



**MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS**

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1. Why are the Tang and Song dynasties often thought of as China's Golden Age?  
(A) Foreign workers built the Grand Canal and rebuilt the Great Wall.  
(B) It was a period of wealth and stability.  
(C) Women gained more rights.  
(D) Trade brought large quantities of gold into China.
2. One long-term impact of the civil service examination system in China was  
(A) to place a high value on learning  
(B) to reduce corruption in government  
(C) to allow equal opportunities for men and women  
(D) to decentralize the government

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3. Why is China during the Song Dynasty (960–1279) often regarded as the most upwardly mobile civilization of the time?
- (A) Gender equality became an active goal.
  - (B) Talented officers were needed to lead the army as they conquered new territories.
  - (C) Chinese meritocracy rewarded gifted men.
  - (D) Confucian principles expected the status quo to be constantly tested.
4. Which statement best summarizes the influence of the bureaucracy during the Song Dynasty?
- (A) It promoted foreign trade, but it made tax collection difficult.
  - (B) It made managing the empire more efficient, but it was very expensive.
  - (C) It ended corruption, but it weakened the scholar gentry class.
  - (D) It strengthened Buddhism, but it undermined Confucianism.

**Question 5 refers to the excerpt below.**

When she was young, Lingshou was intelligent and fond of study. Her speech was clear and beautiful; her nature modest and unassuming. Taking no pleasure in worldly affairs, she was at ease in secluded quiet. She delighted in the Buddhist teaching and did not wish for her parents to arrange her betrothal.

—Shi Baochang’s “Lives of Nuns” (c. 516)

5. Which phrase of the above quotation would the followers of Confucius find the most praiseworthy?
- (A) “intelligent and fond of study”
  - (B) “at ease in secluded quiet”
  - (C) “delighted in the Buddhist teaching”
  - (D) “did not wish for her parents to arrange her betrothal”
6. In which of the following ways did China most influence Japan in the Post-Classical period?
- (A) Both countries consistently had powerful central governments.
  - (B) Both countries had military rulers with more power than the emperor.
  - (C) China’s emperors sent scholars to tutor the Japanese emperor.
  - (D) Japan sent emissaries to China to learn styles of art and literature.

7. One source of conflict between Chinese Buddhism and Confucianism was that
- (A) Confucianism emphasizes accomplishment in this world, while Buddhism emphasizes what happens after death
  - (B) Buddhism is based on gender equality, while Confucianism teaches a hierarchical ordering in relationships
  - (C) supporters of Buddhism charged that Confucians encouraged class conflict in society
  - (D) supporters of Confucianism charged that Buddhist monks made no visible contributions to Chinese society
8. Which is the best example of one way Neo-Confucianism represented syncretism?
- (A) Neo-Confucians discounted filial piety in favor of an all-pervasive soul.
  - (B) People spread Theravada Buddhism throughout Southeast Asia.
  - (C) The scholar gentry class began to contemplate the existence of the soul and the meaning of life.
  - (D) China allowed more classes of people to take the civil service exam.
9. Though the Koreans had to kowtow to the Chinese, one advantage in the tributary relationship was that
- (A) China subsidized the Korean education system
  - (B) Korea and China had a healthy trade relationship
  - (C) China protected Korea from Japanese and Mongolian incursion
  - (D) the Korean peasantry benefited from a weakened nobility

china: \*invents gunpowder\*

indians: cool

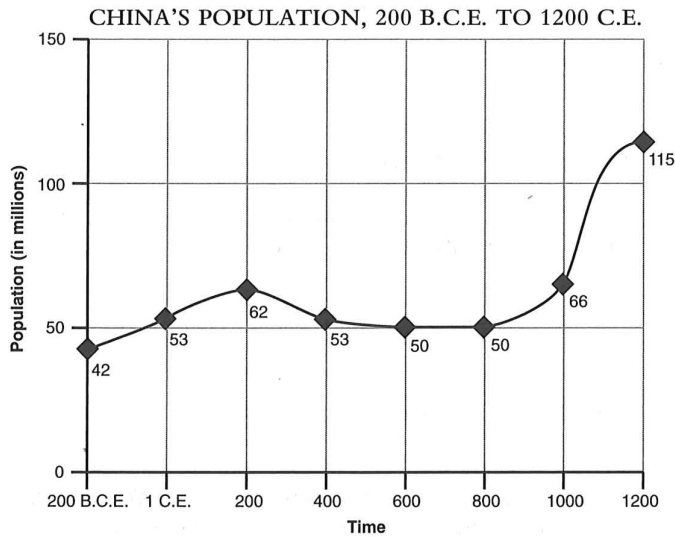
mongols: cool

japanese: cool

europeans:

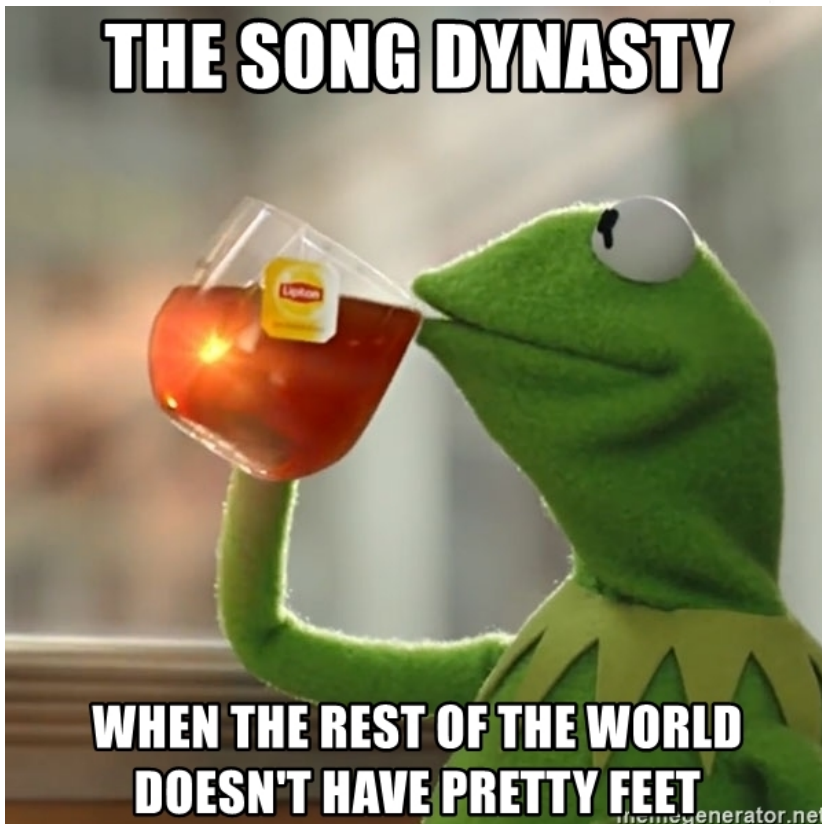


Question 10 refers to the graph below.



Source: Population data adapted from Quamrui Ashraf and Oded Galor, "Cultural Assimilation, Cultural Diffusion and the Origin of the Wealth of Nations." [voxeu.org](http://voxeu.org), September 13, 2007.

10. Based on this graph, the two periods when China's population increased the most were also periods when
- (A) foreign trade was decreasing rapidly
  - (B) Buddhism was practiced most widely
  - (C) the political situation was unstable
  - (D) the central government was strong



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