**CHINESE DYNASTY #1→ SHANG**

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| **Activity 1→ culture** |

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| **CLOSE READING:**   * **Step #1: Read the passage below about the Shang Dynasty’s culture** * **Step #2: As you are reading, highlight FIVE facts that you think are most important** * **Step #3: Type the MAIN IDEA of each paragraph in the box under each.** |

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| We often hear of the word “dynasty” being mentioned when we hear something about China. What does it mean? **Dynasty** simply means a strong or powerful family that is able to maintain control over a country or region for a long period of time. There were many dynasties in China and several of them held control over China for many hundreds of years, passing down the control from father to son or uncle to nephew, etc. |
| Main Idea: |

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| Archeologists have no records before the **Shang dynasty** (from 1500 B.C.E. to 1027 B.C.E.). This seems to be then the earliest recorded dynasty. Many remains have been discovered such as painted pottery pieces belonging to a group of people called the Yang-shao culture and another referred to as the Lung-shan. These two ancient cultures have no written record of leaders and government, but artifacts that have been found tell archeologists that they were probably farmers who planted crops and raised animals. |
| Main Idea: |

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| The Shang ruled a broad area of northern China and made many advances. The Shang created China’s first writing system. This system used more than 2,000 symbols to express words or ideas. Although the system has gone through changes over the years, the Chinese symbols used today are based on those of the Shang period. Shang writing has been found on thousands of cattle bones and turtle shells. Priests had carved questions about the future on bones or shells, which were then heated, causing them to crack. The priests believed they could “read” these cracks to predict the future. The bones were called oracle bones because and **oracle** is a prediction. In addition to writing, the Shang also made other achievements. Artisans made beautiful bronze containers for cooking and religious ceremonies. They also made axes, knives, and ornaments from **jade**, a hard gemstone. The military developed war chariots, powerful bows, and bronze body armor. Shang astrologers developed a calendar based on the cycles of the moon. |
| Main Idea: |

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| **TEXT DEPENDENT QUESTIONS:**   * **Use the reading passage above to find the answers to the questions below. Type in your answers into this document.**    + **Check your answers by using the text** |

1. Define the word “dynasty”.

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2. What is the earliest recorded dynasty in China?

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3. What does the use of oracle bones tells us about the early Chinese?

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4. What advances were made during the Shang dynasty? [9 Total]

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| 1 | 4 | 7. |
| 2. | 5. | 8. |
| 3 | 6. | 9. |

5. What do the artifacts found tell archeologist about the Shang Dynasty?

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6. What is an **oracle**? Who would read the **oracle**?

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7. How did the Shang Dynasty influence writing used in China today?

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| **AFTER ACTIVITY →**  **FIND YOUR evidence sheet. Use the evidence from the passage above that you highlighted to complete the “SHANG CULTURE QUESTION” on your paper.** |

**CHINESE DYNASTY #1→ SHANG**

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| **Activity 2→ HISTORY** |

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| **VIDEO ANALYSIS:**   * **Step #1: Log into your RapidIdentity using →** [**This Link!**](https://idp.ncedcloud.org/idp/AuthnEngine) * **Step #2: Watch the video about the Shang Dynasty →** [**Video Link**](http://app.discoveryeducation.com/player/view/assetGuid/07BF7CCC-9DBB-4D43-A41A-527C2ADB6C23)   + **While you watch, turn on CC and pause as you need to.** * **Step #3: Complete the part of the chart that matches the role you are assigned in your group. YOU ONLY FILL IN ONE!**   + **If you want to go back and do more for extra credit you can.**   + **You MUST have FIVE facts for your assigned box. Type your answers in below.** |

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| LEADER  Information about the leaders of the Shang Dynasty | **TIME KEEPER**  **Information about the style of clothing**  **[the way people looked in the Shang Dynasty]** |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. | 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. |
| **TROUBLE SHOOTER:**  **Information about the geography of the Shang Dynasty**  **[Where was it located?]** | GO-GETTER:  **Information on life in the Shang Dynasty:**  **What did the buildings look like, wars, oracle bones, etc.** |
| 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. | 1.  2.  3.  4.  5. |

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| **AFTER ACTIVITY →**  **FIND YOUR evidence sheet. Use the evidence from the passage above that you highlighted to complete the “SHANG HISTORY QUESTION” on your paper.** |

**CHINESE DYNASTY #1→ SHANG**

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| **Activity 3→ government** |

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| **BUILDING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE:**   * **Step #1: Read the background information about government of the Shang Dynasty** * **Step #2: Highlight FIVE important facts as you read.** |

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| BACKGROUND INFORMATION |
| According to legend, the Shang Dynasty was founded sometime around 1600 BCE by a virtuous man named Cheng Tang, who overthrew the evil king of the legendary Xia. The Shang Dynasty was a monarchy governed by a series of kings, 29 or 30 in total, over the course of almost 600 years. The king was served by officials who held specialized positions of authority and function; and the officials belonged to a hereditary class of aristocrats, usually related to the king himself.  While the king lived in and ruled from a capital city, it wasn’t always the same city. Although historical records mention many different Shang capitals, only a few have actually been confirmed with archaeological evidence. No one knows exactly why a king would move the capital but some scholars think it had to do with internal power struggles within the royal family. |

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| **CREATE A SPEECH AS A GOVERNMENT LEADER:** You are going to campaign to be the next ruler of the dynasty and create a speech to get people to believe you should have the Mandate of Heaven.   * **Step #1: Answer the brainstorm questions** * **Step #2: Type your final speech in the space below.**   + **TIP→ HAVE A PEER EDIT BEFORE YOU SUBMIT!** |

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| **Brainstorm Questions** | |
| **How are you going to get people to believe you?** |  |
| **What kind of ruler are you going to be? Ex. Strict on crime, fair to all people, support the family lifestyle, etc.** |  |
| **What would you do to make society better for the people?** |  |
| **Which chinese philosophy do you follow?**  **[confucianism, daoism, or legalism]** |  |

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| FINAL SPEECH  **Type your speech in the box provided. Make sure to include the your answers above.** |
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| **AFTER ACTIVITY →**  **FIND YOUR evidence sheet. Use the evidence from the passage above that you highlighted to complete the “SHANG GOVERNMENT QUESTION” on your paper.** |

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| **DID YOU FILL IN YOUR PAPER FOR DYNASTY 1 → SHANG?**  **Great job! HIT TURN IN GOOGLE CLASSROOM!**  thumbs-up-sign.png  **Go to DYNASTY 2 → ZHOU DYNASTY RESEARCH!** |