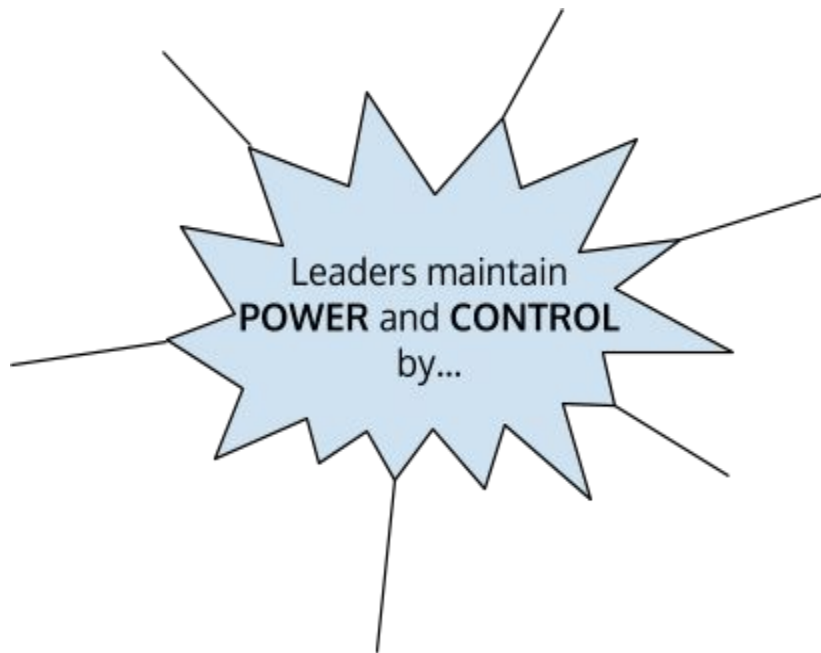


Qin Dynasty and Shi Huangdi

Name: _____ Date: _____

Do Now: If you ruled a country, what would you do to maintain control over everything and everyone?



How did Shi Huangdi **consolidate** and **increase** his power?

Synonyms or Other Words that Mean CONSOLIDATE	Synonyms or Other Words that Mean INCREASE

The Qin Dynasty in China (221 BCE- 206 BCE)


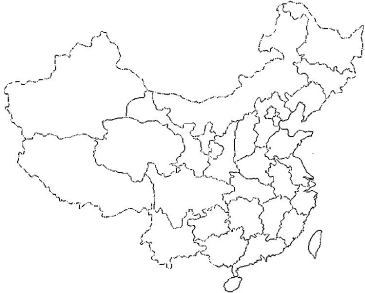


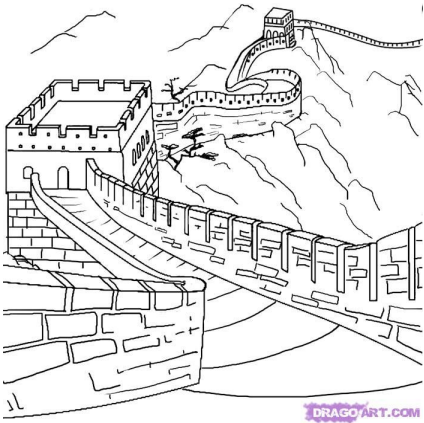

The Qin Dynasty

In 221 B.C.E., after twenty years of fighting to **conquer** the “warring states,” Shi Huangdi became the first and only emperor of the Qin Dynasty. The Qin was the first dynasty in China’s Classical period and it ruled until 206 B.C.E.

Shi Huangdi **consolidated** power through a philosophy called

LEGALISM =

	Actions taken by Shi Huangdi to consolidate power	Your explanation of how this helped him consolidate his power
1.	<p>Shi Huangdi made the nobles leave their land and live at his court.</p> 	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>
2.	<p>Shi Huangdi took over all the land, divided them in province, then appointed a leader of each province.</p> 	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>

3.	<p>Shi Huangdi built the Great Wall to protect China from invaders.</p> 	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>
4.	<p>Shi Huangdi repaired roads and canals.</p>	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>
5.	<p>Shi Huangdi forced peasants to work.</p>	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>
6.	<p>Shi Huangdi forced peasants to join the military.</p>	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>
7.	<p>Shi Huangdi standardized measurements and created uniform national coins.</p> 	<p>This action helped Shi Huangdi consolidate power because ...</p>

CLOSE READ: Qin Dynasty and Shi Huangdi

How did Shi Huangdi consolidate and increase his power?

Directions: Read through the following introduction and document, then answer the questions that follow.

The Records of the Grand Historian

The Records of the Grand Historian is a comprehensive history of ancient China that covers a 2500-year period from the age of the legendary Yellow Emperor to the reign of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty in the 2nd century B.C.E. *The Records of the Grand Historian* was finished in 109 B.C.E in China by the Han dynasty official Sima Qian.

In the excerpt you will be reading, Sima Qian has recorded a conversation where Li Si is speaking in response to a scholar who has challenged the Emperor Shi Huangdi. Li Si was a strong supporter of **Legalism** and served as the Grand Counselor to Emperor Shi Huangdi.

Pre-Reading Questions

1a. Who wrote this document? When was it written? Where was it written?

Who wrote or recorded this document?	
Who is the speaker in this document? (Hint: The person who recorded this document is <u>not</u> the same as the speaker.)	
What is the perspective of the speaker? (Hint: What ideas or philosophies does the speaker believe in?)	
Based on the speaker's perspective, what predictions can you make about what you might read in this document below?	
When was this document written or recorded?	
Where was it written or recorded?	

1b. **Why** was this document written?

The Records of the Grand Historian

The Records of the Grand Historian is a comprehensive history of ancient China that covers a 2500-year period from the age of the legendary Yellow Emperor to the reign of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty in the 2nd century B.C.E. Li Si was a strong supporter of Legalism and served as the Grand Counselor to Emperor Shi Huangdi.

In this passage, Li Si is responding to a scholar who has challenged the Emperor Shi Huangdi.

1	"...In former times when the world, torn by chaos and disorder, could not be united,
2	different states arose and argued from the past to condemn the present, using empty
3	rhetoric to cover up and confuse the real issues, and employing their learning to oppose
4	what was established by authority. Now Your Majesty [Shi Huangdi] has conquered the
5	whole world, distinguished between black and white, see unified standards. Yet these
6	opinionated scholars get together to slander the laws and judge each new decree
7	according to their own school of thought...
8	
9	"I humbly propose that all historical records but those of Chin [Qin] be burned. If anyone
10	who is not a court scholar dares to keep the ancient songs, historical records or writings
11	of the hundred schools, these should be confiscated and burned by the provincial
12	governor and army commander. Those who in conversation dare to quote the old songs
13	and records should be publicly executed; those who use old precedents [examples] to
14	oppose the new order should have their families wiped out; and officers who know of
15	such cases but fail to report them should be punished in the same way.
16	
17	"...The only books which need not be destroyed are those dealing with medicine,
18	divination and agriculture. Those who want to study the law can learn it from the
19	officers." The emperor sanctioned this proposal....

Source: <http://acc6.its.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~phalsall/texts/ssuma2.html>

Close Read Organizer

Li Si suggests that Shi Huangdi ...	This will help Shi Huangdi consolidate and increase his power because ...

The Records of the Grand Historian as a Historical Source

2. Why was this document written?

3. If you are a historian trying to find out what the government was like during the Qin dynasty, is this a reliable document? Explain.

4. What other sources might help us to better understand how the Qin dynasty consolidated power?

Synthesis Task:

Directions: Using evidence from the introduction, *The Records of the Grand Historian*, and your knowledge of Global History, write an essay that responds to the following question on a separate sheet of paper.

How did Shi Huangdi consolidate and increase his power?
