

CHAPTER  
**17**

## Section 2

SKILLBUILDER PRACTICE *Interpreting Charts*

Historians use charts to organize and summarize information in a simple, easy-to-follow way. In a chart, information is grouped into categories, making comparisons between entries immediately clear. Use the information presented in the chart below to compare the two Chinas. (See Skillbuilder Handbook.)

Characteristics	People's Republic of China	Taiwan
Population	1,210,004,956	21,655,515
Language	Mandarin (official)	Mandarin (official)
% Urban	29%	75%
Per capita GDP*	\$2,500	\$13,510
Industries	Iron, steel, textiles and clothing, machine building, military equipment	Textiles, clothing, electronics, processed foods, chemicals
Labor Force	60% agriculture and forestry, 25% industry and commerce	49% services, 39% industry and commerce, 11% agriculture
Government	Communist Party–led state	Democracy
Education	Compulsory ages 7–16	Compulsory ages 6–15
Literacy Rate	82%	94%

\*Gross Domestic Product

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1. Based on the information in the chart, what characteristics are similar in the two Chinas? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Which category indicates that the two Chinas hold opposing philosophies? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Based on the categories in the chart, how do the economies of the two Chinas compare? \_\_\_\_\_

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