

SOCIAL SCIENCE

GRADE 8

PROJECT 1: A Case Study of CHINA

In this Project, you will Learn about China's :

- **History and Culture**
- **Geography**
- **Politics and Economy**
- **Education**
- **Science & Technology**
- **Military**
- **Flora & Fauna**
- **Sports & Recreation**
- **Public Health & Environmental Issues**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the contributions of all Secondary Teachers who in one way or another have helped to develop this Course.

Our profound gratitude goes to the former Principal of FODE, Mr. Demas Tongogo for leading FODE team towards this great achievement. Special thanks to the Staff of the Social Science Department of FODE who played an active role in coordinating writing workshops, outsourcing lesson writing and editing processes, involving selected teachers of Central Province and NCD.

We also acknowledge the professional guidance provided by Curriculum and Development Assessment Division throughout the processes of writing, and the services given by member of the Social Science Review and Academic Committees.

The development of this book was Co-funded by GoPNG and World Bank.

DIANA TEIT AKIS

PRINCIPAL

Published in 2017 by the Flexible, Open and Distance Education, Papua New Guinea
© Copyright 2017, Department of Education, Papua New Guinea

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the publisher.

Printed by Flexible, Open and Distance Education.

ISBN: 978-9980-87-286-9

National Library Service of Papua New Guinea

CONTENTS

Title	Page
Secretary's Message	4
Introduction	5
Background.	6
Chapter 1. HISTORY	7
Chapter 2. CULTURE.....	8
Chapter 3. GEOGRAPHY.....	10
Chapter 4. POLITICS	11
Chapter 5. ECONOMY.....	13
Chapter 6. EDUCATION.....	18
Chapter 7. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY.....	18
Chapter 8. MILITARY.....	19
Chapter 9. FLORA AND FAUNA.....	20
Chapter 10. TRANSPORT.....	22
Chapter 11. SPORTS AND RECREATION.....	23
Chapter 12. CHINA'S HISTORICAL ICON.....	24
Chapter 13. PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.....	26
Summary	26
Glossary	27

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Achieving a better future by individual students and their families, communities or the nation as a whole, depends on the kind of curriculum and the way it is delivered.

This course is a part of the new Flexible, Open and Distance Education curriculum. The learning outcomes are student-centred and allows for them to be demonstrated and assessed.

It maintains the rationale, goals, aims and principles of the national outcome based curriculum and identifies the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that students should achieve.

This is a provision by Flexible, Open and Distance Education as an alternative pathway of formal education.

The course promotes Papua New Guinea values and beliefs which are found in our Constitution, Government policies and reports. It is developed in line with the National Education Plan (2005 – 2014) and addresses an increase in the number of school leavers which has been coupled with a lack of access to secondary and higher educational institutions.

Flexible, Open and Distance Education curriculum is guided by the Department of Education's Mission which is fivefold;

- to facilitate and promote the integral development of every individual
- to develop and encourage an education system which satisfies the requirements of Papua New Guinea and its people
- to establish, preserve and improve standards of education throughout Papua New Guinea
- to make the benefits of such education available as widely as possible to all of the people.
- To make education accessible to the poor and physically, mentally and socially handicapped as well as to those who are educationally disadvantaged.

The College is enhanced to provide alternative and comparable pathways for students and adults to complete their education through a one system, many pathways and same outcomes.

It is our vision that Papua New Guineans harness all appropriate and affordable technologies to pursue this program.

I commend all those teachers, curriculum writers and instructional designers who have contributed so much in developing this course.



DR. UKE KOMBRA, PhD

Secretary for Education

PROJECT INTRODUCTION



Welcome to Grade 8 Project 1 of the Social Science Course. In this project you will study about China. The aim of this project is to use the Social Science Skills that you have learned to study China's history, culture, environment and organization. In doing so, you will learn to appreciate their culture and tradition and importantly learn from their experiences.

The main topics of this project are:

1. History and Culture
2. Geography
3. Politics and Economy
4. Education
5. Science and Technology
6. Military
7. Flora and Fauna
8. Sports and Recreation
9. Public Health and Environment Issues

When you have finished studying about China, you will be required to complete Assignment No.5 which is based on this Project.

Your completed Assignment booklet must be forwarded to your Provincial Centre for marking.

We hope you will enjoy studying about China.

BACKGROUND

The *People's Republic of China (PRC)*, commonly known as *China*, is the most populous country in the world with over one billion people. Located in East Asia, China is governed by the Communist Party of China (CPC) under a single party system. The People's Republic of China directly takes control of over twenty-two (22) provinces, five (5) autonomous regions, four (4) directly administered **municipalities** and two very special **autonomous** administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau. Its capital is Beijing (39 55' N, 116 23' E) which has an urban population of 7,296,962 people. That is about one million more people than the total population of Papua New Guinea. It is the second largest country in the world by land area and is the fourth largest in respect to total area (both land and water). Because of its large land area China's climate is very different throughout the whole country. It has a tropical climate in the south to very cold climatic conditions in the north.

China is located (35N, 105E) on the Eastern Asian region of the Asian **continent**. It has a total area of 9 596 961 square kilometers (sq. km), which has 9 569 901 sq. km of land area and 27 060 sq. km of water area. It has a coastline of 14 500 km and is the largest country in the Asian region.



Images of Beijing city

1. HISTORY

1.1 Early History

Ancient China was one of the earliest centres of human **civilisation**. It was also one of the few to countries to **invent** writing apart from the Egyptians and Greeks. They started growing rice around 5 000 BC. They were one of the first ancient societies to use metals in 2200 BC and was the birth place of useful things like paper, gunpowder, the compass, credit banking and paper money.

China for over 4 000 years was ruled by **dynasties** (dai-nes-tees) which had come up and fallen down. Most of these dynasties have known successful times where the Chinese advanced in Arts, Medicine and Technology. But when times were bad the emperor became weak and was not able to solve wars or natural catastrophes like floods, drought and earthquake. When the emperor was not seen to be strong and taking care of the kingdom, he was usually over thrown by a strong war chief, who himself than claimed to be the emperor.

The first of these dynasties was the Xia Dynasty (Zi-ah) about 2000BC, but it was the later Qin Dynasty that first **unified** China in 221 BC. Qing Dynasty was the last dynasty in 1912. The six year old Xuantong (Zu-an-tong) Emperor was the last emperor.

1.2 Modern History

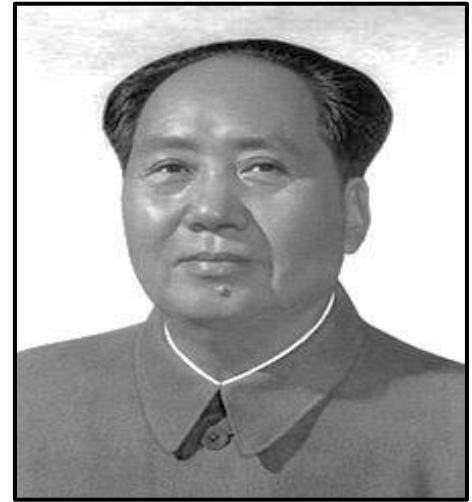
In 1912, China saw the fall of the Qing Dynasty, which was the last dynasty. They also witnessed the beginning of the Republic of China (ROC) by the **Kuomintang** (KMT) or the Chinese Nationalist Party in the same year. In 1916, after the death of President Yuan Shikai (3rd Chinese president) China was politically divided. This started the Chinese Civil War, which saw the warlords in different regions take control over their individual territories. By this time the country was internationally recognised but it had a powerless national government in Beijing. There was also a lot of struggle for political power between the two major political parties of China. These parties are the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Nationalist Party.

The country was *invaded* by the Japanese in the Sino Japanese War of 1937-1945 (Part of World War II) which forced an uneasy *alliance* between the two Chinese political parties. This war was the cause of around 20 million Chinese civilian deaths. After the surrender of Japan in 1945, the Nationalists and Communists continued distrust and struggle for power restarted the Chinese Civil War.



National Revolutionary in 1939

Major fighting in the Chinese Civil War ended in 1949 with the Communist Party of China in control of mainland China and the Kuomintang (KMT) or Nationalist Party retreating or moving back to Taiwan. On the 1st of October the same year, the Communist Party of China led by Mao Zedong proclaimed the Peoples Republic of China. 'Communist China' or 'Red China' are two of the names of the Peoples Republic of China. These two political parties each claimed to have control over China. But in 1971 under a United Nations **resolution**, Beijing was recognize as the capital of China and the Communist Party as administrator of China.



Mao Zedong

In 1989 students and others campaigned for several months for more democratic rights and freedom of speech at the Tiananmen Square were the military forcefully cleared the square, resulting in several deaths and hundreds of seriously injured protesters.



Students campaigning for more democratic rights

2. CULTURE

2.1 Religion

The Chinese have an 'atheistic' religion which simply means they do not believe in 'God'. They mostly worship their ancestors or 'ancestor worship' which is a major religion shared among all Chinese religions. Traditional Chinese religions are Taoism, Confucianism, and Chinese folk religions all value filial piety, or 'a love and respect for one's parents and ancestors', as one of the most important things in life.



Statue of Buddha

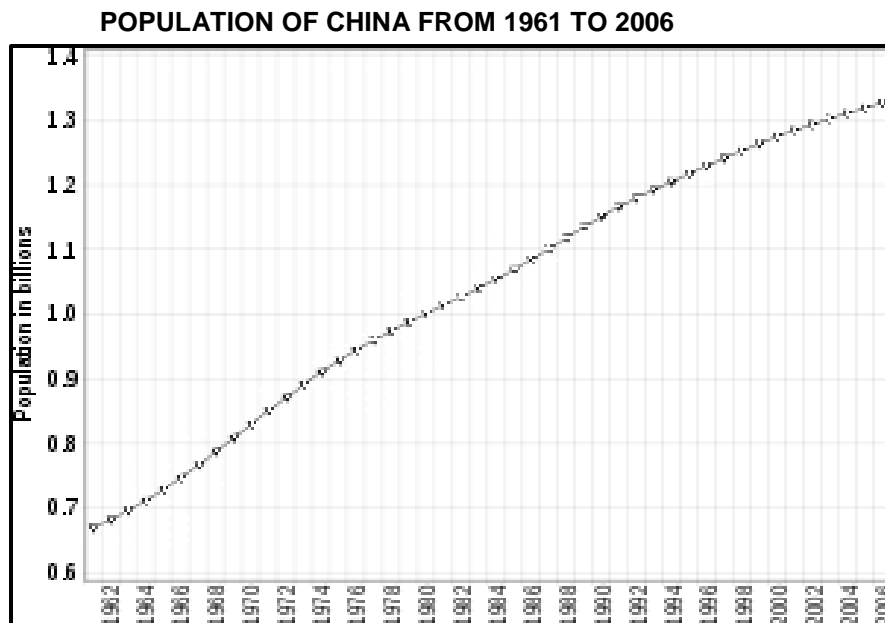
Chinese people generally offer food for their ancestors, light incense (burning small sticks that give off nice smell) and candles and burn offerings of special papers known as Joss paper to show and give respect to their ancestors. These activities are usually done at the site of ancestral graves or tombs, at an ancestral temple, or at their house where they have a shrine or place of worship.

However, there are other religions that are also being practiced in China like Buddhism which was introduced from India and Central Asia. It has followers of nearly 1 billion people or more, and is the country's largest organised religion. Sculptures of Buddha seated in meditation are found in temples and monasteries throughout China. Buddhism goes hand in hand with all traditional Chinese religions because one person may be taking part in two or more of these religions and there is also a difficulty to clearly identify Buddhism, Taoism and Chinese folk religions. The other two religions are Christianity which makes up 3%-4% of the population and Muslim which makes up 1%-2% of the population.

2.2 Population

China has the world's highest population of 1 338 612 968 people (1.3 billion). It is the most populated country, having 20% of the world's total population. About 21% (male 145, 461, 833; female 128, 445, 739) are 14 years old or younger, 71% (male 482, 439, 115; female 455, 960, 489) are between 15 and 64 years old, and 8% (male 48, 562, 635; female 53, 103, 902) are over 65 years old. The population growth rate for 2006 was 0.6%.

China unlike any other country in the world has been very concerned about how its population is growing and has **implemented** a strict family planning policy. The government's goal is one child per family. This policy is known as the "*one-child policy*", which began in the late 1970s. The Chinese government will continue the one-child policy until at least the year 2020.



2.3 People

The People's Republic of China officially recognizes 56 different **ethnic** groups, the largest of which are the Han Chinese, who make up 91.9% of the total population. The other 8.1% are smaller ethnic groups that also make up the population of China.

Table1: POPULATION OF SMALL ETHNIC GROUPS OF CHINA

Ethnic Groups	Population (millions)
Zhuang	16
Manchu	10
Hui	9
Miao	8
Uyghur	7
Yi	7
Tujia	5.75
Mongols	5
Tibetans	5
Buyei	3
Koreans	2

2.4 Language

China has a total of 56 different ethnic groups it also has different languages spoken by these different groups of people. But the official national standard language is Mandarin, which is spoken by over 70% of the population.

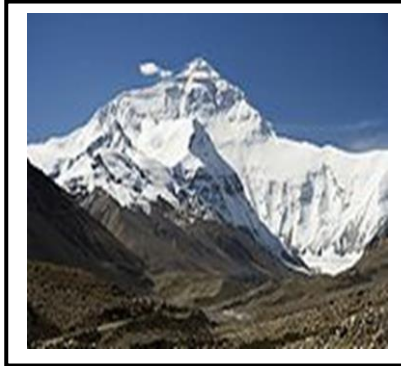
3. GEOGRAPHY

3.1 Land form

China is a country that is mostly mountainous, high **plateaus**, **deserts** in west, **plains**, **deltas** and hills in the east. Large rivers flow from west to east, including the Yangtze (central China), the Huang He (Yellow river, north-central China) and Amur (north east China). There are some rivers that flow toward the south (including the Pearl River, Mekong River, and Brahmaputra), with most rivers emptying into the Pacific Ocean.

In the east, along the shores of the Yellow Sea, and the East China Sea there are large and densely populated alluvial plains. On the edges of the Inner Mongolian plateau in the north, grasslands can be seen. Southern China is dominated by hills and low mountain ranges. In the central east China are the deltas of China's two major rivers, the Huang He and Yangtze River. Most of China's arable lands lie alongside these rivers and they were the centers of China's ancient civilizations. The highest peak in the world

is Mount Everest at 8,848 m is partly located in China. The north-west also has high plateaus with more arid desert landscapes such as the Takla-Makan and the Gobi Desert, which is growing, probably due to the bad agriculture practices causing **erosion**, drought and dust storms.



Mount Everest in Tibet



South China Sea by Hainan



Jiuzhaigou Valley

3.2 Climate

The climate of China is not the same throughout the country because of its very big land mass. The northern part where Beijing is has summer daytime temperatures of more than 30 degrees Celsius and winters as cold as the **Arctic**. The central part where Shanghai is has a temperature climate with very hot summers and cold winters. In the south where Guangzhou is has a subtropical climate with very hot summers and mild winters.

4. POLITICS

4.1 Type of Government

The People's Republic of China (PRC) has a communist state government. Sometimes it is referred to as One Party State. It has been described by some political scientists as one of the last five Communist states (along with Vietnam, North Korea, Laos and Cuba). This is a system of government in which the state controls all the economic activities in the country. There is no private ownership of property or capital like what we have in Papua New Guinea. This system tries to create a higher social order in which all goods are equally shared by the people. The system hopes at creating a classless society.

All power to rule is vested in the communist party. This power is then divided among several bodies. These are:

- The political branch – the Communist Party.
- The executive branch -- the State Council.
- The judicial branch – the Supreme People's Court.
- The military branch – People's Liberation Army (PLA).

.Most of the important positions of power in the state structure and in the military are occupied by members of the Communist Party of China. The party is controlled by a powerful group of people called the Politburo Standing Committee of the Communist Party. This group is made up of four to nine people, usually older men who make decisions concerning the country. The role of the military is to enforce these decisions. The support of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) is important in maintaining Party rule.

The President of the People's Republic of China is the head of the three most important political and state offices. He is the General Secretary of the Communist Party, the head of Central Committee and the Chairman of the Central Military Commission.

Xi Jinping is the current (2013) leader of China and General Secretary of the Communist Party. He is also the 7th President of the People's Republic of China and the 6th Chairman of the Central Military Commission.



Xi Jinping

The People's Republic of China has administrative control over twenty-two **provinces** and considers Taiwan to be its 23rd province, even though it does not have control over Taiwan which is currently administrated or taken care of by the Republic of China. There are also five (5) **autonomous** regions and four (4) **municipalities** can be collectively referred to as "mainland China," a term usually does not include Macau and Hong Kong.

MAP SHOWING THE DIFFERENT PROVINCES IN CHINA



Chinese Provinces

Anhui	Guizhou	Hubei	Liaoning	Sichuan
Fujian	Hainan	Hunan	Qinghai	Yunnan
Gansu	Hebei	Jiangsu	Shaanxi	Zhejiang
Guangdong	Heilongjiang	Jiangxi	Shandong	
Guizhou	Henan	Jilin	Shanxi	

Autonomous Region

Guangxi	Nei Mongol	Ningxia	Xinjiang Uygur	Xizang (Tibet)
---------	------------	---------	----------------	----------------

Municipalities

Beijing	Chongqing	Shanghai	Tianjin
---------	-----------	----------	---------

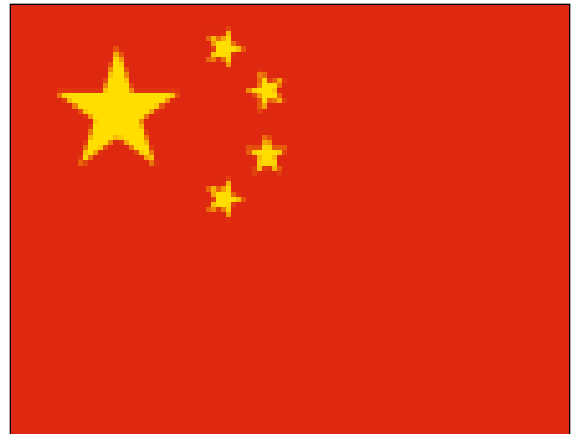
4.2 Flag

The Chinese flag is red with a large yellow five-pointed star and four smaller yellow five-pointed stars (arranged in a vertical arc toward the middle of the flag) in the upper raise side corner.

The red color represents revolution, while the stars symbolize the four social classes. These four social classes are the:

1. Scholars and Officials
2. Farmers and Peasants
3. Artisans
4. Merchants

All these four classes are united under the Communist Party of China.



China was not an industrial society although there was industry there. This is an important factor in what determined the four social classes of China. The social classes were ranked by their importance to society. We will begin with the low class and work our way to the top.

The lowest and poorest class was that of the merchants. These were people who conned people into buying goods they did not need. They were considered to be like parasites as they made their living off other people. It was believed that it took no skill to be a merchant so they had little value in society.

The third class was the artisans. These are the people who crafted things with their hands. They are considered skilled which gives them more value than the merchants. Artisans often formed guilds and were respected for belonging to these organizations. Most artisans lived near cities.

The second class was the farmers and peasants. Seven out of ten people belonged to this category. Peasants were considered to be the economic base of the country and were valued as such. This is not to say that they were not taken advantage of and charged high rents and exorbitant taxes. The farmers worked in family agricultural groups. Grains were the chief crop. Farmers owned land and land was highly valued as it was split between sons.

The highest class of people were the scholars and officials. This group of people was given examinations to determine government positions. There were three levels of exams and they were for men only. They were district, provincial, and national. Passing the exams opened the door to the government, a highly respected place. This provided wealth, power, and prestige. Though one could move into this class it was often that it passed on down family lines and these men could afford the best education for their sons which resulted in better exam scores. No more than one out of ten people qualified to be in this class.

4.3 Human Rights

There have been some changes in the economic and social control since the 1970s however; political freedom is still tightly restricted. The **Constitution** of the People's Republic of China states that the "fundamental rights" (basic right) of citizens include

- freedom of speech,
- freedom of the press,
- the right to a fair trial,
- freedom of religion,
- the right to vote in a political election and
- property rights.

However, these rights do not offer important protection in practice against criminal prosecution by the State.

With the Chinese economic reform, a lot of people have now moved from rural areas to the cities. These people find themselves treated as second-class citizens by China's outdated household registration system that controls state benefits, called **hukou**. The system of property rights is weak, and obviously land grabbing has affected peasants greatly. In 2003/2004, the average farmer had to pay three times more in taxes even though his income was only one sixth that of the average urban dweller. Since then, a number of rural taxes have been reduced or abolished, and additional social services provided to rural dwellers.

5. ECONOMY

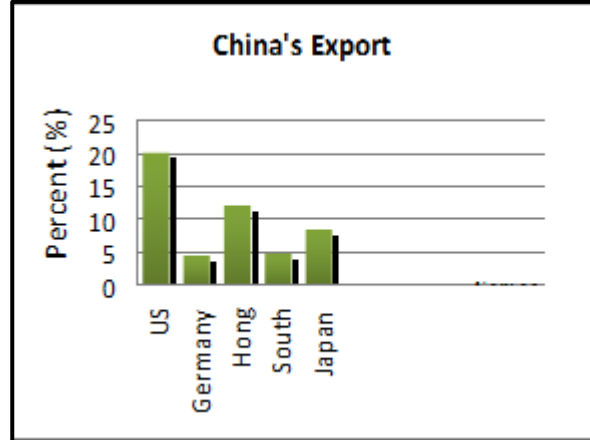
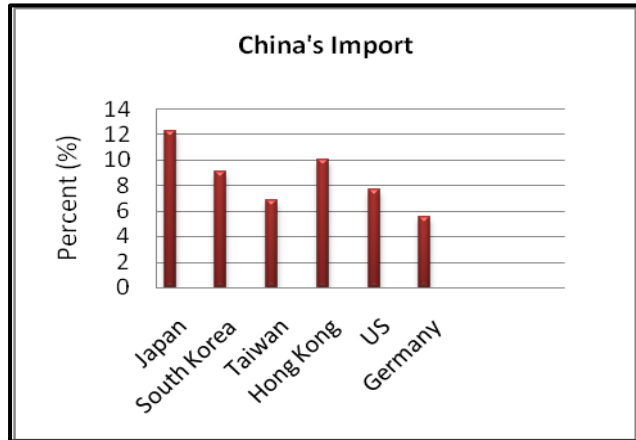
5.1 Trade

From China's start in 1949 to late 1978, the People's Republic of China was a "centrally planned economy", which means it did not trade (buy or sell things) very much with other countries. Private business and **capitalism** did not exist.



Deng Xiaoping

But in 1978 after the death of Mao Zedong, China became economically free under the new leadership of Deng Xiaoping (Zi-hao-ping). The newly elected leader **reformed** the economy by allowing people to do small scale business, opened up its doors for other countries to do business in China and opened trade with other countries. Deng Xiaoping was a politician and reformist leader of the Communist Party of China who, after Mao's death led his country towards a market economy.



The two graphs above show the main trading partners of China and how much in exports and imports from each country in percentage. The two lists below show the types of **commodities** that are exported and imported.

Export-Commodities:

- Machinery
- Data processing equipment
- Clothes
- Textiles
- Iron
- Steel
- Optical and medical equipment

Import-Commodities:

- Electrical and other machinery
- Oil and mineral fuel
- Optical and medical equipment
- Metal ores
- Plastic
- Organic chemicals

A Commodity is an item that is bought and sold, especially an unprocessed material.

5.2 Industry

5.2.1 Manufacturing

China's manufacturing industries have grown rapidly in the last decade. This has resulted in more people employed in manufacturing and service industries than those who are engaged in agricultural activities. The industrial goods produced in China include:

1. Capital goods - goods that are used in producing other goods, rather than being bought by consumers. Examples of capital goods include buildings, machines, equipment, furniture and fixtures.
2. Consumer goods – goods for direct use. Sometimes called final **goods**, consumer **goods** are the end result of production and manufacturing and are

what a consumer will see on the store shelf. Clothing, food and jewelry are all examples of consumer **goods**.

China is the largest producer of cheap cotton textiles in the world and exports large quantities of textiles and garments. China is one of the leaders of cement production in the world. Iron-and steel-making has declined recently, the production having dropped somewhat to about 44 million tons annually. Other industrial products include television sets, bicycles, cars, trucks, and washing machines. The product quality and production technology are not as good as those made in Japan, the United States, and the European countries. The processing and manufacture of chemicals, including fertilizers, petroleum products, and pharmaceuticals, is another large and expanding segment of Chinese industry.

China is currently one of the leading industrialised countries in the world. The automotive and the housing industries have developed rapidly. Iron and steel manufacturing are also major industries in China. The most important export products are machinery and electric equipment; while the most important import products are raw materials. China's active involvement in international trade has seen its industrial development increasingly influenced by international economic environments.

Generally, China's industrial system has a low level of technology; the high-tech industries are simply in their starting periods. The technologies of major industrial sectors are poor and lack self-equipment capability. Average life cycle for more than 2000 kinds of Chinese leading products is 10.5 years, 3.5 times that of the same products in America. And fewer Chinese work in the information sector than do U.S. citizens, for example. About 45 percent of the American workforce is involved in information technology, but only 10 percent of the Chinese workforce is. Chinese technological level of industries needs to be raised; particularly high-tech oriented industries, so that the country's industries can be advanced toward a knowledge economy in the 21st century.

5.2.2 Tourism

Tourism in China has greatly expanded over the last few decades since the beginning of reform and opening. The emergence of a newly rich middle class and an easing of restrictions on movement by the Chinese authorities are both fueling this travel boom. China has become one of the world's most-watched and hottest inbound and outbound tourist markets. The world is on the cusp of a sustained Chinese tourism boom.

China is the third most visited country in the world. The number of overseas tourists was 55.98 million in 2010. Foreign exchange income was 45.8 billion U.S. dollars, the world's fourth largest in 2010. The number of domestic tourist visits totaled 1.61 billion, with a total income of 777.1 billion Yuan.

According to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2020, China will become the largest tourist country and among the largest for overseas travel. In terms of total outbound travel spending, China is expected to be the fastest growing in the world from 2006 all the way to 2015, jumping into the number two slot for total travel spending by 2015.

China's growing economy is also generating a surge in business travel. In China the percentage of sales dependent on business travel is higher (38%) as compared to the US (21%) and 28% in the UK, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council's 2013 business travel forecast for the Asia-Pacific region. China's tourism revenue reached \$185 billion in 2009. The People's Republic of China is the fourth (4th) most visited country in the world with 50.9 million international visitors it in 2009.

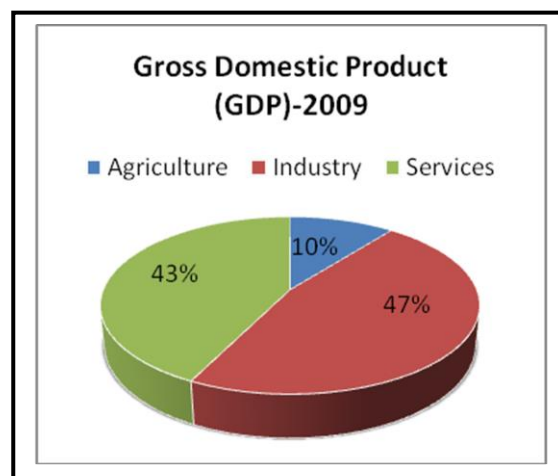
The picture here shows the Great Wall of China. It is one of the world's famous sight that has been and is still been visited by tourists all around the world.



5.2.3 Agricultural Product

Agriculture is an important industry in China, employing over 300 million farmers. China ranks first in worldwide farm output, primarily producing rice, wheat, potatoes, sorghum, peanuts, tea, millet, barley, cotton, oilseed, pork, and fish. Although accounting for only 10 percent of arable land worldwide, it produces food for 20 percent of the world's populations.

Agriculture in China is part of the Chinese cultural heritage. About 90% of the Chinese population entirely depends on agriculture for their livelihood.



6. EDUCATION

Education in China is a state-run system of public education run by the Ministry of Education. All citizens must attend school for at least nine years. The government provides primary education for six to nine years, starting at age six or seven, followed by six years of secondary education for ages 12 to 18. Some provinces may have five years of primary school but four years for middle school. There are three years of middle school and three years of high school. The Ministry of Education reported a 99 percent attendance rate for primary school and an 80 percent rate for both primary and middle schools

In 1986, China set the long-term goal of providing compulsory nine-year basic education to every child. As of 2007, there were 396,567 primary schools, 94,116 secondary schools and 2,236 higher education institutions in the People's Republic of China (PRC). In February 2006, the government advanced its basic education goal by pledging to provide completely free nine-year education, including textbooks and fees. Therefore the current education system in China, introduced compulsory and free education for all Chinese citizens consisting of elementary school and primary school, which lasts for 9 years (age 6-15), and almost all children in urban area continue their 3 years of high school.



Students in a classroom in east China's Anhui Province



Tsinghua University in Beijing

7. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

While the ancient Europeans were moving around busily fighting each other and spending most of their time planning for wars, the ancient Chinese were already inventing things and studying.

Science and technology in China has in recent decades developed rapidly. The Chinese government has spent a lot of money and recourses on science and technology as an important part of the overall development of the country as well as for national prestige. China has made rapid advances in areas such as education, infrastructure, high-tech manufacturing, academic publishing, medicine, and commercial applications and is now in some areas and by some measures a world leader.

In 1992, the Shenzhou manned spaceflight program was authorized. After four unmanned tests, *Shenzhou 5* was launched on 15 October 2003, using a Long March 2F launch vehicle and carrying Chinese astronaut Yang Liwei, making the PRC the third country to put a human being into space through its own endeavors. China completed its second manned mission with a crew of two, *Shenzhou 6* in October 2005. In 2008, China successfully completed the *Shenzhou 7* mission, making it the third country to have the capability to conduct a spacewalk. In 2007, the PRC successfully sent the Chang'e spacecraft, named after the ancient Chinese moon goddess, to orbit and explore the moon as part of their Chinese Lunar Exploration Program. The country plans to build a Chinese Space Station in the near future and achieve a lunar (moon) landing with Chinese Taikonauts in the next decade as well as manned mission to planet Mars.

China has the world's second largest research and development budget, and is expected to grow. The Chinese government continues to place heavy emphasis on research and development by creating greater public awareness of innovation, and reforming financial and tax systems to promote growth in innovative (new) industries.

The photograph here shows a space craft, *Tianlian* developed by Chinese Academy of Space Technology (CAST). This space craft began orbiting the space on the 25th July 2012.



The launch of Tianlian, at Xichang Satellite Launch

8. MILITARY

The People's Republic of China (PRC) maintains the world's largest military force, based on its manpower. The armed forces of the PRC is made up of three integral elements.

1. the People's Liberation Army (PLA),
2. the People's Armed Police Force (PAP),
3. the Reserve Forces and Militia.

The PLA, which include the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Second Artillery Corps (strategic missile force) is the regular army, totaling some 2.3 million troops. The PAP has a total strength of 660,000 troops. Additionally, there are also 800,000 men in the reserve forces and about ten million militia. The official defence budget for 2008 was RMB417.77 billion (US\$59 billion), though many believed that the actual military expenditure could be two to three times higher. However, the USA claims China does not report its real military spending. The Defense Intelligence Agency estimated that the real Chinese military budget for 2008 could from US\$105 to US\$150 billion.

The Chinese armed forces are given three important roles and they are to:

1. defend the country against foreign invasions;
2. maintain internal security and stability and
3. engage in the economic development of the country.

Under the Constitution of the PRC, the armed forces are under the absolute leadership of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The Party exercises its control over the military

through a political system consisting of Party branches, political officers, and the political department put in place at every level of the armed forces.

The armed forces receive order from the Central Military Commission (CMC) through the General Staff, General Political, General Logistics, and General Armament (*military weapons and equipment*) Departments.



Chengdu J-10 fighter aircraft

China, with possession of nuclear weapons and delivery systems, is considered a major military regional power and an emerging military superpower. China is the only member of the United Nations Security Council to have limited power projection capabilities.

Much progress has been made in the last decade and the PRC continues to make efforts to modernize its military. It has purchased state-of-the-art fighter jets from Russia, such as the Sukhoi Su-30s, and has also produced its own modern fighters, specifically the Chinese J-10s and the J-11s. It has also acquired and improved upon the Russian S-300 surface-to-air missile systems, which are considered to be among the best aircraft-intercepting systems in the world.

9. FLORA AND FAUNA

China is one of the countries with the greatest diversity of wildlife in the world. There are more than 6,266 species of vertebrates, 10 percent of the world's total. Among them 2,404 are **terrestrials** and 3,862 fishes. Wild animals that are found in China include well-known rare animals as the giant panda, golden-haired monkey, South China tiger, brown-eared pheasant, red-crowned crane, red ibis, white-flag dolphin and Chinese alligator, totaling more than 100 species. The black-and-white-haired giant panda weighs on average 135 kg and lives on tender bamboo leaves and bamboo shoots. Because it is extremely rare—just over 1,000 are left at present — it has become the symbol of the world's protected wild animals. The red-crowned crane, 1.2 m tall on average, is covered with white feathers, and a distinctive patch of exposed red skin tops its head, which is regarded as the symbol of longevity in East Asia. The white-flag dolphin is one of only two species of freshwater whales in the world. In 1980, a male white-flag dolphin was caught for the first time in the Yangtze River, which aroused great interest among dolphin researchers worldwide.

You will find on the next page pictures of some of the animals found in China.



China is also one of the countries with the most abundant plant life in the world. There are more than 32,000 species of higher plants, and almost all the major plants that grow in the northern hemisphere's cold temperate and tropical zones are represented in China. In addition, there are more than 7,000 species of woody plants, including 2,800-odd tree species. The golden larch, one of only five species of rare garden trees in the world, grows in the mountainous areas in the Yangtze River valley. Its coin-shaped leaves on short branches are green in spring and summer, turning yellow in autumn. China is home to more than 2,000 species of edible plants and over 3,000 species of medicinal plants. Below are pictures of some of the plants found in China.



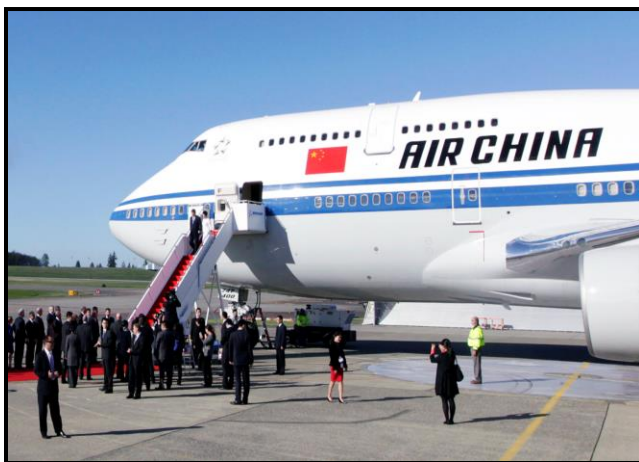
10. TRANSPORT

Transportation is of particular importance in China, as it covers such vast territory and is home to such a large population. In 1876, the first railway was built in China, and in 1906 the first highway was constructed. In 1929, the government began work on civil aviation. The following decades saw tremendous developments within the transportation industry.

In 1999, the total length of the national transportation line in China was about 3,073,200 kilometers (1,909,598 miles). In 2004, the number of passengers transported reached 1,761,453. As the transportation industry continues to expand in both quality and scale, it significantly contributes to the advancement of society as well as the national economy.

China currently has a comprehensive system of modern transportation, which includes civil aviation, railway, road traffic, and water transportation. As transportation in the country becomes more accessible and more reliable, it is also becoming more technologically advanced. Modern modes of transportation such as express highways, electrified railroads, metros, light railways, and maglev railways are becoming increasingly common, especially in larger cities.

At the same time, because of the country's large population, sometimes the current numbers of vehicles cannot meet every person's needs. Especially during the public holidays, most people choose to travel. Some of them take excursions, whilst other people go to their hometown to see their families. During peak holiday times the transportation system may be stretched too the limit. Additionally, as many shopping malls or shops often provide discounted goods at festivals and many people prefer to go shopping at that time. As a result, streets as well as many vehicles become very crowded. As a visitor, you'd better avoid going to China during Chinese festivals like the Spring Festival and National Day. Additionally, as the country's urban population is getting larger and larger, some big cities are facing very severe transportation stress.



Passengers boarding an airplane



A Multiple Unit Train



Traffic Congestion in China

Public Bus in China

11. SPORTS AND RECREATION

China has one of the oldest sporting cultures in the world, covering the length of several thousand years. Evidence has shown that a form of football was played in China in ancient times. Besides football, some of the most popular sports in the country include martial arts, table tennis, badminton, swimming, basketball and snooker. Board games such as Go (Weiqi), and Xiangqi (Chinese chess) and recently chess are also commonly played and have organized competitions.

Physical fitness is widely emphasised in Chinese culture. Morning exercises are a common activity and often one can find the elderly practicing qigong (qui-gong) and tai chi chuan in parks or students doing stretches on school campuses.

Young people are also keen on basketball, especially in urban centers with limited space and grass areas. The NBA (National Basketball Association) has a huge following among Chinese youths, with Yao Ming being the idol of many. Major sporting events were also held in Beijing such as the 1990 Asian Games and the 2008 Summer Olympics.

Yao Ming is a retired Chinese professional basketball player who played for the Houston Rockets of the National Basketball Association. At the time of his final season, he was the tallest active player in the NBA, at 2.29 m.

Many traditional sports are also played. The popular Chinese dragon boat racing occurs during the Dragon Boat Festival. In Inner Mongolia, sports such as Mongolian-style wrestling and horse racing are popular.

China finished first in gold medal count at the Summer Olympic Games which were held in Beijing from 8 August to 24 August 2008.



Yao Ming

Below are pictures of some of the games played in China.



12. CHINA'S HISTORICAL ICON

The Great Wall of China is the largest structure humans have ever built. Chinese emperors had the wall built to guard the country from raids or invasions. It runs from east to west for more than 6,400 kilometres as it stretches across the mountains and valleys of North China. It is about 6 metres thick at its base and as tall as a house. The entire wall is made of earth and stones. The wall also had watchtowers placed along its length.

Different parts of the wall were built at different times, but all of it was finished long before there were machines to help with the building. Thousands of men worked to build the wall. Many of them died while working on it.



After the Great Wall was built, the people of China felt safer. If an enemy approached the wall, smoke signals would be passed from watchtower to watchtower. A signal fire would be lighted if an attack came at night. An alarm would be sounded; some parts of it were guarded better than others. Sometimes enemies broke through. Finally, the Chinese stopped depending on their wall.

Today the Great Wall is a great attraction for China. In 1987, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) named the Great Wall a World Heritage site.

13. PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT ISSUES

The Ministry of Health, together with its counterparts in the provincial health department, looks at the health needs of the Chinese population. With economic reform after 1978, the health of the Chinese public improved very fast because of better nutrition. Health care in China became largely private fee for service. The country's life expectancy at birth jumped from 35 years in 1949 to 73.18 years in 2008.

Despite big improvements in health and the introduction of western style medical facilities, China has several public health problems. These problems include

- respiratory problems (a result of widespread air pollution)
- a possible future HIV and AIDS epidemic
- close living quarters leading to possible diseases outbreak e.g. SARS outbreak in 2003.

Estimates of excess deaths in China from environmental pollution (apart from smoking) are placed at 760 000 people per annum or year from air and water pollution (including indoor air pollution). In 2007 China has overtaken the United States as the world's biggest producer of Carbon dioxide. Some 90% of China's cities suffer from some degree of water pollution, and nearly 500 million people lack access to safe drinking water. Air pollution from industries is a major health hazard in China.

SUMMARY

- The *People's Republic of China (PRC)*, commonly known as *China*, is the most populous country in the world with over one billion people
- China is governed by the Communist Party of China (CPC) under a single party system.
- Its capital is Beijing (39 55' N, 116 23' E) which has an urban population of 7,296,962 people.
- Ancient China was one of the earliest centres of human civilisation.
- The country was invaded by the Japanese in the Sino Japanese War of 1937-1945 (Part of World War II) which forced an uneasy alliance between the two Chinese political parties.
- On the 1st of October 1949, the Communist Party of China led by Mao Zedong proclaimed the People's Republic of China. 'Communist China' or 'Red China' are the two names of the People's Republic of China.
- The Chinese have an 'atheistic' religion which simply means they do not believe in 'God'.
- Traditional Chinese religions are Taoism, Confucianism, and Chinese folk religions
- China has the world's highest population of 1 338 612 968 people (1.3 billion).
- China was very concerned about how its population was growing and has implemented a strict family planning policy called the "*one-child policy*" which began in the late 1970s

- The People's Republic of China officially recognizes 56 different ethnic groups, the largest of which are the Han Chinese, who make up 91.9% of the total population.
- The official national standard language is Mandarin, which is spoken by over 70% of the population.
- China is a country that is mostly mountainous, high plateaus, deserts in west, plains, deltas and hills in the east.
- The People's Republic of China (PRC) has a communist state government.
- From China's start in 1949 to late 1978, the People's Republic of China was a "centrally planned economy", which means it did not trade (buy or sell things) very much with other countries. Private business and capitalism did not exist.
- Education in China is a state-run system of public education run by the Ministry of Education.
- The Chinese government has spent a lot of money and recourses on science and technology as an important part of the overall development of the country as well as for national prestige.
- The People's Republic of China (PRC) maintains the world's largest military force, based on its manpower.
- In 1876, the first railway was built in China, and in 1906 the first highway was constructed. In 1929, the government began work on civil aviation.
- China has one of the oldest sporting cultures in the world, covering the length of several thousand years.
- The Great Wall of China is the largest structure humans have ever built.

THIS IS THE END OF PROJECT 2: CASE STUDY OF CHINA. YOU MAY NOW START ON ASSIGNMENT 5 WHICH IS BASED ON THIS PROJECT. ONCE YOU COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT, FORWARD YOUR ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET TO YOUR PROVINCIAL CENTRE FOR MARKING.

Glossary

Words	Meanings
Administer	to take control
Alliance	an agreement to cooperate between two countries or groups
Arid	too dry for anything to grow
Arctic	of the north polar region
Astronomy	the scientific study of the stars
Administered	to take control
Commodities	a useful thing used for trading
Continent	large areas of land
Deltas	earth or soil that is usually deposited at the mouth of a river to form a piece of land
Dynasty	line of rulers that are from the same ancestor
Economy	wealth and resources of a community, especially the production and consumption of goods and services
Ethnic	of a social group having common national racial, languages and religion
Erosion	to wear away gradually
Plateaus	area of high level ground
Plains	leveled grassland areas
Municipalities	a town or city that has its own local government
Unified	to come together or to make or become united
Kuomintang	Chinese Nationalist Party
Implemented	to carry out
Resolution	to make a firm decision
Invaded	to enter a country by force with or as an army in order to conquer it.
Reformed	refers to the act of removing out dated, ineffective, or unjust qualities