



CHINA

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Overview

- China is a country in eastern Asia.
- China is a vast country, that has borders with 14 other countries.
- It also has a long coastline on the East and South China Seas, which are a part of the Pacific Ocean.
- Along with thousands of Pacific islands, Australia is part of a wider geographic region called Oceania.
- China lays claim to several disputed territories.
- With an area of 9,596,960km², China is the 3rd largest country in the world by total area.
- About 1.4 billion (1,400 million) people live in China. It is the most populated country in the world.



Human Geography

China was ruled for several thousand years by powerful dynasties. In its more-modern history it has been a Republican society, but has been a Communist country since 1949.

Population		-With around 1.4 billion people, China is the most populated country in the world. Its population is so large that it used to have a 'one child only' policy. The population density of China is 153 people per square kilometre. More people live in the east of the country.
Settlements		-The capital city of China is Beijing. It has a population of around 18.8 million people. However, Shanghai is more populous, with 23.4 million people. Other populous cities include Tianjin (12.8 million people), Shenzhen (12.7 million people) and Guangzhou (11.6 million people).
Economic Activity		-The Chinese Yen is the national currency of China. Throughout the late 20 th and early 21 st Century, the Chinese economy grew rapidly, and it is now the 2 nd largest economy in the world, after the United States.
Resources/Trade		-China's vast size means that it has rich natural resources. It has also become a world-leading producer of a wide range of products, including smart phones, computers, broadcasting equipment, machine parts, electrical transformers, clothes and furniture.

Key Vocabulary

- China
- Asia
- Beijing
- Shanghai
- Tianjin
- Shenzhen
- Guangzhou
- Mount Everest
- K2
- Yangtze River
- Yellow River
- Tibetan Plateau

Physical Geography

- Due to its vast size, China has many different terrains and climate systems.
- There are fertile plains and lowlands in the south of the country. In the west, the land rises to the Tibetan Plateau, the highest plateau in the world.
- The Himalayas and the Karakoram mountain ranges – the two highest mountain ranges in the world – run along western China's western borders.
- These include the world's two tallest mountains: Mount Everest (8,848m) on the border with Nepal and K2 (8611m) on the border with Pakistan.
- The longest river in China is the Yangtze River. At 6,300km, it is the third longest river in the world. The 2nd longest river in China is the Yellow River, at 5,464km.
- There are huge varieties in climate, from subarctic in the far north to tropical in the far south. In the city regions, the climate and temperature are influenced by pollution and smog.



Comparison with the UK

- The UK is in Europe, whilst China is in Asia. The UK and China are both in the northern hemisphere.
- The UK has a temperate climate, whilst China's climate is varied, with tropical areas, arid desert areas, and temperate areas.
- China is much larger than the UK – 9,596,960sq km compared to 243,610sq km.
- Far more people live in China than the UK – 1.4 billion people compared to 66 million in the UK.
- Both Shanghai and Beijing are more populous than the largest city in the UK: London.
- The UK is an island country, whilst China is on the Asian continent.



China Timeline

8000-2200 BCE Early Chinese settlers inhabit the small villages and farm along the major rivers.	1570-256 BCE Shang Dynasty and Zhou Dynasty Bronze and Iron Ages.	250 CE Buddhism is introduced. It will become a major religion in China.	868 CE The first use of block printing using wood.	1200 CE The Mongol Tribes are united under Genghis Khan.	1420 CE Beijing is made the capital of China.	1912-1949 CE Republican Era after Qing Dynasty overthrown.	1949 CE Mao Zedang turns China communist.	1997 CE The UK hands Hong Kong to China.	2010 CE Becomes world's 2 nd largest economy.
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