

Civilization in Ancient China

► People and Their Environments

1. Turn to pages 20–21 of the Atlas. Read the introduction. Use the information to answer the following questions.

a. What two cultures did Chinese civilization develop from?

_____ and _____

b. In what river valley did the Yangshao culture develop? _____

c. How many years after the Yangshao did the Longshan culture develop?

d. What is a dynasty? _____

e. What was the first Chinese dynasty called? _____

► Places, Regions, and Landscapes

2. Look at picture A and read its caption to answer the following questions.

a. What became the main crop in southern China? _____

b. What features does the land in southern China have?

► History Through Maps

3. Look at map B, “Early Chinese Civilizations.” Next to each statement below, write a **Y** if it describes the Yangshao or an **L** if it describes the Longshan.

a. Farmed along the Yangtze River _____

b. Bordered a desert _____

c. Existed from 5000–3000 B.C. _____

d. Existed from 3000–1700 B.C. _____

e. Grew rice _____

f. Grew millet _____

g. Carved jade _____

h. Raised pigs _____

i. Raised cattle _____

► Gathering the Facts

4. Look at map C, "Shang Dynasty," and read the history question, "Can we keep it in the family?" Use the information to answer the following questions.
- What year did the Shang dynasty begin? _____ What year did the Shang dynasty end? _____
 - Did the Shang Dynasty last longer or shorter than the entire history of the United States to date? _____
 - Are members of a dynasty elected or is rule inherited? _____
 - How is power passed down? _____
 - What two bodies of water formed the eastern and southern boundaries of Shang territory? _____ and _____
 - What was the capital of the Shang dynasty? _____
 - What states did the Shang control? _____
 - Which state overthrew the Shang? _____

► People and Cultures

5. Look at chart D, "Development of Writing: Chinese Characters." Write **T** next to each of the following statements if it is true or **F** if the statement is false.
- Writing in China developed during the Shang dynasty. _____
 - Chinese writing has not changed since the Shang dynasty. _____
 - Chinese characters represented ideas. _____
 - A Chinese character can represent an object. _____
 - Chinese writing allowed people to communicate even if they did not speak the same language. _____

★ Thinking About History

6. Look at picture E and read its caption to answer the following questions.
- What is bronze made of? _____
 - Why was bronze important? _____
 - Why do you think the object in the picture was made in the form of a water buffalo? _____
