

Assessment: Chinese Discoveries and Inventions

Mastering the Content

Circle the letter next to the best answer.

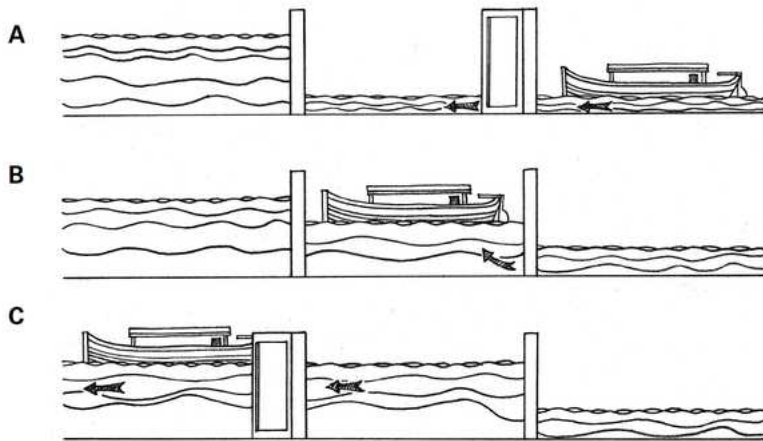
1. To navigate across open ocean, the Chinese invented a device based on
 - A. alchemy.
 - B. astrology.
 - C. magnetism.
 - D. gravitation.
2. Why did the Chinese build ships with separate watertight compartments?
 - A. so a leak in one part would not sink the ship
 - B. so each merchant's goods were easy to identify
 - C. so the ship could be raised or lowered through a lock
 - D. so spices could be carried long distances without spoiling
3. Compared to a Roman-style arch, what was the advantage of the Chinese segmental arch?
 - A. It could use more material.
 - B. It could be wider and flatter.
 - C. It could have a higher center.
 - D. It could stop flowing water.
4. Read the list below:
 - paper
 - woodblock printing
 - movable typeThese inventions all contributed to
 - A. restrictions on trade.
 - B. a new ruling dynasty.
 - C. the spread of learning.
 - D. the rise of social classes.
5. All over China by the 700s, the popularity of one drink led to the opening of
 - A. wine bars.
 - B. tea houses.
 - C. beer cellars.
 - D. coffee houses.

6. In the mass-production of porcelain, different workers did different tasks:
- wash the clay
 - shape the dish, bowl, or vase
 - apply the glaze
 - operate the kiln
- What did this process make possible?
- more skillful workers
 - better quality porcelain
 - greater variety of tableware
 - larger quantity of merchandise
7. Why did Europeans refer to fine dinnerware as “china”?
- Europeans copied Chinese art to print on their pottery.
 - Chinese pottery was common in Europe because of its low cost.
 - The shapes of Chinese plates and bowls were popular in Europe.
 - Rich Europeans bought Chinese pottery because of its high quality.
8. When the Chinese already had iron, why did they develop a way to make steel?
- Steel is stronger than iron.
 - Steel is less flexible than iron.
 - Steel is easier to make than iron.
 - Steel is more available than iron.
9. Why did Chinese alchemists warn people to stay away from the powder they made with saltpeter?
- It might be poisonous.
 - It had a secret formula.
 - It was likely to explode.
 - It could be turned into gold.
10. Which Chinese invention led to a reduction in the use of crossbows, swords, and spears in warfare?
- steel
 - compass
 - telegraph
 - gunpowder
11. How did the Chinese first use rockets?
- to explore space
 - to send up fireworks
 - to construct long bridges
 - to move junks across the sea
12. Which invention did the Chinese use when making game cards in the 9th century?
- porcelain
 - movable type
 - segmental arches
 - woodblock printing

13. Which invention did the earliest Chinese mechanical clock most resemble?
- A. gunpowder
 - B. the compass
 - C. the paddlewheel
 - D. the printing press
14. What do the items on the list below have in common?
- papermaking
 - game cards
 - movable type
 - mechanical clocks
- A. They were all developed to strengthen the military.
 - B. They all made China a popular destination for explorers.
 - C. They all contributed to the spread of education in China.
 - D. They were all used in China before being used in Europe.
15. Why did many ancient Chinese steam the clothing of someone who was sick?
- A. to lower the person's temperature
 - B. to warn others to stay at a distance
 - C. to prevent the spread of infection
 - D. to keep the sickroom smelling sweet
16. To inoculate a person against smallpox, Chinese doctors rubbed a powder into the skin. How did the powder work?
- A. It signaled the immune system to fight the disease.
 - B. It increased the appetite so people would stay strong.
 - C. It helped the patient to sleep longer and more soundly.
 - D. It closed the openings through which germs enter the body.

Applying Social Studies Skills

Use the diagram and your knowledge of history to answer the questions below.



17. On which parts of a canal would locks be most useful?

18. Suppose you were the person in charge of operating the gates of a lock on a Chinese canal. Describe, in your own words, the action you must perform at each step in the diagram, and why.

A.

B.

C.

19. What kind of power is used to empty the water out of the lock and then refill it? (Circle the best answer.)

Explain your answer choice.

A. wind

B. gravity

C. hand pump

D. paddle wheel

Exploring the Essential Question: How have medieval Chinese discoveries and inventions influenced the modern world?

20. Many discoveries and inventions made by the Chinese during the Tang and Song dynasties influence the world today. Choose four of them and follow these guidelines:

- In the top part of each hourglass below, write one Chinese discovery or invention. This can be a word or a phrase.
- In the bottom part of each hourglass, write at least one complete sentence to explain how that invention influences life today.

