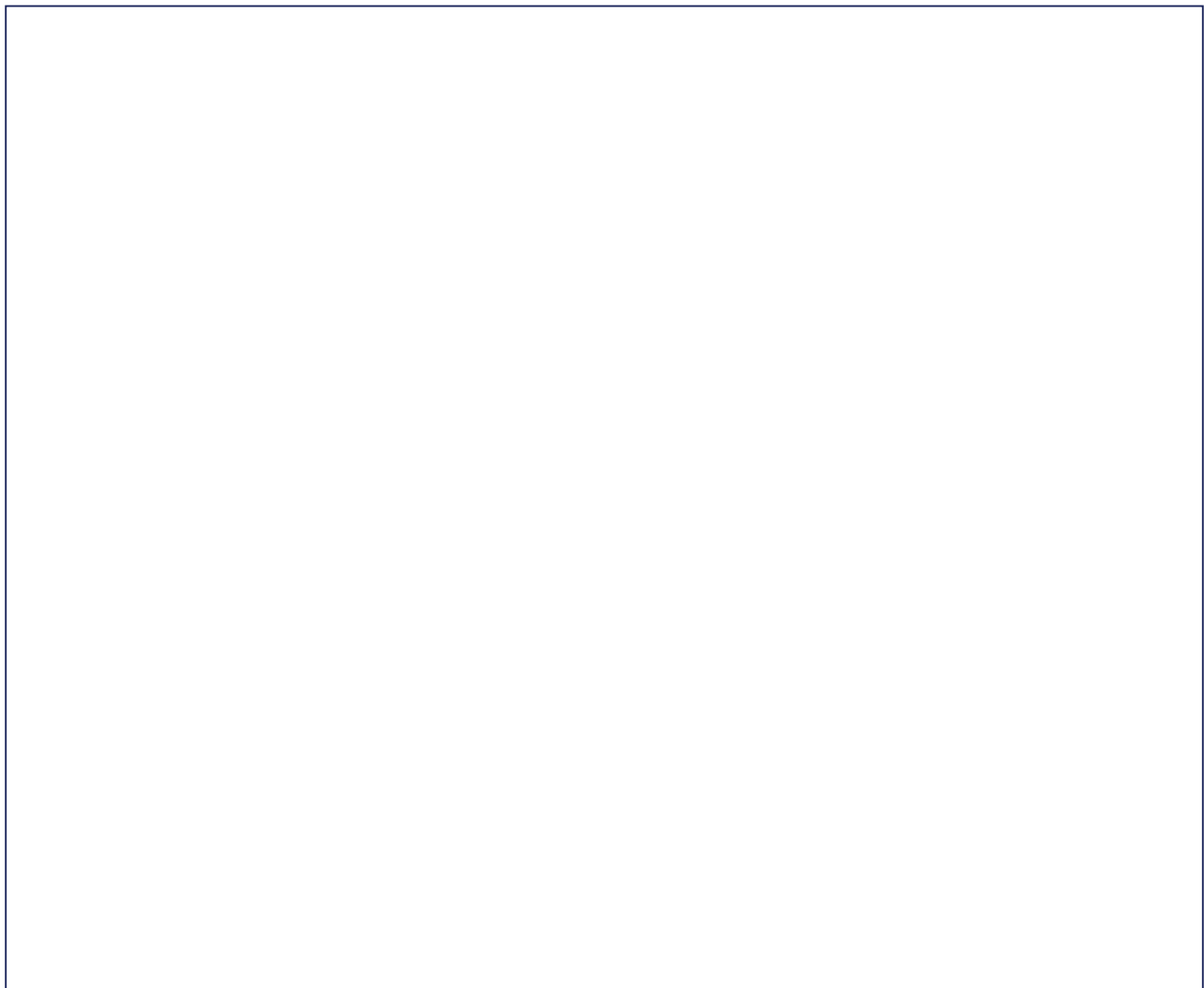


Exploring the Wonders of Ancient China with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the key features and innovations of Ancient Chinese civilisation during the Shang and Han dynasties.

Ellie the elephant has been reading ancient scrolls and needs your help to illustrate life in Ancient China. Use the drawing prompt to create your scene, then complete the labelling and analysis tasks below.

Draw: Create a detailed historical scene of Ancient China. In the background, sketch a section of the Great Wall winding across mountainous terrain. In the foreground, draw a merchant leading a camel carrying rolls of silk, representing the Silk Road. Include a small area showing a scholar using a brush for calligraphy. Use a clean, illustrative style with careful attention to the architecture of traditional tiled roofs and flowing robes.



Label words: Terracotta Army · Silk Road · Great Wall · Calligraphy · Dynasty · Irrigation · Oracle Bones

Steps:

1. Identify and label three key features of your drawing using the words from the bank. Explain the historical significance of one of these features.
2. Compare and contrast the function of the Great Wall with the purpose of the Silk Road. Why were both essential to the success of an Ancient Chinese dynasty?
3. Justify your answer: If you were an emperor of the Han Dynasty, would you prioritise spending your

budget on the military or on expanding trade? Why?

4. Explain why the invention of paper and calligraphy tools significantly changed the way history was recorded compared to using oracle bones.

5. What might happen if the irrigation systems used in Ancient China had failed during a drought? Describe the impact on the local population.

6. List two ways that Ancient Chinese innovations have influenced modern life. Give reasons for your choices.