

- Read the Vocabulary Words. Then complete the fact sheet about China by filling in each blank with a Vocabulary Word.

terraces
inhabitants

administrative
civilization

elaborate
famine

POPULATION

China is a huge country with more than 1,200,000,000

(1) _____.



BEGINNINGS

The ancient Chinese (2) _____

grew up around the Yellow River, where the land was fertile. As centuries passed,

emperors used an (3) _____ system to help them govern their lands.

GROWING FOOD

Only about 13 percent of China's land is suitable for farming. However, Chinese

farmers make good use of it by cutting (4) _____ into the sides of hills so that they have more land to grow crops. This makes food more plentiful

and reduces the chance of a severe (5) _____.

THEATER

Traditional Chinese theater features costumes that

are colorful and (6) _____.



- Write the Vocabulary Word that fits best in each word group.

7. hunger, starvation, _____

8. residents, population, _____

9. costly, showy, _____

10. farms, hillsides, _____



Think of a time in history or an ancient culture that interests you. Write a paragraph about that period or culture. Use at least two Vocabulary Words in your sentences.

- Read the paragraph, and look at the maps. Then circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

The world's largest nation, Russia, had an area of 6,592,800 square miles in 1999. Though far smaller than Russia, both China and the U.S. are larger than most other nations. (Only Canada is larger than these two.) In 1999 China had an area of 3,691,521 square miles, while the U.S. had an area of 3,536,341 square miles.



- 1 What information can you learn from the maps ONLY?

A the shapes of the three countries
 B that Russia is the largest country
 C that the U.S. is smaller than China
 D that Canada is larger than the U.S.



Tip

Find an answer choice that the paragraph does not discuss.

- 2 What does the paragraph tell you that the map does not?

F the three countries' population
 G the three countries' exact area
 H that Canada is larger than Russia
 J that China is smaller than the U.S.



Tip

Do the maps show any exact numbers?

- 3 If the countries' areas were represented on a bar graph, which bar would be shortest?

A Canada's
 B the United States'
 C Russia's
 D China's



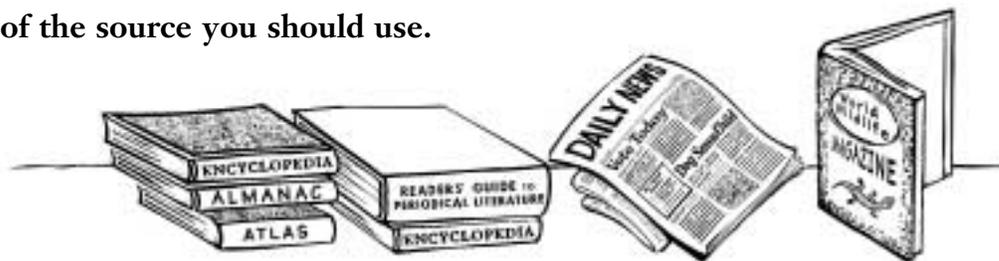
Tip

Remember that in a bar graph the largest item will have the longest bar.



SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION Read the paragraph at the top of the page with your child. Have your child use the figures in the paragraph to make a bar graph.

► Think about the information you would find in the reference sources shown below. Then read each sentence, and write the name of the source you should use.



1. If you were writing a report on China, you would probably begin by reading the “China” article in this reference source. _____
2. This source contains mainly maps, of China as well as other nations.

3. A list of magazine articles about Chinese art appears in this reference source.

4. To read news stories on current events in China, you might check the International News section of this reference source. _____
5. To find lists of current statistics such as populations of Chinese cities, you can check this reference source. _____
6. The *Readers’ Guide to Periodical Literature* would help you find an article on Chinese education in one of these publications. _____
7. If you want to watch a TV program about China, this source will tell you whether the show is on tonight. It will also tell you the time and channel.

8. Suppose you want to find out how well Chinese athletes did in the last Olympic Games. This source will give you the statistics you are looking for.

9. You want to find an article on Chinese pottery that has lots of color photographs. One of these publications would print an article like that.

10. This weekend you plan to take a break from writing your report. This source will tell you if you’ll have good weather for playing soccer in the park.

 **SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION** With your child, study the different sections of a daily newspaper. Have your child list information that appears in the newspaper but would *not* appear in magazines, such as a weather forecast.

Skill Reminder • A **possessive pronoun** shows ownership or possession. It takes the place of a possessive noun. • Be careful not to confuse the possessive pronouns *its*, *your*, and *their* with the contractions *it's*, *you're*, and *they're*.

- Circle the correct choice of each pair in parentheses ().

The city where my aunt Mei-lin lives is small, but **(1)** (*its*, *their*) park is large and beautiful. Mei-lin enjoys **(2)** (*her*, *his*) daily walks there. When I visited Aunt Mei-lin and Uncle Chen last summer, we ate **(3)** (*their*, *our*) lunches in the park. The house they live in is much different from **(4)** (*theirs*, *mine*).

- Rewrite each sentence on the lines below, correcting errors in the use of possessive pronouns and contractions.

5. If your going to the festival, I will go with you. _____

6. Seth's costume looks just like your's. _____

7. The other marchers are putting on they're masks. _____

8. Lian had planned to wear a mask from last year, but its broken. _____



Skill Reminder

- Double consonants can occur within a word or at the end of a word.
- When they occur within a word, the syllable break usually comes between them.

► Fold the paper along the dotted line. As each spelling word is read aloud, write it in the blank. Then unfold your paper, and check your work. Practice spelling any words you missed.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

SPELLING WORDS

1. *necessary*
2. *sheriff*
3. *surround*
4. *mattress*
5. *pattern*
6. *cannon*
7. *compass*
8. *official*
9. *embarrass*
10. *caterpillar*
11. *oppose*
12. *difficult*
13. *assist*
14. *fulfill*
15. *procession*
16. *wheelbarrow*
17. *toboggan*
18. *colossal*
19. *possess*
20. *forbidden*