

I. Arts and Architecture

- A *Sihéyuàn* 四合院 (Quadrangle Courtyard) is a historical type of residence that was commonly found throughout China, most famously in Beijing. Based on the picture below, please answer the following questions #1-14:



- Which corner is the gate of a residence located at? And which of the five elements (metal, wood, water, fire, earth) is it associated with? (Southeast corner; Wood)
- Which side is the main house built on? And which of the five elements is it associated with? (North side; Water). And why? (To prevent fire)
- Which room serves as the living room and bedroom of the owner or head (i.e. usually the eldest) of the family? (Principal Room.)
- Which of the two sides receive less sunlight and serve as the rooms for children or less important members of the family? (The eastern and western side buildings.)
- What does the southern building usually function as? And why? (A reception room and the servants' dwelling, or where the family would gather to relax, eat or study; because it receives the least sunlight)
- The backside building is for unmarried daughters and female servants, and why is that? (Because unmarried girls were not allowed direct exposure to the public, they occupied the most secluded building in the *Sihéyuàn*)
- What does practicing such traditions mentioned above imply? (Generally speaking, the elders/parents would favor sons over daughters; the society as a whole would favor male over female. Hence, the males are housed in better parts of the compound, while the females are in

less desirable areas. Also, males are associated with public, and females with the domestic, so the females stay in the most private areas of the compound. Chinese women have long been treated as inferior to men.)

8. If the main house had enough rooms, what would the central room serve as? (A shrine for ancestral worship.)
9. When the head of the household had concubines, where would the first wife reside? (In the room to the eastern end of the main house.)
10. Where would the concubines reside? (In the room to the western end of the main house.)
11. The eldest son of the family and his wife would reside in the western side house, while the younger son and his wife would reside in the eastern side house. Where would a grandson who was fully grown reside? (In the opposite house in the south.)
12. It is said that the layout of a simple quadrangle courtyard represents traditional Chinese morality and Confucian ethics. How is that so? (They are the product of 3000 years of accumulated cultural practices guiding idealized family relationships and hierarchies, and building practices, at the same time, they are combined with the theory know as *feng shui*; they emphasize a harmonious relationship with nature and the materials extracted from it: sun-dried brick, wood, and pounded earth.)
13. When did this type of housing initially develop? (During China's Zhou Dynasty (1122 B.C. to 256 B.C.), and was perfected in Beijing after it became the capital city during the Yuan Dynasty (1271 A.D.-1368 A.D.))
14. What is the modern fate of the *Sihéyuàn*? (Lots of them have been converted into restaurants after the 2008 Beijing Olympics, or demolished for the city's concentric circled "ring-road" highway system, developed in the 1990s; before that, many of them were destroyed during the China's cultural revolution in the 1960s))

- In traditional Chinese art, seals served a variety of functions. Engraved with different names or titles, they were used on different occasions. Based on the pictures of the Seal of Zhuzun (the four pictures in the left box, 祝遵印信) and the Gold Seal of Duke Di (the two pictures in the right box, 晉歸義氏王) below, please answer the following questions #15-21:



15. With all characters carved in relief and in symmetrical arrangement, the Seal of Zhuzun reflects the customs in which periods of Chinese history? (The Wei and Jin Periods after the Eastern Han.)
16. Why were the knobs on the top of such seals usually cut in the form of a wild animal? (To ward off evil spirits through their fierce appearance.)
17. As a rule, the knob on the biggest seal was made into a mother beast, the middle knob into a baby beast, while the smallest was a common knob. Why? (So that when combined, they would offer a vivid picture of a mother beast with her baby in her arms.)
18. What is the significance of the Gold Seal of Duke Di? (As an official seal bestowed on the leader of the Di tribe by the sovereign of the Western Jin regime, this ancient seal is made of pure gold and weighs 87.5 grams. Due to the recipient's high position, the seal of Duke Di was made of pure gold. Since gold seals are rare, it has become very valuable item.)
19. During the Jin and Han dynasties, it was a common practice for the emperor to do what with regard to tribe leaders who submitted themselves to his rule? (To give them official titles and relevant seals.)
20. Observe the stamped images provided in each box, what are the differences between the left box and the right box presented above? (All three stamps, regardless of sizes, in the left box are red characters seals (Zhuwen 朱文), which imprint the Chinese characters in red ink, sometimes referred to as *yang* seals (Yangwen 陽文); the seal in the right box is a white character seals (Baiwen 白文), which imprint the background in red, leaving white characters. These are sometimes referred to as *yin* seals (Yinwen 陰文).
21. Today, seals are still playing an important role in the daily life of Chinese people. They are required for signing important documents, such as the documents for opening a bank account or buying a house. Red stamps are seen in all official documents. The color, Red, is not only for Chinese stamps but also considered the luckiest for the Chinese. In which odd situation, however, would the Chinese actually avoid using the color red? (Writing personal names: it's consider unlucky because in ancient China, the officials would write the names of those who were going to be sentenced to death in red calligraphy.)

- "*Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival*"清明上河圖 is a panoramic hand scroll painting by Zhang Zeduan 張擇端. About 20 to 30 variations on this topic by artists of subsequent dynasties were made. Several Ming and Qing versions can be found in public and private collections around the world. Each version follows the overall composition of the original fairly faithfully, however, the details often vary widely. The Song Dynasty original and the Qing version, in the Beijing and Taipei Palace Museums respectively, are regarded as national treasures and are exhibited only for brief periods every few years. For instance, the wait in Beijing to see the painting was three and a half hours. Traditionally, three things have been accepted about the original painting it depicted: the city, the dynasty, and the festival. According to these working assertions, please answer the following questions #22-26:

22. The scroll captures the economic activities and daily life of people from all walks of life in urban and rural areas during Qingming Festival from which period? (The Northern Song Dynasty, 960-1127 CE.)

23. Although the painting focuses on the festive spirit and commotion of the Qingming Festival, what is the significance of the Qingming Festival to the Chinese people? (It is a ceremonial holiday for tomb sweeping and prayers for the ancestors.)
24. The scroll serves as an important historical reference for the study of the life of which city? (The Song capital city of Bianjing, which is today's Kaifeng, Henan Province. We learn that the city is quite commercialized, that there was an active urban life in terms of commercial as well as leisure activities, that it was relatively open plan rather than being enclosed in walled districts with separate activities restricted to certain districts, and thus a great degree of movement and mobility through the city.)
25. The painting is composed of three parts, what are they? (Spring in the rural area, busy Bianhe River ports, and prosperous city streets.)
http://www.npm.gov.tw/exh96/orientation/flash_4/index.html
26. The painting is also known for its geometrically accurate images of variety natural elements and architectures, boats and bridges, market place and stores, people and scenery. How many people are depicted in the painting? (Over 550 people in different clothes, expressions and postures are shown in the painting)
http://www.npm.gov.tw/exh96/orientation/index4_2_ch.html
27. *Leifeng Pagoda* (雷峰塔) is a five story tall tower with eight sides, located on Sunset Hill south of West Lake in Hangzhou. Originally constructed in the year 975 CE, it collapsed in 1924 but was rebuilt in 2002, since then it has been a popular tourist attraction. What does the architectural shape of the pagoda shrine derive from? (Pagoda type architecture evolved from the Indian stupa and native Chinese towers, hence showing the influence of Buddhist architectural forms on native Chinese construction, which was previously rectangular.)
28. The Forbidden City was not the first palace complex built on the Beijing site. Instead, it was built on the site of the razed Mongol Imperial City. It also represented the northern move of the imperial capital during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644 CE) after an imperial usurpation, with the usurper moving the capital to his own center of power and assured loyalties, Beijing and its environs, in the north, rather than remaining more vulnerable in the south. Beijing would remain the capital of China into the present time.
29. As a palace complex, the Forbidden City is also the largest surviving complex of wooden structures in the world, according to UNESCO. (Among these, the Hall of Supreme Harmony is the largest structure, soaring 98 ft above the ground.)
30. Most of the roofs of the Forbidden City are yellow because? (Yellow is the color of the Emperor, as yellow corresponds with earth in Chinese color symbols, thus the center. The emperor is at the center of the cosmos, symbolically and ritually speaking. This is why the Emperor is also dressed in yellow robes.)
31. If you translated the Chinese name of the Forbidden City literally, what would you have? (Purple Forbidden Walled City.)
32. The first ever film authorized by the Chinese government to be filmed inside the Forbidden City was? (*The Last Emperor* (1987), an biographical film about Puyi, the last Manchu emperor and last emperor of China. It was directed by Bernardo Bertolucci.)
33. Which opera was performed at the Imperial Shrine just outside the Forbidden City in 1998? (*Turandot*, a Puccini opera about a Chinese princess.)
34. Ieoh Ming Pei 貝聿銘, commonly known as *I. M. Pei*, is a Chinese American architect often called a master of modern architecture. What are some of his representative works? (In the early

- 1980s, Pei was the focus of controversy when he designed a glass-and-steel pyramid for the Musée du Louvre in Paris. He later returned to the world of the arts by designing the Miho Museum in Japan, the Suzhou Museum in China, and the Museum of Islamic Art in Qatar.)
35. The headquarters of Chinese Central Television, or CCTV, the preeminent state television broadcaster in China, is a 234 m (768 feet), 44-storey skyscraper on East Third Ring Road, Guanghai Road in the Beijing Central Business District. It was completed in May 2012. The architects who designed the building are Rem Koolhaas and Ole Scheeren of OMA. What is unique about the building? (It provides a three-dimensional rather than two-dimensional experience, with its middle loop.)
36. What is a local nickname for the CCTV headquarters? (“Big Pants.” That’s what locals say it looks like! Google this!)
37. In 2012, who was the first Chinese citizen to win the prestigious Pritzker Prize, the architecture equivalent of the Nobel prize? (Wang Shu, b. 1963, who is based in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province. He is known for using traditional materials and techniques. Notable buildings include the Library of Wenzhang College at Soochow University, Five Scattered Houses in Ningbo, and the Ningbo Museum.)
38. China has censorship laws and regulations concerning the media. For instance, a foreign movie quota. If you were a movie goer in China, what was a major change concerning foreign films in 2012? (You can watch more movies in cinemas. The number of permitted foreign films increased from 20 to 34.)
39. If you were a Hollywood studio, what was another welcome change in 2012? (You could retain 25 percent of your box office sales, up from 13.5-17.5 percent.)
40. The three top grossing films of all time in China are, as of Nov 2013, *Avatar* (US, 2009), *Lost in Thailand* (China, 2012) and *Journey to the West: Conquering the Demons* (China/Hong Kong, 2013), which all earned over 1.2 billion yuan (US \$200 million) each. *Avatar* was a science fiction film. What were the Chinese films about? (*Lost in Thailand* is a contemporary travel comedy, while *Journey to the West: Conquering the Demons* is a historical and supernatural fantasy-comedy, based very loosely on the famous Chinese tale, *Journey to the West*.)
41. Beijing opera is one of the best-known of Chinese performance arts. It combines singing and highly stylized speech and actions, and gymnastics on the part of the performer, accompanied by traditional instruments. Though we call it an “opera” in English, unlike Western opera, Beijing opera places as much emphasis on acting and movement as it does on singing and vocalization. Also, it lacks elaborate sets and almost any large props, thus, Beijing opera frequently turns to the art of mime, often with hand-held props to aid the illusions. What suggests a male dignitary is riding a horse? (By having a whip in his hand.)
42. In Beijing opera, what suggests warriors are fighting in a battle? (They use spears and quick movements and footwork.)
43. In Beijing opera, what does it signify when the performers have to jump over a blue flag? (It means the person is crossing an ocean or river.)
44. What does waving red flags in the air mean? (It means there is fire.)
45. What are the four roles in Beijing opera? The male role (sheng), the female role (dan), the painted-face role (jing), the clown role (chou).
46. According to the age and social status of the characters, male role types roughly fall into three sub-groups: the young man, the older man, and military man (young sheng, old sheng, military sheng, the male characters who appear in the battle scenes). How to tell the young man from the

- older man? (The older men are also known as bearded men, because the actors wear artificial beards to signify they are middle-aged or elderly men.)
47. Female role types are the vivacious lady, the refined woman, the older woman, and the military woman. However, traditionally, only males could perform in Beijing Opera, that is to say, no female actresses were ever allowed to perform on stage. Men actualized all the female roles. Peking opera was initially an exclusively male pursuit. Which Qing emperor had banned all female performers in Beijing in 1772? (The Qianlong Emperor. Female performers were frequently associated with licentious behavior and prostitution. During certain periods in Europe, actresses were also banned for similar reasons.)
48. The appearance of women on the stage began unofficially during the 1870s. Female performers began to impersonate male roles and declared their equality with men. Where was the first female Beijing Opera troupe founded in the 1870s? (In Shanghai and by 1894, the first commercial venue showcasing female performance troupes appeared in Shanghai. This encouraged other female troupes to form, which gradually increased in popularity.)
49. Did the female impersonators disappear after the ban for woman was lifted in 1912? (They continued to be popular after this period.)
50. What are the three common female roles in Beijing Opera? Vivacious Lady (a young female character with a frank and open personality), Refined Woman (young or middle-aged women with gentle and refined dispositions, usually wearing a robe with extended white flowing sleeves), Military Woman (female characters skilled in the martial arts).
51. What is the painted face/Jing role? (Generally refer to male characters whose strong and simple personalities are represented by mask-like face painting. This group can include heroes, villains, generals, gods, and demons.)
52. What is the clown/Chou role? Generally depicted with the eyes and nose surrounded by a white patch, it is another special group, both male and female, who provide humor through foolishness or wit.)
53. What are the two types of clown/Chous? (According to the social positions, characters and skills demanded, the Chou roles are divided into two categories: Civilian [Wenchou] and Martial [Wuchou].)
54. Can a person master all roles? (Usually a person only specializes in one role type including singing and acting. When a person performs in a role that is not typical of his or her training, we say the person is role-switching, or “Fan-Chuan.”)
55. During the performance, the orchestra follows the performers, which gives performers more flexibility and room for personal styles. Who serves as the conductor of the orchestra? (The drummer.)

II. Cultures and Traditions

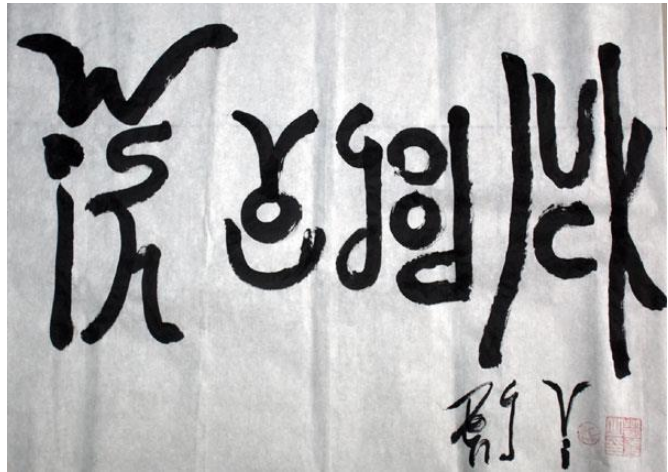
- Kit Gillet (April 16, 2012) wrote in the Los Angeles Times, “For almost a millennium, the practice of foot binding was prevalent across Chinese society, starting with the wealthier classes but over the years spreading down through urban and then poorer rural communities. The feet of girls as young as 5 would be broken and bound tightly with cotton strips, forcing their four smallest toes to gradually fold under the soles to create a so-called 3-inch golden lotus, once idealized as the epitome of beauty. The process would take many years and would lead to a

lifetime of labored movement, as well as a regular need to rebind the feet.” Based on this description, what do we know about foot binding in questions #45-48:

56. Bound feet, known as "lily feet" or tiny "lotus feet," sometimes were only three or four inches long, true or false? (True.)
57. Because foot-bound women couldn't do physical labor, travel around or move around much, only high class women could afford to have it done. Hard-working, lower-class women needed normal feet to do their chores and fulfill their duties, true or false? (False. Lower class women who bound their feet simply didn't bind them as small as upper class women.)
58. All upper class women practiced foot binding, true or false? (False, the Manchu Qing rulers forbid it among Manchu women. Most ethnic minorities in China did not practice it. After it was banned for good by the Communists, Chinese women with bound feet were humiliated and became the objects of derision.)
59. In the imperial era bound feet were regarded as the epitome of feminine beauty and an indication of nobility, true or false? (True. Bound feet could immeasurably improve a girl's chances of a good marriage, even if she were from a poor family.)
60. Xú Bīng 徐冰 is a contemporary Chinese artist, whose art explores the complex themes of language across cultures. He has written the Hong Kong University Press's name in his *Square Word Calligraphy*. He re-positioned English text into square-word form and calligraphically designed it to resemble Chinese writing. The New York's Museum of Modern Art has exhibited his calligraphy. Based on the observations of the Hong Kong University Press logo below, what does the yellow text of the red banner read in the photo? (Art for the People)



61. Similarly, starting in 2008, Deng Shenyi calls his new artistic form "square English", a combination of the English language and Chinese calligraphy. Like Chinese characters, each square English word is the same size, no matter the number of letters. The English letters are like the parts of Chinese character, and the writing sequence is from top to bottom, and left to right, following the path of Chinese characters. What does the text on the right read? (Wish you good luck.)



62. What were the principle advantages and disadvantages of the cursive style of calligraphic writing? (Advantages of the cursive style include increased speed of execution, simplification, and the ability to write with a more relaxed hand. Disadvantages included a lack of universal legibility and an informality that could be conceived of as inappropriate for official usage.)
63. Why do you think it might be important to imitate the order in which the strokes of a character were originally written in an inscription? (In following the stroke order of the original closely, the inscription carvers were trying to approximate the natural movement of the brush and come closest to the feeling of the original calligraphic work on silk or paper.)
64. Wang Xizhi 王羲之 (307?-365? CE) was the foremost among the calligraphers of the Eastern Jin period, and is revered today as the Sage of Calligraphy. What scripts is he best known for writings? (Cursive and running scripts. Running script is a close variation of the standard script which features connections between individual characters and slightly abbreviated forms.)
65. Wang Xizhi's seventh's son, Wang Xianzhi 王獻之, is also was also renowned as a calligrapher. In his own time, his reputation even eclipsed that of his father. By the end of the Six Dynasties period, however, Wang Xizhi was reinstated as China's foremost calligrapher, displaying what was considered to be the most classical and sophisticated style. What is the feature of Wang Xianzhi's calligraphy? (There is a linkage of consecutive characters, with connective brush strokes stretching like ligaments between individual words. This feature is not present in Wang Xizhi's calligraphy)
66. Lions are not native to China, yet they have become important symbols in Chinese culture. What is their significance? (The Bodhisattva of Wisdom is often depicted riding on a lion. The custom of having a pair of lions guarding a door is common and dates to the third century CE. The lion was thought to be able to chase off evil spirits and monsters.)
67. The Chinese New Year is the most important celebration of the year, so you will not be surprised to learn that there are a few important dates and activities in the run-up to that festival. Do you know some of these? (A week before that, families will pray to the Stove God, who at this time will go to Heaven to make his report on the behavior of the family throughout the previous year, thus determining their rewards or punishments in the coming year. Therefore, he is offered sweets so that he will say only "sweet" things about the family. After this, the household will do a thorough spring cleaning, to welcome the New Year and start the year off on a new note.)
68. *Fu* 福, the Chinese character for good luck, is one of the most popular Chinese characters used for the Chinese New Year. Why is it often posted upside down on the front door of a house or an

apartment? (The upside down “fu” means “good luck came” since the character for upside down in Chinese sounds the same as the character for “came.”)

69. Many children look forward to Chinese New Year because they will receive red packets or *hongbao* which contain money. Symbolically, these are meant to protect recipients against any harm in the coming year. Actually, not just children! (They are given by family elders and married people to children, teenagers and unmarried people.)
70. At the New Year Eve’s table, you will usually see an entire fish lying on a platter ready for everyone to eat. A fish served whole is a symbol of prosperity. The sound of the word “fish (yu2),” when pronounced, except for the tone, is identical to the sound of two other words, one meaning “prosperous (yu4)” and the other meaning “surplus (yu2)”. People wish each other, “May you have fish every year,” meaning, “May you have prosperity or surplus every year.” A whole fish is therefore a symbolic blessing for everyone present: that they may have more than they need for the coming year.
71. Tangerines, oranges, and pomelos are widely given as gifts during the Chinese New Year to celebrate the coming of spring and to symbolize the hope for prosperity to come. Peaches are also a ‘lucky’ fruit, beloved of legendary immortals and often served at celebratory banquets, signifying longevity. When peaches are not in season, a beautifully crafted and filled sweet bun in the shape of peach may be substituted.
72. The 15th day of the Chinese Lunar New Year is the last day of the New Year period, and is the first major festival after the New Year itself. What do people do during this time? (They enjoy lantern displays, guess the riddles that are written on the lanterns and eat rice balls representing unity and prosperity for the family.)
73. As a culture that respects ancestors and elder members of the family, the Chinese designate specific days, both ritually and legally, during the year to commemorate their ancestors. What do they do? (Qingming, at the beginning of April and a legal holiday in China, is particularly notable because on this day (or the day before), people visit graves to clean them up and set offerings of food on them. Another day is the fourteenth or fifteenth day of the seventh lunar month, where rituals and sacrifices are made to ancestors.)
74. What would you not do the day before Qingming? (You would not turn on the stove and cook. In fact, you would be expected to eat cold foods, for instance, cold noodles, or raw foods. Not surprisingly, this day is also called the “Cold Food Festival.” It commemorates a loyal man who burnt to death when his lord was trying to find him to reward him for his loyalty. By not using fire, people thus avoid the thing that caused his death.)
75. In fact, rather than just setting aside specific days to commemorate the dead, their importance is shown in the fact that the entire seventh month of the lunar calendar is devoted to commemoration, especially the first, second, fifteenth and thirtieth day. On the eve of the seventh month, it is said that the gates of the underworld open to release hungry ghosts to roam for an entire month. Therefore, people leave food and paper money offerings, as well as organize entertainment and performances for these ghosts. Not surprisingly, this period is also known as? (Month of the Hungry Ghosts/Hungry Ghosts Festival.)
76. There are also several taboos during this period. For instance, children and older people are encouraged not to wander around late at night. Note that ghosts are dark and cold *qi*, humans are light and warm *qi*, and the two can be inimical to each other.
77. At the same time, the seventh day of the seventh month is also considered the most romantic day in the year—this is the day, as the legend goes, where the Celestial Weaving Maiden and the

Cow Herd, two lovers/spouses forever separated, are able to have their yearly meeting. Thus, this day is also known as? (The Chinese Valentine's Day.)

78. For whom is this day especially important? (This day is especially important for unmarried young women, who pray for a good marriage and enduring conjugal love, just as the Weaving Maiden and the Cow Herd, despite their separation, remain faithful spouses to each other for eternity.)
79. What are Chinese glutinous rice dumplings? (They are pyramid shaped glutinous rice cakes with savory or sweet fillings, wrapped in bamboo leaves and boiled. They are most strongly associated with the fifth day of the fifth lunar month, a day where the Chinese remember Qu Yuan, a minister known for his loyalty and integrity. The rice dumplings were intended to feed fish so they wouldn't feed on his body after his suicide in the Miluo River.)
80. What are mooncakes? (They are square or round pastries filled with different kinds of sweet or savory fillings, and are eaten to celebrate the Mid-autumn festival on the 15th day of the lunar 8th month as symbols of completeness and unity. The mid-autumn is also a harvest festival.)
81. An interesting legend concerning mooncakes is that they were used? (To hide and spread messages of an uprising against the Mongol Yuan dynasty (1280-1368 CE) by the Han Chinese, who wanted to regain control of their country.)
82. Why do people go mountain climbing on the Double 9th festival? (The 9th day of the 9th lunar month represents the change from summer to winter. With this change in *qi*, unexpected disasters can occur, so people leave their homes and find a high place to avoid them.)
83. On the 24th to 26th day of the sixth month of the Dai 傣 calendar, people engage in traditional activities such as water-splashing and dragon-boating, hoping to pacify evil spirits and ensure a good harvest in the coming year. What is the significance of The Water-splashing Festival? (It is the New Year of the Dai ethnic minority)
84. The Torch Festival is a traditional festival celebrated among some ethnic groups in southwestern China, such as the Yi, Bai, Hani, Lisu, Naxi, Pumi and Lahu etc. The festival features lighting up torches, hence its name. When does it usually fall? (In early June of the lunar calendar or on the 24th or 25th of the month, with three days of celebrations.)
85. The Third Month Street Fair is the grandest show of the year for the Bais 白族. Held from the 15th day to the 21st day of the third lunar month every year at the foot of the Mount Diancang, west of the ancient city of Dali, the Bais hold the festival mainly to pray for a good harvest. What is the nickname for The Third Month Street? (It is also named the Market of Guanyin. Guanyin is the Goddess of Mercy.)
86. The opening ceremony of the Summer Olympics in Beijing began on 8/8/08 at 8 seconds and 8 minutes past 8 pm local time. Why? (8 is considered a lucky number, as it sounds like "prosper." A string of 8s is thus even luckier.)
87. If you are in Hong Kong and don't see a 4th or a 14th or a 24th floor and so on, it's not because the builder got his numbers wrong! It's because (4 is considered an unlucky number, as it is a homonym with "death.")
88. Many combinations of numbers are used as internet slang. [For instance, if you got married, you could promise to "be together for a lifetime," or "1315" (literally, "one life one lifetime"), but if you broke up with someone, you might go "55555555," the sound for crying in Chinese ("wuwuwu").]
89. What physical stereotypes are often applied to people from Northern or Southern China? Chinese tend to think that people from Northern China are tall and thin, and have a light skin color. By contrast, a common stereotype is that people from Southern China are shorter and heavier and

have darker skin. Other stereotypes include: Northerners eat wheat or millet based grains, Southerners eat rice (consider agricultural and climate conditions, as well as transportation links when you evaluate the accuracy of these claims!).

Chinese people believe certain foods are endowed with symbolic meaning.

90. Eggs – Chinese believe that eggs symbolize fertility. After a baby is born, parents often hold a “red egg and ginger party” where red-dyed hard-boiled eggs (symbolizing good luck) are distributed to the guests.
91. Because of their length, noodles symbolize long life and are generally served at birthday parties. It is considered unlucky to cut noodles, so people often make audible slurping sounds as they suck them into their mouths and emphasize the unbroken length of the noodles. So, please slurp away!
92. Chinese chives symbolize eternity, since they are homophonous with eternity. The edible moss called Hair Moss brings a blessing of wealth since it sounds like “get rich.”
93. Gifts that should be avoided include the clock and the umbrella. To give a clock sounds exactly like “bidding farewell to the deceased,” implying VERY bad luck for the recipient. Similarly, an umbrella is homophonous with the word for “to break up, be separated.”
94. If you are asked to propose a toast, what might you say? Ganbei, or empty your cup!
95. Chairman Mao Zedong was known for his love of spicy food, associated with his province of origin. However, he was not from Sichuan, the region most non-Chinese associate immediately with spicy food. What was his place of origin? Hunan province. A curious fact: Hunan is known to use very long chopsticks to serve food at dinner parties (probably symbolizing the desire to serve the guests rather than care only about feeding oneself.)
96. China’s great size and regional differences mean that there is no one “Chinese cuisine.” Even the traditional division into the great regional cuisines (with their subdivisions) does not do justice to the sheer variety of flavors, ingredients and cooking styles. However, for easy reference, in addition to Sichuan cuisine, other famous cuisine styles include Northern, or Lu cuisine; Yue (think Hong Kong as an example) cuisine, and Su (think Shanghai as an example) cuisine.

III. Philosophies and Religions

97. Are the key Chinese religions separate? (No. One way Chinese have approached religion and rituals is to imagine how to combine the key religious/ritual systems of Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism.)
98. One example of this is the conception of Heaven: it is ruled by the Jade Emperor, usually regarded as a Daoist deity, but Buddhist deities also live and function in Heaven. At the same time, Heaven is also believed to have a bureaucracy, which mirrors the traditional bureaucracy of the Emperor on earth.
99. Similarly, Hell reflects Buddhist ideas in having many levels, 18, for different kinds of sins. Also, after a period of punishment, people can be reincarnated into different types of beings. At the same time, Hell is also highly bureaucratic, with records, offices and officials who can be bribed, just like on earth!

100. If Confucius is considered the First Sage of Chinese civilization in Confucian eyes, who is the Second Sage? (Mencius. Together, they provide some of the most formative concepts in Confucianism which later thinkers elaborated on. For instance, Confucius emphasized reciprocity—putting yourself in the shoes of others, while Mencius insisted that human nature was fundamentally good, though people had to be trained to be good, according to their nature.)
101. What would be another way of describing the “humanness” and “compassion” that Confucius promoted? (Reciprocity, or being able to put yourself in another person’s shoes and empathize with them.)
102. If you want to get ahead in life a few hundred years ago, you had to be familiar with the “4 Books.” Why? (In the 6 centuries before the 20th century, the 4 Books, a grouping of Confucian texts, formed the basic textbooks of the examination system that would enable a man to gain an official position in the Chinese bureaucracy if he passed the exams.)
103. When Zhuangzi’s wife died, his friends found him singing and drumming. Why? (He said he was sad at first, but then he realized that he did not need to be sad, since death didn’t mean that she was gone, merely that she would once again rejoin the unformed matter of the cosmos to be reformed into something new and different.)
104. Some monkeys protested when their keeper tried to feed them 3 nuts in the morning and 4 in the evening, so he said, “Okay, how about 4 in the morning and 3 in the evening?” What was their reaction? (They happily agreed. This is a story of how easily people can be blinded to reality, so that others can play fast and lose with the truth. In Daoist philosophy, it teaches a broader lesson about understanding the nature of reality rather than being tricked by words.)
105. What does an “uncarved block” mean in Daoist ideas? (It means a return to simplicity, to have a simple, self-sufficient life without luxury, a simple mind not caught up in word games or abstract ideas, and the innocence of a child.)
106. The Longmen 龍門, Yungang 雲崗, and Mogao 莫高 cave complexes are three of the best known complexes in China. To which religious affiliation do they belong? (Chinese Buddhism.)
107. What is the common theme at Longmen 龍門 and other cave temples? (“Thousand Buddhas,” usually portrayed by small, repeated images.)
108. Is Guanyin female or male? The image of Guanyin was traditionally depicted as a young Indian prince, but during the Tang the feminine characteristics of Guanyin became more prominent. After the Tang, the cult of Guanyin grew in popularity largely due to popular literature, folk stories, and artistic images. By the sixteenth century Guanyin had become a Chinese goddess figure. In some folk religions she had become independent from her Buddhist origins.
109. In her female form, Guan Yin is frequently depicted as “White-Robe Guanyin,” the patron goddess for childbirth.
110. During a meal, the abbess sits at a head table while the nuns sit along two sides facing each other. Why sits in this arrangement? (By adhering to a regulated arrangement these nuns express the hierarchical nature of the Buddhist community. Also, in monasteries and nunneries the meals are taken in silence, so it is convenient to sit in single file rows one behind the other.)
111. How could making or commissioning a handwritten copy of a Buddhist sutra benefit an individual? (Copying a text by hand, or commissioning a copy to be made, were common ways for an individual to gain karmic merit, so as to be reincarnated into a higher level of being or a better life.)



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112. If you say that someone has “three heads and six arms,” what does it mean? (It means that the person is scary and capable. This is a reference to Nezha, a powerful Buddhist-Daoist deity who appears in the form of a young boy with six arms and three heads, holding a spear and standing on flaming rings as wheels.)
113. *The Art of War by Master Sun*, or *Sunzi bingfa* 孫子兵法, is probably the most important and popular military classic of ancient China. By whom do modern scholars think that the *Art of War* was revised? (The book was composed as a draft during the 5th century BCE and Sun Bin 孫臏 later revised it according to contemporary tactics and strategy. The received version is thus a product from the Warring States period. Nowadays, the strategies of Master Sun have been adapted for use in business, in football and in other activities where strategy is considered important, even dating!)
114. According to Master Sun, what is the key to winning? (Understanding not only oneself, but also the enemy. As the saying goes, “When one knows himself and the competitor (enemy), he wins every war, hundred out of a hundred times.”)
115. Who was the first representative in China from the Jesuit Order, a Roman Catholic religious order especially dedicated to foreign missionary activity? (Matteo Ricci (d. 1610).)
116. What was special about the mission of the Jesuits? (Unlike their forerunners, the Jesuits did not travel to China along the silkroad but by ship and arrived in the Portuguese colony of Macau.)
117. What did Ricci do to win over Chinese people’s hearts? (Ricci recognized that it was important to adapt some theological ideas, teachings and his behavior to Chinese culture and tradition. For instance, Ricci adapted a Chinese name (Li Madou 利瑪竇), wore Chinese clothes and learned Chinese.)
118. Why was Ricci able to attract the attention of the imperial court and to baptize some high Chinese officials, like Xu Guangqi 徐光啟, Yang Tingyun 楊廷筠, and Li Zhizao 李之藻)? (With technical presents like clocks and other machines to the Ming Dynasty Wanli Emperor 萬曆.)
119. What were many of the Chinese high officials more interested in rather than Christianity? (They were more interested in Western astronomy, mathematics and geography.)
120. Who were the successors to Matteo Ricci? (Johann Adam Schall von Bell (Chinese name: Tang Tuowang 湯若望), Joachim Bouvet (Bai Jin 白晉), and Ferdinand Verbiest (Nan Huai ren 南懷仁).)
121. In addition to the religious mission, why are the Jesuits important for China with regard to Europe? (They were also the first to report accurately on events and conditions in China, and their reports stirred up great admiration in Europe for China, with regard to its government and culture, and in part, served as a source of inspiration for the Age of Enlightenment in Europe.)
122. Ricci wrote a book about the introduction of Christianity in China. While the Jesuits accepted Chinese customs like ancestor veneration, other missionaries renounced such adaptations to Chinese customs as being contrary to Christian beliefs. This disagreement was known as the Rites Controversy. When did this dispute ended? (It ended when Christian missions in China was prohibited in 1721 by the Qing court.)

IV. Politics and Society

The relationship between China and Japan over the past century has been an uneasy one, and several causes for friction still remain unresolved today.

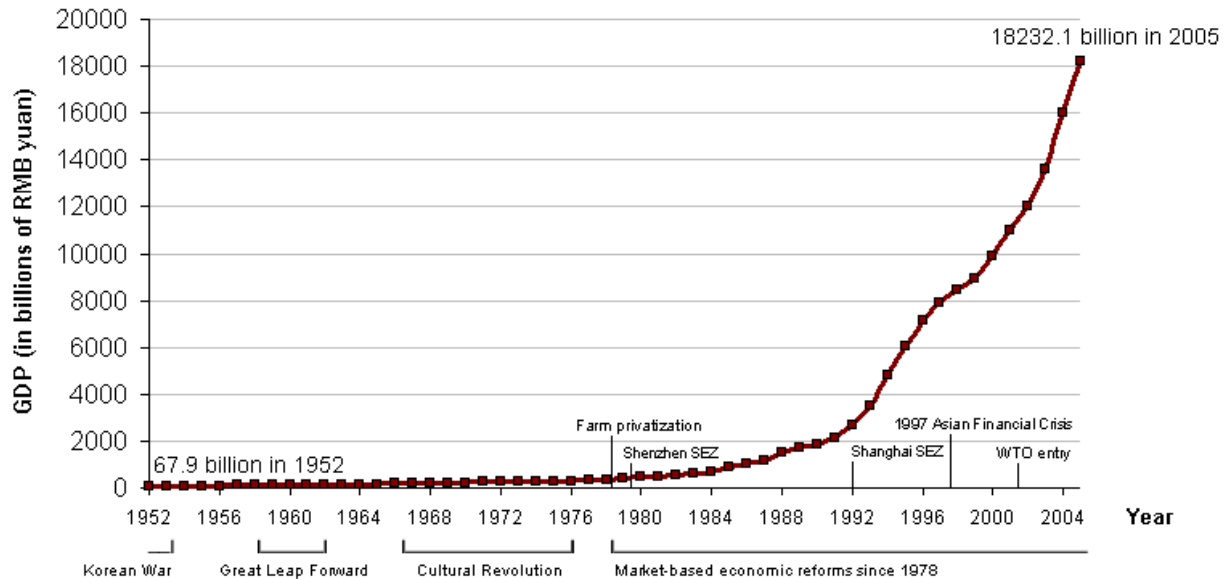
123. What is the name of the group of barren, uninhabited islands in the East China Sea, where Japan and China are having a dispute over sovereignty?
124. The islands are known as the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China, or Tiaoyutai Islands in Taiwan. In 2013, further dispute escalated the tension between the Japanese and Chinese governments.
125. Why are Japan and China fighting so vigorously over barren, uninhabited islands?
126. The territory is close to key shipping lanes and rich fishing grounds, and there may be oil reserves in the area.
127. Other than Japan and China, what is the position of Taiwan and USA on the sovereignty of the islands?
128. Taiwan – it belongs to China; USA – support Japan’s claim.
129. Where are the islands located?
130. The Senkaku Islands are located in the East China Sea between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of China. The archipelago contains five uninhabited islands and three barren rocks, ranging in size from 800 m2 to 4.32 km2.
131. The leadership of the Chinese government meets periodically to announce leadership changes and policy goals over each five-year leadership cycle or congress. These meetings are called plenary sessions or plenums. The third plenary sessions of each congress usually have to do with policy changes.
132. When was the Third Plenary Session of the 18th Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Congress held? Nov.15, 2013.
133. Who attended the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CCP Congress held in Beijing? Top Chinese leaders, including Xi Jinping, and members of the Politburo.
134. In his speech in the Third Plenary Session of the 18th CCP Congress, Xi Jinping mentioned what will decide the destiny of modern China? Reform and opening-up.
135. But the terms “reform” and “opening-up” are not new. When were they first mentioned? Chinese economic reform (simplified Chinese: 改革开放; traditional Chinese: 改革開放; pinyin: Gǎigé kāifàng; literally "Reform and Opening up") refers to the program of economic reforms described as "Socialism with Chinese characteristics" in the People's Republic of China (PRC) that was started in December 1978 by reformists within the CCP led by Deng Xiaoping. China had one of the world's largest and most advanced economies prior to the nineteenth century. However, restrictive policies, especially regarding trade and export, and a resource crunch meant that the economy did not experience a technological or industrial breakthrough and stagnated from the 16th century, even declining in absolute terms in the nineteenth and much of the twentieth century.
Economic reforms introducing market principles began in 1978 and were carried out in two stages. The first stage, in the late 1970s and early 1980s, involved the decollectivization of agriculture, the opening up of the country to foreign investment, and permission for entrepreneurs to start-up businesses. However, most industry remained state-owned. The second stage of reform, in the late 1980s and 1990s, involved the privatization and contracting out of much state-owned industry and the lifting of price controls, protectionist policies, and regulations, although state monopolies in sectors such as banking and petroleum remained. The

private sector grew remarkably, accounting for as much as 70 percent of China GDP by 2005. From 1978 until 2013, unprecedented growth occurred, with the economy increasing by 9.5% a year. China's economy surpassed that of Japan in 2010 as Asia's largest economy and became the second largest after the United States and is projected to become the world's largest economy by 2029. The conservative Hu-Wen Administration (Hu Jintao and Wen Jiabao) more heavily regulated and controlled the economy after 2005, reversing some reforms.

136. In his speech in the Third Plenary Session of the CCP Congress, Xi Jinping reaffirmed the socialist ideological orientation of the CCP as the way forward for China.
137. What is the key to the entire reform drive as seen through the decisions of CCP? Economic reform. According to Xi, the two important components of the socialist market economy and significant bases for economic and social development are *both* the public and non-public sectors of the economy. As stated in the Third Plenary Session of the CCP Congress, reforms will include:
- a. China has decided to allow more private capital into the market to develop a mixed ownership economy.
 - b. China will ease the one-child policy -China will loosen its decades-long one-child population policy, allowing couples to have two children if one of them is an only child.
 - c. China will abolish the "reeducation through labor" system-- China will abolish the "reeducation through labor" system as part of efforts to improve human rights and judicial practices.
 - d. China will reduce capital punishment "step by step" -- China will reduce the number of crimes subject to death penalty "step by step."
 - e. China will allow private capital to set up banks: -- China will open up the banking sector, on condition of strengthened regulation, by allowing qualified private capital to set up small- and medium-sized banks.
 - f. China will consider instituting an intellectual property court -- China will strengthen protection of intellectual property rights (IPR), improve the mechanism to encourage innovation, and explore ways of setting up the IPR court.
138. Who was the politician and reformist leader of the China who, after Mao's death led his country towards a market economy? Deng Xiaoping. He developed the concept of "Socialism with Chinese characteristics" and led Chinese economic reform. Therefore, he is recognized officially as "the chief architect of China's economic reforms and China's socialist modernization." He has been credited with developing China into one of the fastest growing economies in the world for over 30 years and raising the standard of living of hundreds of millions of Chinese. Deng Xiaoping led China's economic reform through a synthesis of theories that became known as what? "Socialist market economy."
139. In November 1978, Deng visited Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. At this time. Who advised him to open up and institute reforms, as well as to stop exporting Communist ideologies in Southeast Asia? Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.
140. The return of Macau and Hong Kong: In 1987, Portugal, under pressure from the Chinese authorities, agreed to arrange the return of its colony of Macau by 1999, with an agreement roughly similar to that of Hong Kong (1 July 1997 returned by United Kingdom). The return of these two territories was based on the political principle, formulated by Deng himself, called "one country, two systems," which refers to the coexistence, under one political authority, of areas with different economic systems, like communism and capitalism. (NB: Macau, known as

the Las Vegas of China, provides a vivid illustration of the difference between the two territories and China.)

People's Republic of China's Nominal Gross Domestic Product
(GDP) Between 1952 to 2005



141. Looking at China's nominal GDP trend from 1952 to 2005. Which period has the most rapid increase? Late 1970s onwards.
142. Who was the first Chinese leader to visit the US? In which year? Deng Xiaoping, 1979.
143. Which president did Deng Xiaoping meet during his visit? President Jimmy Carter.
144. The Tiananmen Square incident, or massacre, was a student movement that spread rapidly from Beijing to major cities in 1989. It began with peaceful demonstrations in Tiananmen Square in Beijing by pro-reform university students. What did The Tiananmen Square protests of 1989 culminate in? The June 4 incident. This is also the Chinese name for the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests.
145. The goals of the Tiananmen Square protests were social equality, "A Communist Party Without Corruption", freedom of the press, freedom of speech, socialism, democracy.
146. The protest methods used in The Tiananmen Square protests were hunger strikes, sit-ins, occupation of public spaces.
147. How did the Tiananmen Square protests end? Army intervention (tanks and rifles), the protests were suppressed, with thousands of casualties (no accurate figures have been provided).
148. Here are the results of the Tiananmen Square protests:
 - a. Leadership changes (Zhao Ziyang purged and Jiang Zemin promoted).
 - b. Political reform halted.
 - c. Media control tightened.
 - d. Market reforms delayed.
149. What was the role of Deng Xiaoping, Zhao Ziyang, Li Peng and Hu Yiaobang in the Tiananmen Square Protests?
150. The protests were sparked by the death of Hu Yaobang, a reformist official backed by Deng but ousted by the Eight Elders and the conservative wing of the Politburo. Many people

were dissatisfied with the party's slow response and relatively subdued funeral arrangements. Public mourning began on the streets of Beijing and universities in the surrounding areas. In Beijing this was centered on the Monument to the People's Heroes in Tiananmen Square. The mourning became a public conduit for anger against perceived nepotism in the government, the unfair dismissal and early death of Hu, and the behind-the-scenes role of the "old men." By the eve of Hu's funeral, the demonstration had gathered 100,000 people on Tiananmen Square. While the protests lacked a unified cause or leadership, participants raised the issue of corruption within the government and some voices called for economic liberalization and democratic reform within the structure of the government while others called for a less authoritarian and less centralized form of socialism.

During the demonstrations, Deng's pro-market ally General Secretary Zhao Ziyang supported the demonstrators and distanced himself from the Politburo. Martial law was declared on 20 May by the socialist hardliner Li Peng, but the initial military advance on the city was blocked by residents. The movement lasted seven weeks. On June 3–4, over two hundred thousand soldiers in tanks and helicopters were sent into the city to quell the protests by force, resulting in thousands of casualties. Many ordinary people in Beijing believed that Deng had ordered the intervention, but political analysts do not know who was actually behind the order. However, Deng's daughter defends the actions that occurred as a collective decision by the party leadership.

To purge sympathizers of Tiananmen demonstrators, the Communist Party initiated a one and half year long program similar to Anti-Rightist Movement. Old-timers like Deng Fei aimed to deal "strictly with those inside the party with serious tendencies toward bourgeois liberalization" and more than 30,000 communist officers were deployed for the task.

Zhao was placed under house arrest by hardliners and Deng himself was forced to make concessions to them. He soon declared that "the entire imperialist Western world plans to make all socialist countries discard the socialist road and then bring them under the monopoly of international capital and onto the capitalist road." A few months later he said that the "United States was too deeply involved" in the student movement, referring to foreign reporters who had given financial aid to the student leaders and later helped them escape to various Western countries, primarily the United States through Hong Kong and Taiwan.

151. In 2011, China's development aid was nearly US \$190 billion dollars. Where does this aid go? (Apart from North Korea, China's assistance focuses on the development of natural resources, principally energy-related [coal, oil and gas], and secondarily on ferrous and nonferrous metals.)
152. Which regions are China's largest aid recipients? (Venezuela, Brazil and Argentina for South America, and Nigeria and Ghana for Africa.)
153. What is an example of China's international developmental involvement with Pakistan? (The Karakoram Highway connecting China and Pakistan.)
154. In addition to the Communist Party of China (中国共产党) which has more than 70 million members, there are eight registered minor parties under CCP direction. What are they?
 - a. Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang (中国国民党革命委员会 or 民革). Formed by leftist members of the Kuomintang (KMT) who did not escape to Taiwan. 53,000 members. It is considered "second" in status to the Communist Party of China. Thus it has 30% of the seats in the People's Political Consultative Conference. It champions Chinese nationalism and Sun Yat-sen's Three Principles of the People: nationalism, government by the people, social welfare.

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- b. [China Democratic League](#) (中国民主同盟 or 民盟). Originally a league of pro-democracy parties. Formed by 130,000 members, mainly middle-level and senior intellectuals. It champions patriotism and socialism.
 - c. [China Democratic National Construction Association](#) (中国民主建国会 or 民建). Entrepreneurs from the manufacturing, financial or commercial industries, in both private and state sectors. 69,000 members. It favors market socialism.
 - d. [China Association for Promoting Democracy](#) (中国民主促进会 or 民进). Intellectuals, mostly in the education, technology and publishing sectors. Some 65,000 members. It favors social democracy.
 - e. [Chinese Peasants' and Workers' Democratic Party](#) (中国农工民主党 or 农工党). Most of its 65,000 members work in the fields of public health, culture and education, science and technology. It favors socialism.
 - f. [China Zhi Gong Party](#) (中国致公党). Returned overseas Chinese, relatives of overseas Chinese, and noted figures and scholars who have overseas ties, with 15,000 members. It favors Chinese federalism and reunification of China.
 - g. [Jiusan Society](#) (九三学社). Most of its 68,000 members are high- and medium level intellectuals in the fields of science, technology, education, culture and medicine. It favors socialism.
 - h. [Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League](#) (台湾民主自治同盟 or 台盟). 1,600 people, most of whom are prominent people that are from Taiwan or are of Taiwanese heritage, but now reside on the Mainland. It favors Taiwanization and “One country, two systems.”
155. There is an interesting parallel between a president of China and a president of the US. Both went to the same high school in Hawaii. Who are these two presidents?
Dr. Sun Yat-sen (China's Founding Father) and President Obama.
156. Mr. Gary Locke is the current USA ambassador to China (as of December 2013). Max Baucus, senior senator from Montana, was tapped for the next ambassador to China in December 2013. Mr. Jon Huntsman was the ambassador to China before Locke, from 2009-2011. Before taking over the ambassadorship, Gary Locke was US Secretary of Commerce.
157. Steven Chu was the first Secretary of the US Energy Department who had won the Nobel Prize. He won the prize for Physics. Before taking over the DOE, he taught at UC Berkeley.
158. A major oil company partnered with this Energy Secretary when he was at the university, with a major grant for energy research. Which oil company? BP.
159. Who speaks better Mandarin, Jon Huntsman, Gary Loch, or Steven Chu? Jon Huntsman.
160. In traditional China, how was the distribution of labor organized conceptually? (Literati, followed by farmers, then artisans and then merchants. This shows the order of priority and the prestige associated with each occupation.)
161. Why were merchants considered to be at the bottom of the traditional social hierarchy? (Trade was considered non-productive as it didn't involve growing or making anything, nor was it service in government. Merchants were thought to make a profit off the work of others, thus they was a parasitic class.)
162. Where do soldiers fall in this traditional conceptual hierarchy? (At the bottom, if they are included. They were considered instruments of disorder, violence and death, thus, had a very low

- social position in a society that prized order and productivity.) Hence, the saying, “A good man doesn’t become a soldier, just like good metal isn’t used for nails.”
163. What is the relationship between the family and the traditional state? (The family was the model for the state. Thus, we can also describe the traditional state as paternalistic. The ruler was like a father, and the people his children, to be protected and looked after, but also to have their decisions made for them.)
164. One example of the paternalism of the traditional Chinese state is that one way of referring to government officials when recalling their duty to the people is to call them “mother and father officials.”
165. Traditional Chinese society had a very strict sense of hierarchy. Therefore, the older people in the hierarchy, and those with more authority, are owed not only respect but also obedience. In turn, they are supposed to nurture and care for the younger and their inferiors. This is demonstrated in many ways. For instance, there is a saying that, “if someone is your teacher for only a day, you should regard that person like a father for the rest of your life.”
166. Under traditional Chinese law, children who killed or injured their parents were punished most severely, though less severely than the punishment for treason. However, a parent killing a child could justify the act, especially if they could claim the child was acting in an unfilial manner, and their punishment could be relatively light.
167. What was the Chinese Exclusion Act? (It was signed into law by President Chester A. Arthur in 1882 and prohibited all immigration by Chinese laborers into the US.)
168. When was it repealed? (In 1943, by the Magnuson Act.)
169. The Angel Island Immigration Station is significant because from 1910 to 1940, it served as the main processing center for Chinese entering the US.
170. The barracks of the Angel Island Immigration Station, where Chinese were locked while awaiting processing are unique because they are a repository of poetry, composed by the immigrants, and carved on the walls. (What kinds of things might people say in their poems? Anxiety and fear? Homesickness?)
171. What was the record for laying down railroad tracks when building the transcontinental railway? 2 miles a day, 5 miles a day, or 10 miles a day? Which team accomplished this record? 10 miles a day. A team of Chinese laborers set this record. The Chinese working on the railway adapted building techniques they had developed for mountainous regions and sheer embankments in China.
172. Ban Zhao (45-116 CE) was China’s first known female historian, who aided her brother Ban Gu in writing his *History of the Former Han*. She also wrote *Admonitions to my Daughter*, a series of precepts advocating modest, respectful, restrained female behavior that became standard reading for women for the next two thousand years.
173. 4 women have been acclaimed as China’s greatest beauties, though they all lived before the 10th century CE. They are described as causing “fish to sink and geese to fall in shock, to surpass the moon and shame the flowers. Who are these women? Xi Shi, Wang Zhaojun, Diao Chan and Prized Consort Yang.
174. When a lake is compared to a beautiful woman, especially one as famous as Xi Shi, one has great expectations for its scenic beauty. In fact, it has been described as beautiful under all conditions, just as Xi Shi was “pleasing whether heavily adorned, or lightly made up.” The fortunate lake given this accolade is the West Lake in Hangzhou.

175. Hua Mulan is a well-known Chinese heroine because of the Disney movie *Mulan*. However, she is not the only Chinese female associated with the military. In fact, over time, many military heroines have appeared. Some are historical figures, others appear in folk stories.
176. One of the earliest female generals was Fu Hao (Mrs. Good), one of the wives of the Shang dynasty (?-1045 BC) king Wu Ding. Her tomb was discovered in 1976 at Anyang in the ruins of the ancient Shang capital of Yin. She controlled her own estates, led armies in war, participated in major rituals and bore Wu Ding's heir.
177. Princess Pingyang, daughter of the founder of the Tang Dynasty, Emperor Gaozu, commanded an army of women who participated in the campaign to seize the capital of Chang'an from the previous dynasty for her father. She also led an army of men.
178. Lady Liang of the Song dynasty was a general who was the first woman honored in her own right in imperial China (rather than due to her husband, who was also a general) with the title of Lady Yang for her military achievements. She was known for her strength and skill in the martial arts, and died a heroic death on the battlefield.
179. Qin Liangyu was a general who fought against the Manchus at the end of the Ming dynasty. She continued her resistance in Chongqing in southern China even after the Ming fell. Growing up, her father believed that girls should have same education as boys and had her educated with her brothers.
180. Thirteenth Sister is a character in a 19th novel called *Gallant Men and Women* by Wen Kang. During her pursuit of revenge against a corrupt official who killed her father, she rescues a scholar called An Ji. Though she marries him at the end of the novel, she had refused to do so at first because her rescue of him would not be a selfless act if she received personal benefit from it. The story of Thirteenth Sister is now a standard piece in Beijing opera.
181. Qiu Jin was a female revolutionary who lived in the last quarter of the 19th century to the first years of the 20th century. She was known for dressing like a man and for her writings urging women to take responsibility for themselves, their livelihood and their families. She was executed as a revolutionary in 1907.
182. Many Chinese stories involve taking revenge. Given the importance of the family in Chinese culture, it is not surprising that if someone's father were killed, that person would have to take revenge, because he was not supposed "to coexist with the killer under the same sky."
183. Just as a person is compelled to take revenge, he is also obligated to return good for good. This is called "recompense." Just as we say, "one good turn deserves another," a Chinese person will have to do something to benefit someone who has helped him or done something for him, or that person's family. Otherwise, a debt remains between them.
184. However, this does not mean that he needs to seek unique ways to repay a debt. For instance, if he had been helped in his career as a young man, he can do the same for his benefactor's children by providing introductions to people who might help them in their careers, if he cannot do so himself.
185. The Chinese like to ascribe cultural developments to a "cultural hero." Hence, there are a host of cultural heroes in Chinese mythology. Thus:
186. Cangjie is the founder of Chinese characters. He was a bureaucrat to the Yellow Emperor, the first mythological emperor, and was ordered to come up with a way to record information. He was inspired by the different marks left by different animals to create characters with unique characteristics.
187. The Yellow Emperor himself seems to have done quite a bit- he invented shelters, boats, carts and clothing, astronomy, the Chinese calendar, the bow-sling, among others.

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188. His wife, Leizu, invented the cultivation, weaving and dying of silk.
189. Shennong, the Divine Farmer, taught the basics of agriculture, the use of medicinal herbs and the basics of acupuncture and moxibustion.
190. Fuxi was responsible for the institution of marriage, and originated the eight trigrams, leading to the creation of divinatory methods using the *Yijing* (or *I-Ching*).
191. Which word describes the basic dynamic in personalized networks of influence, and is a central idea in Chinese society? Guanxi, or connections.
192. What are the implications of addressing people by their title and surname? Addressing people by their name and title reflects the influence of Confucius in Chinese culture. Official positions and ranks are recognized and respected. It also helps secure guanxi, or connections, for the future.
193. What is the closest concept in western culture that can relate to Chinese guanxi? Guanxi is a two-way street. In other words, I'll count on you to do your best for me, and you can count on me to do likewise in return. The closest concept in western culture is, "You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours."
194. Who was the missionary from the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions famous for spending 54 years as a missionary in China and writing books which presented China to foreign readers? Arthur Henderson Smith (July 18, 1845 – August 31, 1932).
195. Which was the most widely read book on China among foreign residents in the early 20 century? *Chinese Characteristics*, written by Arthur Henderson Smith.
196. What word describes a fundamental concept in Chinese society which means the dignity or prestige of a person? Mianzi, or Face.
197. In Arthur Smith's book *Chinese Characteristics*, "mianzi" meaning face, is the first of twenty-six characters studied. Smith wrote, "Once rightly apprehended, face will be found to be in itself a key to the combination lock of many of the most important characteristics of the Chinese." He described face as a "compound noun of multitude, with more meaning than we shall be able to describe, or perhaps to comprehend." Towards the end of the chapter, Smith relayed the story of a Chinese District Magistrate who, "as a special favor, was allowed to be beheaded in his robes of office in order to save his face."
198. What does it mean to "give face" to someone? To give face means that you are giving that person respect and recognizing his or her authority.

V. Economy/Commerce and Science/Technology/Military

199. TSMC, or Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company is the world's largest semiconductor outsourcing manufacturing company and is based in Taiwan. Why is it important? It is best known for its logic chip line, and it produces such chips for companies like NVIDIA, AMD, and Qualcomm that design and market them, but do not manufacture them.
200. The world's largest electronic outsourcing manufacturing company is also based in Taiwan, with many plants in China. It manufactures the iPad, iPhone, iPod, Kindle, Playstations 3 and 4, Wii U. What is its name? Honhai or Foxconn.
201. Lenovo is one of the top 3 PC manufacturing companies in the world and is based in China. What well-known computer business did it acquire in 2005? Lenovo acquired IBM's

personal computer business in 2005. One of its best known line of computers is the Thinkpad.

202. You have probably seen the label Haier in many stores. It is one of the top home appliance and consumer electronics manufacturing companies in the world and is based in northern China, in Qingdao in Shandong province.
203. The world's largest subway network for a city (total track mileage) is in China. Where is it? Shanghai.
204. What is the significance of the Qinghai-Tibet Railway? When it began running in 2006, it became the first railway link Tibet had to any other Chinese province. Previously, Tibet's high elevation made rail travel technologically challenging.
205. How can you get to the Longmen grotto (see 106) quickly? Take the high-speed rail between two major cities, Xi'An and Zhengzhou, both of which are economic and political centers in central China.
206. What's the top operating speed for the high-speed rail in China? 350 kilometers per hour.
207. How long does it take to ride China's high-speed rail from Shanghai to Beijing, 3, 5, or 9 hours? Around 5 hours.
208. How long does it take to ride the high-speed train from Guangzhou (near Hong Kong) to Wuhan? 3-4 hours.
209. High-speed rail is seen as an increasingly viable transportation option in Asia. Apart from China, Taiwan has also operated a high-speed rail system from 2007. Does Taiwan's high-speed rail share the same tracks with the regular railroad to save space? No. It has its own tracks.
210. Taiwan has a mountainous region in the middle of the island. Is the high-speed rail line to the west or the east of that mountain range (hint: Taiwan's major metropolitan areas are on the western side of the island from north to south.)? West.

One of the biggest issues facing Chinese industry is the availability of energy resources and other resources for production. On the energy front, China has traditionally been a big user of coal, and is currently the largest consumer of coal in the world. Though China has 13% of the world's coal reserves, these reserves will last about half a century at current levels of production. Given the needs of Chinese development, as well as the problems of pollution from coal burning, China is exploring other sources of energy. Concerning other resources, China has been exploring either domestic reserves or creating strategic relationships with other countries through development aid (see 151-) to ensure supply of much needed materials.

211. Many countries are building nuclear power plants, about what percentage of the total number of plants are being built in China? 10, 30, 50, or 90 %? 50% or more.
212. It is believed that China also has one of the largest reserves of a new energy source type, currently being explored in many countries including the U.S. What is it? Shale oil and gas.
213. China is the largest producer of a group of key elements for electronics. What are they and where are they mined? They are Rare Earth elements and found mainly in Inner Mongolia.
214. China is the world's biggest importer of many types of raw material. Which country is its major provider of iron ore? Australia.

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215. What are the major sources for China's power production today? Coal, and to a lesser extent, hydroelectricity (20%).
216. China has its own search engine company, social network company, and micro-blogging company. What are they? Baidu, Renren, and Weibo. (Try Googling these companies!)
217. China banned direct door-to-door sales in 1998 because of unscrupulous sellers and pyramid schemes. In 2005, after a seven-year ban, door-to-door sales were again allowed.
218. Small and middle-size enterprises account for 99.6 percent of all Chinese enterprises, creating about 60 percent of the nation's output and 75 percent of all urban and new jobs.
219. Who are the founders of Yahoo Inc. and Youtube? (Jerry Yang and Steve Chen, these two Internet entrepreneurs were both born in Taiwan and immigrated to the U.S. at young ages.)
220. Many Silicon Valley companies are founded by Chinese founders. Name one such company: Yahoo (see 218). NVIDIA.
221. During the early days of space exploration, much of the mathematics was done by hand or with very little computer help. Is it true that many such mathematicians were female mathematicians from China and/or Taiwan? Yes.
222. China now leads the world in patent applications, holding a 24.6% share of global patent applications in 2011, having achieved the same milestone in utility models (87.3% of global applications), trademarks (22.8% of global applications) and industrial designs (53.1% of global applications). China is now third in the list of most patents granted, after Japan and the United States.
223. Who is the world's number one patent filer in 2011? The China State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) surpassed the US Patent and Trademark Office for the first time, becoming the world's number-one patent filer.
224. What was the growing trend in patent applications at SIPO? It received over 526,000 patent applications in 2011, a year-on-year growth of 34.6%. China accounted for 72.1% of the growth in patent applications in 2011 worldwide. This was against a backdrop of China having the fastest-growing economy in a slow global market.
225. Was it filed by international businesses? No, the rapid growth in China was largely attributed to the sharp increase in filings by residents. Chinese residents now file 79% of all patents, compared to 47% in 1985.
226. What was the area that saw the highest growth rate? Digital communication technologies.
227. What was the prediction made by the General Office of the State Council (China's Cabinet) in February 2013 about invention patent applications and grants filed by Chinese enterprises? They are expected to double in 2015.
228. China's 4 great inventions are very well-known. Paper, gunpowder, the compass and movable type printing. At the same time, these inventions were further improved and adapted, and China made progress in other areas of technology, as seen in the following.
229. How could the effectiveness of bows be further increased? By the Song, gunpowder packets with oiled paper fuses would be attached to many projectiles.
230. From very early times, soldiers wore armor and used shields to protect themselves from arrows. Horses, which were more important than ever when the Song was coping with the Liao, Jin and Yuan, were also armored. Armor was often made from the hide of a rhinoceros and then lacquered. So many rhinoceros were slaughtered for this purpose that the animal was largely wiped out in China and rhinoceros hide had to be imported. What other kind of materials were used to make armor and shields? Iron chain mail and hard lacquered leather were commonly

used. Less expensive (but also less effective) materials included layers of thick cloth and sometimes bamboo.

231. Traditional weapons such as spears, axes, clubs and swords remained in use into the twentieth century, never fully supplanted by firearms. The handles of clubs, maces, and axes could be up to three or four meters long. In what situations would long-handled weapons be preferred over ones with short handles? Short-handled weapons were used in close combat. Some weapons with longer handles were used in cavalry fighting, others were necessary to reach enemies trying to scale walls.
232. However, in individual combat, there is also a saying, "An inch shorter is an inch more dangerous," because of the necessity of coming closer within the enemy's reach.
233. As an offensive weapon, fire was delivered to enemy camps in a variety of ways. Animals with unpredictable behavior, such as birds, were frequently used. When used in combination with ladder carts, hook carts, battering rams and tanks, fire could be a particularly useful weapon. Can you think of ways to counteract attacks by fire? Since many offensive techniques such as fire attacks required time to prepare, defensive tactics could include disrupting enemy camp stability. For example, tunneling could undermine the earth on which an enemy stood, and fire or smoke could be sent windwards into enemy camps.
234. The most famous fire stratagem probably appears in the Three Kingdoms period when a general attacking the south was tricked into lashing his boats together for greater stability as his northern army was not used to fighting on the water. When the enemy set fire to the boats, this made it easier for the fire to spread rapidly.
235. Fire could also be used to determine the size of the army. How? Enemy scouts could count the number of campfires. However, this could also be used to trick the enemy into believing that the army was larger/smaller than expected through deliberately arranging for certain numbers or configurations of campfires.

VI. History (Pre-Modern and Modern)

236. Was China's history before the 20th century is a history of dynasties? (The dynastic state was assumed to be the only viable form of political organization before the 20th century. However, there were many variations in the way different dynasties organized their government, and there are many long-term changes in China that outlasted individual dynasties. For instance, the growth and development of Chinese cities, economic changes, etc.)
237. A weakness of the dynastic structure is that there is a decline in the quality of the rulers: the founder and his heir were frequently very powerful and competent men. However, this is something that cannot be guaranteed in all future heirs of the family. So the dynastic structure has built-in assumptions that someday, a dynasty will decline and be replaced by another as the rulers become weaker or ineffective.
238. What are the "Three Kingdoms"? (The three kingdoms, Wei, Wu and Shu-Han, from 220-280 CE, succeeded the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220 CE) and came into being as the dominions of three warlords who contested for imperial power. The name "three kingdoms" has become well-known because it is associated with the historical novel *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* [Sanguo yanyi 三國演義].)
239. Who founded the kingdom of Wei 魏 (220-265)? And why is he significant? (Cao Pi 曹丕; he is normally seen as the orthodox successor of the Han dynasty. Wei ruled over northern China and was one of the three kingdoms involved in the 3-way contest for the Chinese throne

described above. Wei was also the kingdom that finally won the contest between the three kingdoms.)

240. Who founded the empire of Wu 吳 (222-280)? Sun Quan 孫權; Wu ruled over southern China.
241. The region of Sichuan and Yunnan was called Shu 蜀 (221-263), or Shu-Han. Who founded it? Liu Bei 劉備, who claimed legitimacy and descent from the previous Han dynasty, ruled by the Liu clan. NB: Note Liu Bei's family name!
242. Zhuge Liang is considered to be one of China's greatest military strategists. He was active during the Three Kingdoms period, serving Liu Bei as his chief strategist and prime minister of Shu-Han. In Chengdu there is a world-famous temple honoring him. He is thus also a key character in the historical novel *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*.
243. In the novel, Zhuge defeated the Wei army on a river by borrowing two things and then applying a third. What are the three things? Zhuge first "borrowed" arrows from the Wei army. He approached the Wei boats in a foggy night with straw-covered boats, then beat the drums to get the Wei soldiers to shoot arrows into the straw. Then he "borrowed" the East Wind. The direction of the wind meant that when his troops set fire to the Wei army's boats, the fire would spread rapidly through their boats rather than being blown in the opposite direction back on his own boats. Thus, he also applied the strategy of using fire.
244. The Yuan Dynasty was ruled by the Mongols, a non-Han Chinese polity with an aggressive expansionist policy. After their conquest of large parts of Asia, the Mongols turned westwards towards Europe. How far did the Mongol army extend into Europe? They invaded Hungary and Croatia, at that time, Croatia was part of Hungary.
245. The Yuan army also tried to invade Japan, but that invasion failed, because (1) an earthquake damaged the ports, (2) the Yuan army ran out of boats, (2) a typhoon damaged the Yuan navy, which the Japanese ascribed the intervention of the gods, hence calling the wind a "divine wind." (4) the Japanese navy enlisted the US navy's help to beat back the Yuan troops? Choosing one of the following the answer is (2) A typhoon.
246. Zheng He (1371–1433 CE) was a Muslim Chinese admiral during the Ming dynasty who led the largest fleet in the world at that time on a series of 7 diplomatic missions for the Ming Emperor, reaching as far as the coast of Africa. He commanded over 300 ships with nearly 30000 men and visited over 30 countries. His journeys demonstrated the strength, wealth and technological and organization ability of the Chinese empire at that time, and the power of the state in commanding its resources. These journeys can be contrasted with the travels of the European explorers of the time, which tended to be much smaller in scale, and not sponsored to any great degree by the state.
247. What was the Opium War about? (The first Opium War with Britain in 1842 was an attempt by the Chinese government to restrict the import of opium into China because of the increasing numbers of addicts and the trade imbalance in silver with the West. China's defeat, however, meant that it owed indemnities, ceded Hong Kong and was further opened to the West for trading, with the establishment of treaty ports and other trading privileges. The second war in 1860, started by the British due to Chinese unwillingness to fulfill the terms of the treaty, further extended British gains, including Kowloon territory. NB: Note that the 18th-19th century was the great age of colonial expansion by the Western powers, where the search for natural resources and markets led these powers to assert control over territories around the world. China, which had not experienced the Industrial Revolution as Europe had, was by this time lagging behind in

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terms of technology, military ability and organization, and was at a weakened stage in her dynastic cycle. Thus, she became the object of Western, and later, Japanese, colonization as they vied for control over her resources.)

248. Taiwan was also occupied by a foreign power for a number of years. When was Taiwan returned to China, from which foreign power, after which war? China won Taiwan back from Japan in 1945, after Japan's defeat in WW-II.
249. Besides the Japanese influence, Taiwan also saw another foreign influence prior to the Sino-Japan war. A Ming dynasty general called Coxinga defeated this other foreign power in 1662, when this power had already established a fort in southern Taiwan for 38 years. What was this foreign power? The Dutch established a fort in today's Tainan area, and were defeated and driven away by the Ming army. (NB: The Dutch were one of the earliest of the colonizing powers, beginning with the establishment of the Dutch East India company from the early 17th century, following in the footsteps of the Portuguese and Spanish a century and a half earlier.)
250. The Boxer Rebellion from 1899-1901 was not about dogs or boxing. It was an anti-foreigner movement that erupted into violence, leading to an 8-nation alliance to put down the rebellion, resulting in China making further concessions to the West, with an indemnity of 67 million pounds, and allowing foreign troops to be stationed in Beijing.
251. What was the most important means of recruiting state officials in the large administrative and bureaucratic system of the Chinese imperial state? The state examination system (keju 科舉).
252. What is the impact of the State Examination System on the Chinese educational system? (It provided a relatively impartial system for examining and recruiting government officials, creating a merit-based hierarchy and bureaucracy.)
253. What was the family name of the last clan to rule as a dynasty in China? (The Aishin Goro clan, the Manchu clan who founded China's last dynasty, the Qing. The Manchus were the second avowedly non-Chinese polity to establish a dynasty over the whole of China.)
254. The city of Wuchang was merged with Hanyang and Hankou in 1927 to form the tri-city of Wuhan, also known as the "Chicago of China," comparable to Chicago because of its location in central China and its economic importance. By itself, Wuchang is very significant in modern Chinese history because of the "Wuchang Uprising", which started the Xinhai Revolution in 1911, leading to the downfall of the Qing Dynasty and the founding of a new Republic of China.
255. The May Fourth and June Fourth Movements sound alike, but occurred 70 years apart. The May Fourth Movement of 1919 was a nationalist, anti-imperialist movement protesting the terms of the Treaty of Versailles after World War 1, which allowed Japan to retain its colonies in China.
256. The June Fourth Movement was a student-led pro-democracy movement in 1989, centered in Beijing. It voiced grievances against government corruption and demanded freedom of speech and press and government accountability. It is infamous for the Chinese government's use of violence in suppressing the movement. (See 144)

VII. Language and Literature

257. The poetic tradition has a long history in China, dating back to the *Book of Poetry* compiled more than 2000 years ago. However, it is described as a lyrical tradition rather than an epic one—it does not contain long historical accounts in verse, rather, it describes the natural world, the environment, emotions, or vignettes of life.
258. China’s prose tradition begins with speeches, anecdotes, historical accounts and essays. Later, people begin writing fictional short stories. Novels appear very late on the scene, during the Ming dynasty in 15th century. In the present day, short essays, stories and novels remain popular forms of literature.
259. Some Chinese poets wrote about the importance of service and duty. Du Fu is probably the most famous of these. For example, when he bemoaned his poverty, he bemoaned even more so the fate of others who didn’t even have shelter like he did, even though it was only a poor thatched cottage, and wished that he could have a mansion to shelter them as well. It is interesting that the site of the thatched cottage where he lived in Chengdu has been preserved as a monument to literature and to him.
260. Others wrote about the pleasures of living in a carefree manner. Tao Qian wrote of the pleasures of his country life, his wine, and his farm, relieved that he had chosen not to be an official.
261. Another example is Li Bai, who embraced a freedom of spirit, most notably, in the way he could enjoy wine and put aside social mores. In fact, wine was a medium through which his creativity flowed, i.e. he drank while writing his poetry. Li Bai and Dufu are probably the best known Chinese poets.
262. Who is the most famous female poet in the Song Dynasty? Li Qingzhao
263. Why is Li Qingzhao’s work significant? Her poetry is particularly stirring. Her poem, *Slow, Slow Tune*, “So dim, so dark, So dense, so dull, So damp, so dank, So dead!” which boldly uses extremely unusual long strings of reiterative locutions is actually one of the outstanding works in the literary canon of China. Her patriotic lines, containing the lofty sentiments of “Be man of men while you are alive; be soul of souls even though you’re dead!” have been popular among the patriotic of later generations.
264. “In the North there is a beautiful woman, Unique, Unequal in the world. With one glance she conquers a city of men. With another glance, a country of men. Don’t you know? A city and a country conquering Beauty cannot be found again.” (Translated by Professor Hans H. Frankel). Who is this extraordinary beauty in the song? Lady Li, the favorite concubine of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty, was a dazzling beauty. This song is apparently the means her brother, Emperor Wu’s master of music, used to bring her to the Emperor’s notice: a beauty so potent that a man could lose his country for her and not regret it. The fascination and danger that men saw in beautiful women are recurring themes in Chinese writings about women.
265. Who is depicted as the Goddess of the Hollyhock Blossom? Lady Li.
266. What traditional Chinese play celebrates a love so strong that the dead can come back to life? (*The Peony Pavilion*. The heroine pines to death after dreaming of her destined husband, but because her love is so long, when the man appears in person at her grave, she is revived.)
267. The *Peony Pavilion* has received great interest in the US and been performed many times over the last decade. However, since southern Chinese operas can last over 20 hours, in 2012, Tan Dun directed a 70-minute version that was performed where? (Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. They have it on video!)

268. What Shakesperean play is popular Chinese director Feng Xiaogang's *The Banquet* (2006) based on? (Hamlet, except that instead of marrying his mother, "Hamlet's" uncle has married Hamlet's childhood love.)
269. On a different note, director Zhang Yimou's *Curse of the Golden Flower* (2006) was based on which modern Chinese play? (Thunderstorm, by Cao Yu, which depicts the breakdown of a traditional family. Zhang Yimou's retelling provides a broader and grander setting, as the family in *Curse* also happens to be the royal family.)
270. Many of China's earliest prose writings were historical anecdotes or historical accounts. In fact, a historical format which became the standard format was in place around 90 BC, when the first comprehensive history of China was written by Sima Qian. This format consisted of biographies, together with treatises on such subjects as the law, economic issues, etc.
271. Compared to the West, the Chinese have a much smaller number of traditional novels that they acknowledge to be timeless classics, and among these, five novels stand paramount, 4 written during the Ming and 1 during the Qing. Together, they present a range of topics that correspond with the main themes of traditional literature. They are:
272. Journey to the West—a supernatural, fantasy story of the monk Tripitaka and his three disciples—who were demons he had subdued—and their journey to India to obtain sutras from the birthplace of Buddhism. Their journey is also one towards enlightenment through personal cultivation and self-control. This story is based on the real life story of Tang Dynasty monk Xuanzang who concerned that the sutras available in China were incomplete and misinterpreted, and so journeyed to India to obtain more than 600 Sanskrit texts, which he spent the rest of his life translating, furthering the development of Buddhism in China. His collection was housed in the Big Wild Goose Pagoda in Xi'an.
273. In the fictional *Journey to the West*, who was Tripitaka's the most capable disciple? What was his most famous "trick"? The Monkey King. He would pluck some hairs, and blowing on them, turn them into replicas of himself to join the fighting, like Agent Smith in The Matrix. He also used a 18,000 lb. staff, which could change to the size of sewing needle for storage.
274. All Men are Brothers, or The Water Margin, or Heroes of the Marsh is an account of a group of bandits who set up their lair on a mountain. They are described as good, loyal men who had been framed by corrupt men for various crimes, or men who had tried to help others but ended up being punished. The novel celebrates brotherhood, while criticizing the corruption of the powerful.
275. *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* is a military historical novel, describing the events surrounding the founding of the three kingdoms, and in particular, the various personalities of the time. It is also a celebration of martial virtues, of brave and skillful warriors, of cunning strategists, and of patriotism and loyalty to a cause.
276. *Plum in a Golden Vase* is a domestic drama and a cautionary tale about over indulgence. The female protagonist plots her husband's death with her lover, then marries her lover and enters his household, where they indulge in a dissolute lifestyle. And come to a bad end.
277. In *Dream of the Red Chamber*, or *The Story of the Stone*, a group of teenage cousins are brought up together and two of them fall in love with each other. However, one of them is tricked into marrying another wealthier and healthier cousin while the other dies of grief. The larger theme of the novel is the decline of a great aristocratic clan. It provides an intimate view of domestic life among the elite.

278. *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* is a book about her parenting memoirs by Amy Chua, an English/Hokkien-speaking Filipino Chinese American, who teaches at Yale Law School, published in 2011. What does the term tiger mother mean? Tiger Mother means a mother who is a strict disciplinarian.
279. In other contexts, referring to a father as a “tiger” implies that he is a man of outstanding qualities, hence, the saying, “A tiger father won’t have a dog son,” or, as we say, like begets like.
280. The *xia*, otherwise known as the Chinese knight-errant, is a figure appearing frequently in Chinese culture. The *xia* has sprouted several related concepts, for instance, *wuxia*, a Chinese fantasy concept that stands for a person adept in martial arts and given to chivalrous conduct, who is the main subject of Chinese *wuxia* novels. Therefore, *wuxia* also refers to a Chinese literary genre involving fantasy, swordplay, chivalry, and romance popularized by authors such as Jin Yong and Gu Long. It has since broadened into television shows, comics, video games, and of course, films. What are some of the Chinese *wuxia* films from the late 1990s into the 2000’s? (*Hero; Crouching Tigers, Hidden Dragon; The House of Flying Daggers; New Dragon Gate Inn.*)
281. Related to the above category of films are gongfu, or kungfu, films, which tend to be less fantastic and more realistic, feature more modern settings and unarmed combat. In particular, the films of Jackie Chan and Jet Li belong to this genre, e.g. Rush Hour, New Karate Kid, The Forbidden Kingdom.
282. What is the importance of the four categories (*sibu* 四部)? It is an old system of categorizing literature in China, demonstrating the relative importance of the various categories. In a wider sense it can be compared with modern library systems to arrange book in certain categories. The origin of the four categories system is not clear but it already appears in the oldest extant library catalog, the catalogue of the imperial library at the beginning of the Eastern Han (Houhan 後漢) period (25-220 CE) as recorded in The History of the Former Han Dynasty (Hanshu 漢書), in its “Bibliographical Treatise.”
283. The 4-category system reached its height in *The Complete Books of the Four Storehouses*, compiled on imperial command during the late 18th century.
284. What is the significance of the *Classic of Identifying the Thoroughbred* (*Xiang Ma Jing* 相馬經)? It is the earliest book on the science of animal husbandry in China, elaborating on the way to tell good horses from the inferior ones.
285. The *Classic of Identifying the Thoroughbred* is said to be the work of an unknown author in the State of Chu in the late Warring States Period. The book was later lost. In 1973, archaeologists found in Mawangdui Han Tomb No.3 in Changsha, Hunan, a silk manuscript that was confirmed to be the long lost work. The book contains three chapters in 77 lines, totaling to over 5200 characters. The first chapter states how Bo Le identifies a good horse; the second chapter tells how to tell a good horse from its eyes, that is to say, to conduct a comprehensive research on the size, fullness, luster, movement of horse eyes as well as the eyelashes and ocular muscles to judge the physical ability and running speed of a horse.
286. The “Feast at Hong Gate,” also known as the “Banquet at Hong Gate,” “Hongmen Banquet,” “Hongmen Feast” and other similar renditions, was an attempted assassination that took place in 206 BC at the Hong Gate outside Xianyang, the capital of the Qin Dynasty. The main parties involved in the banquet were Liu Bang and Xiang Yu, two prominent leaders of insurgent forces who rebelled against the Qin Dynasty from 209 BC to 206 BC. The event was one of the highlights of the Chu–Han power struggle for supremacy over China between Liu Bang and Xiang Yu that concluded with Xiang Yu's defeat and Liu Bang's founding of the Han Dynasty

with him as its first emperor. The “Feast at Hong Gate” is often celebrated in Chinese history, fiction and popular culture. Who tried to kill whom? (Xiang Yu tried to kill Liu Bang with a sword dance performed by his subordinate.)

287. The film *Farewell to My Concubine* (1993), directed by Chen Kaige, is a story within a story that tells of Xiang Yu’s final defeat, and, in particular, his parting with his favorite concubine, Yu Ji. Unwilling to simply surrender, Xiang Yu goes down fighting, while Yu Ji kills herself for her lord and lover.
288. The *Legend of the White Snake*, also known as *Madame White Snake*, is a Chinese legend, which existed in oral tradition long before any written compilation. It has since appeared in a number of major Chinese operas, films and television series. What is the story about? (A snake transforms into a woman, falls in love with a human and marries him. Despite her devotion to her husband, he tries to get rid of her when he finds that she is not human, and she is shut up under a tower until her son grows up and rescues her. What this says about husbands is unclear, but it is definitely good to have a son.)
289. The *Butterfly Lovers* is a Romeo-and-Juliet-like folk story. Zhu Yingtai disguises as a man so that she can obtain the same kind of education as a man. At school, she meets Liang Shanbo, and falls in love with him. However, her family has betrothed her to someone else, and Liang cannot prevent the marriage because he comes from a poor family and her family will not accept him. He dies of heartbreak, and she throws herself into his grave. They are reincarnated as a pair of butterflies. Like *Madam White Snake*, this story frequently appears in opera, film and TV. There is even a Butterfly Lovers Concerto, which is possibly the most famous Chinese orchestral work.
290. *Meng Jiangnü* is another popular folk story. During the time of the First Emperor of China, Qin Shihuang, Meng’s husband is sent to build the Great Wall and dies there. She travels a long distance to find him, and on learning of his death, mourns so powerfully that the wall collapses. She is celebrated as the symbol of wifely devotion.
291. The *Three Character Classic* is a traditional primer to acquaint Chinese children with basic vocabulary and cultural ideas. It consists of pairs of rhyming couplets, with three characters in each line. Sadly, in modern times, “three character classic” is also a euphemism for swear words.
292. The 2012 Nobel Laureate in Literature is? (Mo Yan. He is China’s first in-China recipient of the Literature prize, and among his novels are *Red Sorghum*, *The Republic of Wine*, *Life and Death are Wearing me Out*, *The Garlic Ballads*, *Big Breasts and Wide Hips*. His style is deeply ironic, with black humor and, sometimes, a graphic and violent, crude style.)

VIII. Music, Fashion, and Sports (Kungfu, Martial Arts)

293. Wong Fei Hung (黄飞鸿) (1847–1924) was a martial artist, a practitioner of traditional Chinese medicine, and revolutionary who became a Chinese folk hero and the subject of numerous television series and films. What technique and skill was he famous for? The “Shadowless Kick.” Due to Wong Fei Hung’s heroic efforts in defending China’s pride during a period when Chinese morale was at an all time low, what is he sometimes known as? The “Tiger after the Ten Tigers.”
294. Wong Fei Hung practiced and taught acupuncture and other forms of traditional Chinese medicine at “Po Chi Lam” (寶芝林). Where is this clinic located? (In Foshan, Guangdong Province, China, where he was known for his compassion and policy of treating any patient.)
295. Zhang Sanfeng (张三丰) was a semi-mythical Chinese Taoist priest who is believed by some to have achieved immortality. As a legendary culture hero, what is he credited with by modern practitioners? (Having originated the concepts of neijia (内家): soft, internal martial arts,

specifically T'ai Chi Ch'uan, as a result of a Neo-Confucian syncretism of Chán Buddhist, represented by Shaolin (external, emphasizing force, strength) martial arts with his mastery of Taoist Yin (internal, emphasizing *qi/ch'i*) principles.)

296. Mount Song, situated in central Henan Province, stands in the middle of five sacred mountains and is famous for being host to the Shaolin Temple, home of Shaolin kungfu. In modern times, many martial schools have sprung up at the foot of Mount Song, because of its connection with Shaolin martial arts, and draw students from all over China and the rest of the world. Shaolin martial arts are said to have begun with Damo, a missionary monk from India, who developed a series of exercises to strengthen his acolytes so that they would be able to engage in long periods of meditation. Later, Shaolin became associated more closely with martial arts, as monks from the temple took part in military actions, coming to the aid of various governments during periods in China's dynastic history.
297. In the CCTV 2013 Chinese New Year Spring Gala show, Song Zuying (宋祖英) performed "Jasmine flowers" with Celine Dion, what is Song's ethnicity? (She is an ethnic Miao Chinese singer.)
298. Jason Wu (吳季剛) is a Taiwanese-Canadian fashion designer based in New York City. What is he most famous for? (Designing the dresses of Michelle Obama on several occasions, including during first and second inauguration of President Barack Obama.)
299. Anna Sui is an internationally known Chinese American fashion designer. After premiering her shoes on the runway in 1994, introducing her signature fragrance and cosmetic line in 1999, Sui's children's line known as "Anna Sui Mini" debuted in early 2009. Her design versatility was further displayed when Sui was contracted by which cellular phone company? (Samsung Electronics Co.)
300. Jimmy Choo, born Choo Yeang Keat, (周仰杰 *Zhōu Yǎngjié*) is a Malaysian Chinese fashion designer based in London, United Kingdom. What is he best known for? (Founding Jimmy Choo, known for its handmade women's shoes.)

Music and ritual have gone hand in hand in Chinese customs. The following two entries provide some examples of various types of traditional Chinese music-making. ǎ

301. Among some of the archaeological marvels excavated in recent years have appeared sets of bronze bells dated to the fifth century BCE. These bells were played at court during sacrifices, rituals and feasts, and to promote good relationships between various states.
302. Music and sound are important aspects of life in a Buddhist monastery. Bells, cymbals and other percussive instruments signal transitions between daily activities. They also accompany sessions of chanting that have a singing quality. These chants produce a distinctive, impressive sound and can last for hours. What is Dungchen? It is a type of Tibetan horn that sometimes can be as long as 14 feet and produces deep tones resembling the sound of a tuba.

In modern times, music is less caught up with ritual and religious or personal cultivation, and more with appreciation, leisure and enjoyment.

303. Tan Dun is a contemporary classical composer and conductor, who is well-known not only for his orchestral and multi-media music but also for his scores for films such as *Hero* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

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304. Yo-yo Ma is a prodigy Chinese-American cellist who has not only mastered but also transcended the classical cello repertoire. What group does he perform with to explore new musical groupings across time and space? The Silk Road Ensemble.
305. Wu Man is a composer and internationally known performer of which traditional Chinese instrument? The pipa, a lute-like 4- string instrument played by plucking.
306. He is one of the most famous classical pianists in the world, but he also straddles the world of popular music. He performed the controversial “My Motherland” at the White House in 2011 during the state visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao. He is Lang Lang.
307. In the past two decades, Fu Mingxia, Guo Jingjing and Wu Mingxia have become household names in China. Who are they? (Olympic women’s gold medalists in diving and three of China’s top divers.)
308. China has been dominant in the Olympics in recent years in which sports? (Table tennis, badminton, diving.)
309. Taiwan has also done very well in one sport, winning many World Championships in the USA. Which sport? Youth Baseball (Little League, Junior League...)
310. Tseng Yani is the only Chinese golfer who has ever been ranked number one in the world as a professional golfer.
311. Over the years, several Chinese sportsmen have played in the NBA. The first of this was Wang Zhi Zhi, with the Dallas Mavericks. Other well-known players have included Yao Ming, the tallest Chinese basketball player in the NBA and Jeremy Lin, the first Chinese-American Point Guard in the NBA? Before joining the NBA, Lin played point guard for Harvard. He was given the nickname Linsanity, while with the New York Knicks.
312. Between NHL, MLS, and MLB, which professional league has had Chinese players? MLB Baseball.

IX. Geography and Resources

313. Although the whole of China operates on the same time, how many time zone does China cross? 5.
314. What are the four most populated cities in China? Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin and Hong Kong. Excluding Beijing, these are all coastal cities, where economic activities and development are concentrated.
315. Many of the cities in the Northeast (Manchuria area) have people who can speak Japanese. One such city has become a major outsourcing location for Japanese and other global companies. Which city? Dalian.
316. The San Diego Zoo has had a love affair with giant pandas ever since two of the black-and-white bears came to visit in 1987. How many pandas do they currently have? (Four giant pandas—Bai Yun, Gao Gao, Yun Zi, and the newest cub, Xiao Liwu, born on July 29, 2012.
317. What is the significance of the name, Xiao Liwu? It means Little Gift in Chinese. The Chinese government frequently presents pandas to foreign governments as expressions of goodwill and cooperation.
318. Where are pandas found in China? (In Sichuan Province.)
319. Suzhou in Jiangsu province has houses along the Grand Canal. What is the Grand Canal? Beginning in the Sui dynasty (589-618 CE), an extremely important water project was first

started, connecting several big rivers and providing an important means of transportation and communication between northern and southern China. At its final completion, the canal linked Hangzhou, the capital of Zhejiang province, with Beijing in the north, a distance of over 1,700 kilometers (roughly 1,100 miles) long. It provided a necessary artery for resource and goods to be transported from the agriculturally and economically rich south to the northern center of political power.

320. In imperial times, there was constant debate over whether the government should impose government monopolies on certain resources, in particular, grain, salt and iron, in order to control prices and the availability and affordability of these items. Such economic debates deal with the issue of how to distribute resources in the fairest way in a large country.
321. One of the earliest Chinese myths concerns Great Yu, a legendary minister, later ruler, who devised a system of irrigation canals in order to control flooding of the Yellow River. He was said to be so dedicated that he was passed his house only three times in 13 years, but did not enter. Why is this story so significant?

In traditional, agrarian China, flood control is intimately connected with political control. The ability to irrigate the fields at the right times and to guard against flooding affected the ability to grow food. Therefore, when the efficiency of the government declined, corruption increased, and the irrigation channels and dikes were not properly maintained, popular disaffection would arise from crop failure and famine, leading to rebellion, disorder and perhaps a collapse of the dynasty and government. By his efforts, Great Yu won himself the right to succeed to the throne and for his son to inherit from him.

322. From very early times, China had begun trading with her neighbors, even over significant distances. For example, the turtle shells regularly used for divination in the Shang dynasty belong to a species of turtle found in South East Asia, suggesting that these shells were offered as tribute to the Shang kings or that trading routes were in place between South East Asia and Northern China.
323. Natural cowrie shells were used as coinage by the Shang. They were expensive to collect from Southern China, and could not be faked, and only the kings could afford importing them.
324. Later, different shapes of metal coins developed as different states became powerful in various parts of China. With the Qin, the coinage was once again unified. In later dynasties, a round coin with a square center was the most common shape.

Some interesting geographical facts for when you decide to visit China!

325. This is a picture of a famous archaeological site in Xi'an, one of the seven ancient capitals of



China. This site is also known as "the eighth wonder of

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the world." What are the objects in the troughs most famously known as? The Terracotta Warriors.

326. I am the city that is "the epitome of modern and contemporary China" and my port is the



largest sea and river port in China. My port is? Shanghai Port.

327. I am the largest plateau in China and the highest in the world. It is no surprise that I am also called "the roof of the world." I am the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.
328. At about 3500m on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau., I am high and sunny all year round. In fact, I am called the "City of Sunshine." I am Lhasa.
329. Not a sink, not a bowl, I am a basin, in fact, the largest one in China. I lie in the southern part of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. I am the Tarim Basin.
330. China is a multi-ethnic country, comprised of 56 officially recognized nationalities. The Han ethnic group comprises the largest population in China, making up 92 % of the country's total population. As the majority population, Chinese culture is often synonymous with Han Chinese culture.
331. Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Hainan and Xiamen are geographical regions in China designated for the production and export of goods where laws regarding taxes, quotas and other economy-related matters tend to be less restricted. These regions are known as? Special Economic Zones.
332. What is a nickname for tropical, monsoonal Hainan, with its lush vegetation? The Oriental Hawaii.
333. Victoria Harbor is my lifeline, I am called a "shoppers' paradise" and a "gourmet metropolis" in addition to being one of the most famous financial centers in the world. I am, of



course, Hong Kong.

- 334.
335. Porcelain is one of China's most prized inventions. Before Europe developed its own porcelain, China porcelain exports were highly prized, and an export industry developed in China making items specifically for export to Europe. Not surprisingly, China is known as the porcelain garden of the world. Jingdezhen City is considered the porcelain capital of China, producing porcelain for over 1700 years.

336. Since ancient times, Chengdu, in Sichuan Province, as the rice-bowl of China, was known as "The Land of Abundance." It also happens to be where pandas are found, as well as a place of great scenic beauty. Therefore, within it lies the Wolong Giant Panda Nature Reserve and The Nine-Village Valley Scenic Area.
337. China is located in Eastern Asia and to the west of the Pacific Ocean. Its borders are said to look like a golden rooster headed to the east. Heilongjiang Province occupies most of the head of the rooster. (NB: Because of its northerly location, Heilongjiang is also well-known for its long and deep winters. Harbin, also known as the "Ice City," is famous for its exhibit of ice sculptures at the beginning of every year.)
338. Fish is both part of the daily diets of many Chinese, and a luxury item featured in banquet dinners, depending on the region and the kind of fish. Therefore, fish is an important food resource in China. The South China Sea has the country's largest fisheries and is known as "the natural fish warehouse."
339. The following description is taken from the UNESCO World Heritage Center website (<http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/536/>): With its five flat peaks, this is a sacred Buddhist mountain. The cultural landscape numbers 53 monasteries and includes the East Main Hall of Foguang Temple, the highest surviving timber Building of the Tang Dynasty with life size clay sculptures. It also features the Ming Dynasty Shuxiang Temple with a huge complex of 500 statues representing Buddhist stories woven into three dimensional pictures of mountains and water. Overall, the buildings on the site present a catalogue of the way Buddhist architecture developed and influenced palace building in China over more than one millennium. This mountain, literally, the five terrace mountain, is the highest mountain in northern China and is remarkable for its morphology characterized by precipitous sides with five open treeless peaks. Temples have been built on the site since the 1st century AD to the early 20th century. This mountain is? Mount Wutai.
340. It is said that five immortals once arrived in Guangzhou riding goats whose mouths held stalks of wheat. The immortals prayed that there would be no starvation in the city. Then they disappeared, and the five goats were changed into stone statues. Today, Guangzhou continues to be known as "the City of Goats."
341. The Chinese have long regarded two cities as being earthly paradises. As the saying goes, "Above there is Paradise, below there are Suzhou and Hangzhou." Suzhou is also famous for its enclosed gardens, built so that a visitor would walk through a series of connected and well-groomed courtyards. You might imagine what the Chinese conception of paradise would look like from this description! These cities were located on the Yangtze River, and were among the most prosperous in China. They were dependent on the salt trade for their wealth. In times when refrigeration was unreliable, salt was the best way to keep food edible, hence its importance.
342. The Yangtze River area is also known as "Jiang-Nan" (like Gangnam in Seoul), and "the Country of X and Y". What are the two things (X and Y)? Fish and Rice.
343. There is a major engineering effort on the Yangtze River, between Chongqing and Wuhan, two major port cities, known as the Three Gorges Dam. It is a massive project to provide hydroelectricity by damming up the fast flowing water in the three gorges area.
344. How would ships go over the dam? A system of locks or a ship elevator.
345. China's economic and industrial activity is particularly concentrated along the coast, especially the southeastern seaboard. These areas are also associated with major rivers, which served as traditional transportation routes along which major cities sprung up. There are two areas of intense economic activity, in particular, now known as the "factories

of the world,” which are near major rivers. Which two areas are these? The Pearl River Delta near Hong Kong (including Shenzhen) and the Yangtze River basin between Suzhou and Shanghai.

346. Changchun in Jilin Province, located in the center of the Northeast Plain, is known as “The Motor City of China,” very much like Detroit is the “Motor City” of the US. Unlike Detroit, which was developed by private enterprise, aided by its favorable location along major waterways, Changchun was designated as a motor industry area, and manufacturing was done by state-owned enterprises. It was chosen because of the industrial base left from the Japan occupation and its proximity to Russia, which helped China to develop its motor industry.
347. People often say today’s Greater China has two shores and three places. What does this mean? “Three places” refers to Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, the three areas that are considered to be historically and culturally Chinese, and where the majority ethnic group is Han Chinese. The “two shores” refers to the two sides of the Taiwan Strait.
348. In Greater China, there are two large islands that offer scenery similar to what one would see in the Hawaiian Islands. What are the two islands? They are both about the size of New Jersey. Taiwan Island and Hainan Island, though Taiwan is slightly bigger.
349. Taiwan’s size is about the same as New Jersey. Is Taiwan’s population size comparable to New Jersey, Massachusetts, or California? California, both are 25-30 million in population.
350. Is Taiwan’s climate comparable to that of New Jersey, North Carolina, or Florida? Florida.
351. Beijing’s climate is like that of New York, Seattle, or San Francisco? New York. (If only it were like Seattle’s!)
352. Again, on the topic of climate—if you love Seattle summers, there are some places in China where you definitely would not want to be during summer. Chief among these are the “Three Furnaces” of China, Chongqing, Wuhan, and Nanjing, where temperatures can hit over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. On the other hand, you might enjoy being in Kunming, in Yunnan province, where temperatures are in the mid-seventies. After all, it is called the “Spring City.”

X. Misc.

353. In March 2013, what was found floating down the Huangpu river by Shanghai? (More than 10000 pig carcasses, probably discarded by farmers and vendors who did not want the cost of properly disposing of the carcasses.)