

Questions about Imperial China, 220 C.E. to 1644 C.E.  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

1. Which word below means **rule by Emperor**?
  - a. Imperial
  - b. Superior
  - c. Inferior
  - d. Exceptional
  
2. How do historians typically **divide** Chinese history?
  - a. into dynasties
  - b. by the wars that were fought
  - c. into groups of every 100 years
  - d. by the names of the emperors of Japan
  
3. The Han Dynasty was the first to change China's reliance on selecting officials from those that were rich, to **those that were knowledgeable and skilled**. What is this type of selection process called?
  - a. aristocracy
  - b. meritocracy
  - c. egocentricity
  - d. gerontology
  
4. In Imperial China, what is meant by the term **dynasty**?
  - a. a line of rulers descended from the same family
  - b. how a person's body is treated after their death
  - c. the manner in which a person travels: alone, or with a group
  - d. the type of home a person lives in
  
5. What was the purpose of administering civil service exams in China?
  - a. to determine if a person could qualify to be a citizen of China
  - b. to determine if candidates were qualified to serve in a government job
  - c. to determine a soldier's readiness to fight in a war
  - d. to determine if a person was in need of welfare payments from the government
  
6. Even though civil service exams were open to nearly everyone, how did civil service exams favor aristocrats?
  - a. it took time to study for the exams, and peasants spent so much time working, they had little time to study
  - b. books needed to study for the exams were too expensive for poor people to buy
  - c. tutors were helpful in preparing for the exams, and only wealthy people could afford to hire them
  - d. all of the above

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7. Beginning in the year 1279 C.E., for a period of nearly 100 years, China was ruled by a **foreign people**. These people had taken power by invading from the north. Who were these invaders?
- the Japanese
  - the Koreans
  - the Turks
  - the Mongols
8. Under Mongol rule, certain groups of people enjoyed favoritism over others. Which choice shows the **hierarchy** (rank from highest to lowest) of the social classes under Mongol rule?
- Mongols; foreigners; southern Chinese; northern Chinese
  - Mongols; northern Chinese; southern Chinese; foreigners
  - Mongols; southern Chinese; foreigners; northern Chinese
  - northern Chinese; southern Chinese; Mongols; foreigners
9. Governing the vast lands of China required a **bureaucracy**. What is a **bureaucracy**?
- a naval force that dominated all the oceans around Asia
  - a highly organized system of workers that were responsible for specific jobs and management of people down through the ranks
  - a method of farming that maximized the use of land and water
  - a factory for making the best weapons for soldiers
10. How were people chosen to civil service positions in China under an **aristocracy**, as was done under early emperors, and in the early years in the Tang Dynasty?
- people were chosen who proved they were the smartest and best able to lead
  - people were chosen who were the poorest and weakest
  - people who were nobles, or wealthy, or landowners, were chosen
  - people who had reputations for honesty were chosen
11. How were people chosen to serve in governmental positions under a **meritocracy**?
- people were tested, and who proved their knowledge and readiness to lead, were chosen
  - only people who had served in the army could be chosen
  - only people above the age of 40 were chosen
  - only nobles, the wealthy, and those who owned land, could be chosen
12. How did emperors under the Song Dynasty make earning a civil service position **more fair** to all people in China?
- the Song Dynasty created local schools that less wealthy people could attend
  - they set up rules to prevent cheating, and prevent the people scoring the tests from knowing who completed each test
  - they allowed people who failed the exam to take the test again in the future
  - all of the above

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13. What were **privileges** allowed to people who had civil service jobs?
- they could break the law and be excused
  - they did not have to pay taxes or serve in the army
  - they could provide favors for their family members and friends
  - they could pretend to be sick and stay home instead of going to work
14. In 11<sup>th</sup> century China, what was a major change in agriculture (farming) that led to **increased rice production** and growth of China's economy?
- plow animals were able to move twice as fast
  - farmers began working on Sundays and holidays
  - a new kind of rice was brought from southeast Asia, which grew faster
  - gas-powered tractors began to be used
15. What made the new type of rice, introduced in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, better than the rice planted in centuries before?
- it matured faster, and grew even with less water
  - it tasted better
  - it required no water to grow
  - the grains were five times as big
16. What was one way farmers were able to **increase** the amount of land available for growing rice?
- they grew rice in the shallow ocean waves at the beach
  - they leveled out hillsides into flat areas called terraces
  - they grew rice down the center of dirt roads, between the wheel paths of wagons
  - all of the above
17. Along with agricultural growth, trade and business grew as well. What was a reason for the **growth in China's economy**?
- landowners had more money and wanted to buy luxury goods
  - river transportation of products allowed for faster deliveries
  - the use of the compass helped ships travel faster and more safely over the ocean
  - all of the above
18. China's economy grew in agriculture, the manufacture of luxury items, and trade. What happened as China's economy grew?
- makers of fine products starved because they no longer grew rice
  - cities became smaller with less people
  - merchants (sellers of goods) became richer and their status (social rank) grew
  - all of the above

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19. In addition to the use of a new and better kind of rice seed, what other change improved agricultural production in China?
- the use of better plows and harrows
  - the use of fertilizer
  - the use of the chain pump to irrigate fields (to move water to where it was needed)
  - all the above
20. Which was **not** a Chinese invention?
- the magnetic compass
  - the paddlewheel boat
  - woodblock printing
  - the telescope
21. What was an **advantage** of the **Chinese segmental arch bridge**, compared to Roman bridge design?
- the segmental arch bridge was wider and flatter
  - the segmental arch bridge used less material, but was stronger
  - the segmental arch bridge could be made longer, to cross wider rivers, and allow more boats to pass under at the same time
  - all of the above
22. What Chinese invention is a type of **fine white pottery** made with a mixture of clay, quartz, and feldspar, and fired at a high temperature?
- manuscript
  - porcelain
  - alchemy
  - saltpeter
23. What 10<sup>th</sup> century Chinese war weapon was developed as a result of the discovery of saltpeter, and the creation of gunpowder?
- the machine gun
  - the flamethrower
  - the atomic bomb
  - none of the above
24. What modern-day transportation system grew out of the Chinese invention of gunpowder?
- sailboats
  - skateboard
  - spacecraft
  - bicycle

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25. Which of these is a Chinese invention?

- a. playing cards
- b. clock
- c. paper money
- d. all of the above

26. Which of these was **not** a Chinese invention?

- a. paper
- b. steel
- c. catapult
- d. thermometer

27. In the 10<sup>th</sup> century, the Chinese discovered how to **inoculate** people against a deadly disease called smallpox. What does **inoculate** mean?

- a. to protect a healthy person from a disease by transmitting the disease-causing agent to that healthy person, forcing that person's body to defend itself
- b. to force a person to move as far away as possible from people who had been infected
- c. to meditate quietly until the effects of the disease go away
- d. none of the above

28. Travel to China, from Europe and the Byzantine Empire, for the purpose of trading, occurred over one main route. What was this route called?

- a. The Silk Road
- b. The Gold and Salt Road
- c. The Asian Way
- d. The Camels' Highway

29. How did **foreign contact** change life, in and around China, under Mongol rule?

- a. the comfort and safety of traders on the Silk Road was managed and improved
- b. merchants were shown respect, and trade was promoted (valued)
- c. people from other countries (foreigners) were treated well, and Chinese people were treated poorly
- d. all of the above

30. Italian merchant Marco Polo spent about 17 years in China and traveled thousands of miles exploring the country. What was also true about Marco Polo's travels?

- a. China was ruled by the Mongols during Marco Polo's years in the country
- b. the Emperor Kublai Khan treated Marco Polo well, as a foreign dignitary
- c. afterward, Marco Polo wrote a book about China, which increased Europeans' interest in trading with China
- d. all of the above