

NCTA – OSU
Winter 2006
Barbara Wookey
Chinese Lesson Plan

Culture Sharing:

History, Politics, Government

Background:

This is an open-enrollment ESOL class for adults. It is free, non-graded and the students are intermediate to low-advanced level from many different countries and cultures. They meet twice a week for two hours. Their objective is to learn English skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. There are about 20 students representing 14 or so countries; the majority is Asian.

Purpose:

This lesson will give students an opportunity to share their unique culture with others in the class and to also learn about different cultures from others. They will use their English skills to work with other students from the same, or nearby, country. They will prepare and do a class presentation.

Rational:

Students come to this class to learn English, but they learn much more. They represent their native country; they are like ambassadors. They will have the opportunity to present aspects of their culture so that others will understand, respect and appreciate them.

Materials:

Provided by instructor: handouts of instructions, presentation schedule.

Available to the students: whiteboard and markers, overhead projector and transparencies.

Students can use paper, poster board, photographs, books and any other supplies needed for their presentation.

Activities:

1. Introduce the lesson with questions and discussion of different kinds of governments and different political systems and how length of histories varies from country to country. Have students talk to their partner about the political system in their home country and share a little of their country's history.
2. Give students the handout explaining the lesson. Go over the directions. (See handout.)
3. Put students in groups: 5 Japanese, 2 Koreans, 2 Chinese, 2 from Thailand, 3 from Europe (Poland, Ukraine), 2 from the Middle East (Iran, Jordan), 3 from Africa (Sierra Leone, Somalia, Ethiopia), 3 from South America (Chili, Columbia) and 2 from Mexico.
4. Students will work together to begin to plan for their presentation.
5. Groups will choose a day to present, and add the date to the Presentation Schedule (attached).
6. Students will be given some class time to work on their presentation and they are encouraged to meet before or after class to plan.

Assessment:

Students will write a response to these questions:

- What did you learn about this country's holidays?
- What similarities or differences did you see between your country's holiday and the holidays of the country presented?

Grade Adaptation:

These students are not given letter grades. They do, however, take standardize pre- and post-tests when they begin the program and when they exit. They will be given feedback on the answers to the above questions. They will edit grammar errors. They will also share their writings with other students.

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Getting To Know You....

Do you know about your classmates? Do you know about the country they came from? Do you know where it is, what the weather is like, what their flag looks like? Do you know its history? Do you know about their holidays and special days? Well, here's your opportunity to find out.

Each continent, each country, each region is unique, and yet they all have similarities and differences. You are all ambassadors for your home countries. You have a right and an obligation to enlighten others about your country, to promote it and to spread understanding and appreciation to help eliminate preconceived notions. This is your opportunity to teach your classmates about where you are from.

Some of you are from the same country; others are from the same continent. You will work in groups to plan and prepare a class presentation to teach us about your countries' history, political system or government.

- You may include information about any of these topics.
- If you are in a mixed-country group each member of the group should have equal time to present information about his/her country.
- Your group will have from 10 – 20 minutes for your presentation.
- You can use the whiteboard, the overhead projector and transparencies.
- Your presentation can include pictures, photographs, posters, maps, information from the Internet, etc.
- You can get provide handouts for the class.

Decide with your group when you want to present and sign up on the Presentation Schedule.

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You will have time to work some in class, and you should also set up times to get together before or after class to prepare.

Presentation Schedule

-

-

History, Politics, Government

Mon. June 5

Wed. June 7

Mon. June 12

Wed. June 14

Mon. June 19

Wed. June 21

Mon. June 26

Wed. June 28

An Example of a Chinese Presentation

Chinese students may wish to present to the class, information about the inventions and discoveries that have come from China. The website www.computersmiths.com/chineseinventions/index.html presents inventions and discoveries in a timeline format.

Chinese students get together and

1. talk about the inventions that they know have come from China (some of these are decimal place system, iron plow, lacquer, the kite, natural gas as fuel, a place for zero in math, the crossbow, paper, parachute, wheelbarrow, stirrups, porcelain, umbrella, chess, paper money, gunpowder)
2. students then do research to find information about inventions from China

3. students decide which ones they want to talk about and who will do the presenting so that each member of the group will contribute.
4. students will prepare information about the inventions and possibly show the items or explain how they are used.

One of the great secrets of history is the immense contribution of Chinese society, including technology, to the Western world. Equally interesting, is the failure of some discoveries in China to cross over to Western civilization, or even to survive into modern times. [Bibliography of references consulted.](#)

發明

History of Chinese Invention and Discovery

The West's Debt to China?

Timeline adapted from [Robert Temple](#) and [Joseph Needham](#)

1.6 Million BC	YuanMou Man	
700,000 - 500,000	Yuanmou Man, Lantian Man, Peking Man	Earliest human findings in China Stone tools and use of fire.
20,000 BC	Upper Cave Man	
5,000	YangShao Culture	Farming villages in the Yellow River valleys, painted pottery.

BC

2,500
BC

LongShan
Culture

East China and Central River valleys. Wheel-made pottery, divination and ancestral worship.

2852
-2205
BC

Three
Rulers &
Five
Emperors

Mythical rulers credited with inventing farming, building, medicine, silk culture.

2205
-1766
BC

Xia
Dynasty

China's legendary first dynasty. Emperor Yu is credited with flood control and irrigation systems.

1766
-1122
BC

Shang
Dynasty

First verifiable dynasty. Ritual bronze vessels and "oracle bones" calligraphy. Evidence of a relatively sophisticated medical system using acupuncture needles and medical observations.

Timeline indicates technology developing in China, and the approximations for Western civilization refer to some form of the discovery observed later.

[Decimal place system](#) (14th century BC) - *2300 years later in Western civilization*
Lacquer, the first plastic (13th century BC) - *3200 years later in Western civilization*

1122
-256 BC

Zhou
Dynasty

Western Zhou later cited as a model period. Capital city near Xian. Confucius born in 551 BC. Flowering in classical literature, arts, and philosophy; Confuciansim,

770
-256 BC

Eastern
Zhou

Taoism. Lao Tze and Chuang Tze lived around this period.

722
-481 BC

Spring and
Autumn

Internal alchemy, meditation, and breathing techniques developed. The first transportation canals were built.

403

Warring
States

6th century BC

-221 BC

Row cultivation of crops and intensive hoeing - *2200 years later in Western civilization*

[Iron plow](#) - *about 2000 years later in Western civilization*

Blood circulation studied - *1800 years later in Western civilization*

The large tuned bell developed - *2500 years later in Western civilization*

5th century BC

Spouting bowls and standing waves experimentation.

Geobotanical prospecting - *2100 years later in Western civilization*

The [kite](#) - *about 2000 years later in Western civilization*

4th century BC

The trace efficient horse harness - *500 years later in Western civilization*

Double-acting piston bellows, air and liquid - *1900-2100 years later in Western civilization*

[Petroleum and natural gas as fuel](#) - *2300 years later in Western civilization*

A place for zero in math - *1400 years later in Western civilization*

[The first compass](#)- *1500 years later in Western civilization*

The First Law of Motion- *1300 years later in Western civilization (but 2000 to Newton)*

Manned flight with [kites](#) - *1650 years later in Western civilization*

War technology

Chemical warfare: poison gas, smoke bombs, tear gas - *2300 years later in Western civilization*

[The crossbow](#)- *Centuries later in Western civilization*

**221
-206 BC**

Qin
Dynasty

Unification of China under Emperor Qin Shi Huang. State walls are joined to form the Great Wall. Palace and mausoleum near Xian, standardization of weights, measures, calligraphy. Emperor Qin Shi Huang creates burial pit city including thousands of full-size clay soldier statues (Terracotta warriors).

**206 BC
-220 AD**

Han
Dynasty

Capitals at Changan and Luoyang rivals that of Rome. Buddhism enters China from India. Birth of Confucian civil service.

**206 BC
-9 AD**

Western
Han

2nd century BC

[Paper invented](#) - 1400 years later in Western civilization

Agricultural innovations

[The rotary winnowing fan](#) - 2000 years later in the West

The multi-tube seed drill - 1800 years later in the West

Engineering -

Crank handle - 1100 years later in the West

Gimbals, or Cardan suspension - 1100 years later in the West

Manufacture of steel from cast iron - 2000 years later in the West

[Science of endocrinology](#) - 2100 years later in the West

Hexagonal structure of snowflakes - 1800 years later in the West

Parachute - 2000 years later in the West

Miniature hot-air balloons - 1400 years later in the West

Tuned drums - 2000 years later in the West

1st century BC

Deep drilling for natural gas - 1900 years later in the West

Belt drive - 1400-1800 years later in the

**25-220
AD**

Hou Han
Later or
Eastern
Han

220-
280



West
[Wheelbarrow](#) - 1300 years later in the *West*
Sliding calipers - 1700 years later in the *West*
Hermetically sealed labs - *bout 2000 years later in the West*

1st century AD

Water power - 1200 years later in the *West*
Chain pump - 1400 years later in the *West*
Suspension bridge - 1800 years later in the *West*
The rudder - 1100 years later in the *West*
Seismograph (130 AD) - 1400 years later in the *West*

265-
317



San Kuo
(Three
Kingdoms)
Wei, Shu-
Han, Wu

Han generals divide empire. This period is romanticized as a time of chivalry and heroism in later literature.

2nd century AD

Recognition of sunspots as solar phenomena - 1300 years later in *Western civilization*
The "magic lantern" - 1800 years later in *Western civilization*
"Modern" geology - 1500 years later in *Western civilization*
Batten sails - staggered masts - *not adopted in Western civilization*
Multiple masts - fore and aft rigs - 1200 years later in *Western civilization*
Watertight compartments in ships - 1700 years later in *Western civilization*



Western
Chin (Jin)

China briefly united under one Emperor. Capitals at Luoyang, Changan.

3rd century AD

Cybernetic machine - 1600 years later in

**317-
420**

Eastern
Chin (Jin)

Western civilization
Fishing reel - 1400 years later in *Western civilization*
[Stirrup](#) - 300 years later in *Western civilization*
Porcelain - 1700 years later in *Western civilization*
Biological pest control - 1600 years later in *Western civilization*
Deficiency diseases - 1600 years later in *Western civilization*
Algebra used in geometry - 1000 years later in *Western civilization*
Refined value of *pi* - 1200 years later in *Western civilization*
Dial and pointer devices - 1200 years later in *Western civilization*
Understanding of musical *timbre* - 1600 years later in *Western civilization*

4th century AD

**420-
479**

(Liu) Sung

Umbrella - 1200 years later in *Western civilization*
Helicopter rotor and propeller - 1500 years later in *Western civilization*

5th century AD

**479-
581**

Southern
and
Northern
Dynasties

Essentials of steam engine - 1200 years later in *Western civilization*
"Magic mirrors" - 1500 years later in *Western civilization*
Co-fusion steel process - 1300 years later in *Western civilization*
Paddle-wheel boat - 1000 years later in *Western civilization*

Succession of numerous dynasties, including 24 short-lived ones, on the north and south sides of the Yangtze. Developing period for Buddhism. Cave temples at

		Dunhuang, Yungang, and Longmen.
386-535	Northern Wei	
535-556	Western Wei	Bohidarma (TaMo) arrives in China. Shaolin Monastery built and Shaolin boxing develops.
534-550	Eastern Wei	
550-577	Northern Ch'i	
557-581	Northern Chou	
581-618	Sui Dynasty	<p>Golden Age of China North conquers south and unites China. The Grand Canal is built. The capital is established at Changan.</p> <p>6th century AD</p> <p>Discovery of the solar wind - <i>1400 years later in Western civilization</i></p> <p>Segmental arch bridge - <i>500 years later in Western civilization</i></p> <p>Matches - <i>1000 years later in Western civilization</i></p> <p>Chess - <i>500 years later in Western civilization</i></p> <p>Land sailing - <i>1050 years later in Western civilization</i></p> <p>Diabetes discovered by urine analysis - <i>1000 years later in the West</i></p>
618-907	Tang Dynasty	<p>The Heavenly Khan Scholarship and the Arts flourish.</p> <p>Mechanical clock - <i>585 years later in</i></p>

		<p><i>Western civilization</i></p> <p>Sailing: leeboards - <i>700 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Block printing is invented in 8th century - <i>700 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Playing cards - <i>500 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Paper money - <i>850 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Magnetic declination - <i>600 years later in the West</i></p> <p>War technology</p> <p>Gunpowder invented - <i>300 years later in the West</i></p> <p>The silk road trade to Europe thrives.</p>
907-960	Five Dynasties (North) and Ten Kingdoms (South)	A period of war and fragmentation, as North and South divides into smaller kingdoms.
960-1279	Sung Dynasty	<p>Chain drive - <i>800 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Canal pound-lock - <i>400 years later in the West</i></p>
960-1127	Northern Sung	<p>Mercator map projection - <i>600 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Phosphorescent paint - <i>700 years later in the West</i></p>
1127-1279	Southern Sung	<p>Immunology - <i>800 years later in the West</i></p> <p>War technology</p> <p>Flares and fireworks - <i>250 years later in the West</i></p> <p>"Soft" bombs and grenades - <i>400 years later in the West</i></p> <p>Movable type printing is invented in 1045 - <i>400 years later in the West</i></p> <p>High culture develops. Painting, Poetry, Calligraphy becomes mainstream. Military powers decline. The Jin invade the North, the Sung moves capital from Kaifeng to</p>

		Hangzhou.
1279-1368	Yuan Dynasty (Mongol)	Kublai Khan conquers China. A new capital is established at Peking (Beijing) and the Grand Canal is extended to supply the capital. Marco Polo visits and serves Khan in China. War technology Bursting shells and mines - <i>250 years later in the West</i>
1360		Zhang Sanfeng (Chang Sanfeng) travels to Wudang Mountains and is generally credited with inventing the 13 postures of Taijiquan (T'ai Chi Ch'uan)
1368-1644	Ming Dynasty	Mongols are defeated. Strong Emperors bring about a prosperous era. Building of the Forbidden City and Imperial Tombs. Arrival of Jesuits. Changan city changes its name to Xian.
1644-1911		Han People are subjugated by the Manchus. The neglected Forbidden City is restored and the Summer Palace is rebuilt.
1839-1842		Foreign trade pressures leads to the Opium War.
1850-1864	Qing Dynasty (Manchu)	Taiping Rebellion in the south. Anti-Qing revolt is inspired by mixture of Chinese and Christian ideas.
1858-1860		Anglo-French invasions at Canton, Tianjin. Foreign troops destroy the Summer Palace near Peking.
1894-1895		Sino-Japanese War. Japan dominates Korea and Taiwan
1900		Anti-foreign Boxer Rebellion is suppressed by foreign troops. Qing court flees and Westerners occupy Peking.
1911-1949	Republic of China	1911 Revolution. China attempts democratic government.

1912

Sun Yat-Sen briefly serves as China's first president. Kuomintang (KMT) or Nationalist party is formed.

1916

Warlord period begins.

1921

Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is founded)

1926-

Joint KMT-CCP expedition against warlords has limited success, but causes a hostile division of the country.

1927

1934-

Long march of the Communists to the northwest.

1935

1937-

Second Sino-Japanese War. KMT is led by Chiang Kai-shek, joining with the CCP, led by Mao Tse Tung. American military aids during World War II. Japan surrenders.

1945

1946-

Civil war erupts between the KMT and the CCP. KMT and millions of citizens flee China for Formosa (Taiwan), the U.S., Canada and other sanctuaries.

1949

1949-

People's
Republic of
China

Mao Tse Tung leads the PRC as it turns inwards from the world.

As I collect information and resources on Chinese invention and discovery, I would be happy to collaborate with other authors.



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