***GRAPES Notes- Ancient China***

**G- GEOGRAPHY—**

* MAJOR RIVER-
	+ HUANG HE (YELLOW) RIVER
	+ 3,400 MILES LONG
	+ CALLED “CHINA’S SORROW” BECAUSE WHEN IT WOULD FLOOD, MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE LEFT HOMELESS OR DIE
* ROLE OF RIVER SYSTEM IS:
	+ FOOD
	+ WATER- irrigation, drinking, etc.
	+ TRADE
	+ TRANSPORTATION
* OTHER LANDFORMS- Positive and Negative
	+ GOBI DESERT (NORTHERN CHINA)
	+ HIMALAYAN MOUNTAIN RANGE (SOUTHWEST CHINA)
	+ NORTH CHINA PLAIN
		- ISOLATED CHINA FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD
		- HELPED WITH THE DEFENSE OF THE COUNTRY
		- GAVE CHINA THE ABILITY TO GROW INTO A CIVILIZATION WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE

**R- RELIGION—**

* CONFUCIANISM-
	+ BASED ON THE TEACHINGS OF KONG FU ZI (first called Confucius by Europeans) CHINA, 551-479 B.C.E.
	+ WANTED TO RETURN CHINA TO THE MORAL STANDARDS OF THE ANCIENTS
	+ THE PHILOSOPHY FOCUSES ON:
		- RESPECT FOR ELDERS AND ALL PEOPLE
		- EDUCATION
		- PROPER CONDUCT (MORALS)
		- GOVERNMENT SERVICE
	+ USES FIVE (5) RELATIONSHIPS
		- KING (EMPEROR) AND SUBJECT
		- PARENT AND CHILD
		- HUSBAND AND WIFE
		- SIBLING AND SIBLING
		- FRIEND AND FRIEND
	+ IN ORDER TO BE AT PEACE, ONE MUST SHOW ABSOLUTE RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY
	+ FOLLOWERS SPREAD IT TO THE REST OF CHINA, KOREA, AND JAPAN
* DAOISM (TAOISM)
	+ BASED ON THE PHILOSPOHY OF LAOZI CHINA, 606-530 B.C.E.
	+ THE GOAL IN LIFE IS TO ACHIEVE DAO, WHICH IS:
		- “ONENESS WITH THE UNIVERSE/NATURE”
		- BEST WAY TO FIND PEACE IS BEING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE
		- BALANCE THE FORCES OF YIN AND YANG:
		- CALM AND POWERFUL
	+ FOLLOWERS SPREAD IT TO AREAS IN AND AROUND CHINA
* BOTH RELIGIONS WERE TRYING TO CREATE STABILITY IN A CIVILIZATION (COUNTRY) THAT WAS CONSTANTLY AT WAR WITH ITSELF.

**A-ACHIEVEMENTS**

* HUANG HE (ANCIENT)
	+ TERRACE CROPS
	+ DIKES AND LEVEES FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
	+ STONE TOOLS AND POTTERY
	+ PICTOGRAPHS – WRITING (follow the money!)
	+ WOOD BLOCK PRINTING
	+ CAST IRON PLOW
	+ BRONZE
* EMPEROR QIN (First Emperor of China)
	+ UNITED CHINA AND STARTED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GREAT WALL 220-206 B.C.E.
	+ PURPOSE WAS TO PROTECT THE COUNTRY FROM NORTHERN INVADERS LIKE THE MONGOLS
* THE HAN DYNASTY (206 B.C.E.-A.D.220)
	+ WHEELBARROW
	+ SEISMOGRAPH- PREDICTS AND MEASURES EARTHQUAKES
	+ SUNDIAL
	+ PAPER- MADE OUT OF BAMBOO
	+ PUPPETS
	+ KITES
	+ JADE
	+ ESTABLISHED THE SILK ROAD
		- SEVERAL ROUTES THAT CARRIED TRADED GOODS ACROSS CHINA AND BACK AGAIN FROM ROME
		- ADVANCEMENTS IN TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION UNITED THE CHINESE CULTURE
* THE TANG DYNASTY- “THE GOLDEN AGE” (618-907A.D. beginning of Middle Ages)
	+ SITTING IN CHAIRS (!?!?- Weird, I know)
	+ POETRY AND LITERATURE FLOURISH
	+ OLDEST BOOK*- THE DIAMOND SUTRA* (WRITTEN IN 868)
	+ TRADE EXPANDED
	+ CULTIVATE AND HARVEST TEA WHICH BECOMES A FAVORITE DRINK
* THE SUNG (SONG) DYNASTY (906 A.D.-1279 A.D. during Middle Ages)
	+ PAPER- MADE FROM WOOD PULP WHICH INCREASED COMMERCIAL PRINTING
	+ PAPER MONEY
	+ CALLIGRAPHY
	+ COMPASS
	+ GUNPOWDER
	+ PORCELAIN- glazed pottery
	+ FIREWORKS
	+ IRON
	+ SALT
* THE MING DYNASTY- “THE BRILLIANT DYNASTY” (1368 A.D.-1644 A.D. during end of Middle Ages through Renaissance and Age of Exploration/Discovery)
	+ BEIJING BECOMES THE CAPTIAL
	+ BUILT THE FORBIDDEN CITY- THE HOME OF THE EMPEROR
	+ JADE CARVINGS
	+ BLUE AND WHITE PORCELAIN
	+ FIRST NOVELS PRINTED
	+ OPENED PORTS TO PORTUGUESE EXPLORERS
* THE QING OR MANCHU DYNASTY (1644 A.D.-1911 A.D. during Age of Exploration/Discovery and other stuff you’ll learn about in 7th grade!))
	+ LAST DYNASTY TO RULE CHINA
	+ OPENED PORTS TO FOREIGN TRADE
* YEARS BETWEEN DYNASTIES WERE FILLED WITH CIVIL WARS BETWEEN VARIOUS NOBILITY AND MILITARY FACTIONS, FIGHTING FOR CONTROL OF CHINA

**P-POLITICAL SYSTEMS**

* CHINA HAD A MONARCHY, RULED BY AN EMPEROR AND PASSED DOWN THE POWER THROUGH DYNASTIES
* TO WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SERVANTS TOOK EXAMS, WHICH ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CONFUCIANISM, LITERATURE, HISTORY, WRITING, AND MORALS
* SEVERE PUNISHMENT FOR THOSE WHO DID NOT OBEY LAWS

**E-ECONOMICS**

* NATURAL RESOURCES FOUND IN CHINA:
	+ RICE
	+ WHEAT
	+ BAMBOO
	+ SILK WORMS (CREATION OF SILK)
* TAXATION BEGAN IN 600 B.C.E.
* BRONZE COINS WERE DEVELOPED IN 220 B.C.E.
* FORMATION OF THE SILK ROAD
* EXPORTED (TRADED) SILK AND PORCELAIN
* IMPORTED GLASS, GOLD, AND HORSES

**S-SOCIAL STRUCTURE**

* CHINA HAS THE LONGEST CONTINOUS CULTURE.
* RESPECT FOR ELDERS AND ANCESTORS
* VERY RIGID HIERARCHY (during the dynasty periods)
	+ EMPEROR
	+ PALACE COURT, NOBILITY, CIVIL SERVANTS, PRIESTS
	+ FARMERS & COMMON PEASANTS
	+ ARTISANS
	+ MERCHANTS (this ranked lower than farmers because their money came from someone else’s labor.)
	+ SLAVES