Ancient China: A Journey Through History with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of life, inventions, and the geography of Ancient China.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and ensure you use full sentences where required. Good luck!

Ellie the Elephant has been using her incredible memory to study the ancient civilisation of China. She has learned that it began thousands of years ago near the fertile banks of the Yellow River. The people of Ancient China were very clever; they created beautiful silk, strong walls to protect their cities, and inventions that we still use in different ways today, such as paper and the magnetic compass.

Word bank: Dynasty · Yellow River · Silk Road · Great Wall · Emperor · Inventions · Pottery · Compass

1. Name the two major rivers that were important for the growth of Ancient Chinese settlements. (2 marks)

2. Why was the Great Wall of China built by the Ancient Chinese people? (2 marks)

3. The Ancient Chinese were famous for trading a very soft, smooth fabric along a long path called the 'Silk Road'. What was this fabric called? (1 mark)

4. List two inventions from Ancient China that are still used or have been improved upon today. (2 marks)

5. Describe the role of an Emperor in Ancient China. What was their job and how did they lead? (4 marks)

6. How did the geography of China, such as mountains and rivers, help or hinder the people living there? Give two examples. (4 marks)

7. Imagine you are a merchant travelling on the Silk Road. Write a 5-sentence diary entry about what you might see, trade, or experience on your journey. (5 marks)

8. If a silk merchant sold a piece of fabric for £8 and a decorative vase for £17, how much money did they make altogether? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a traditional Ancient Chinese building or a scene showing the Great Wall of China. Include details like mountains or trees in the background.

Extension challenge: Total: /25