Geography and Early Settlement

*BIG QUESTION:* How did the geography of China affect where the first Chinese settled, the way they lived, and their ability to communicate with other civilizations?

- Identify rivers, regions, and geographic features
  - Major Rivers - Huang He (Yellow River), Chang Jiang (Yangtze River)
  - Regions - Inner China, Outer China
  - Geographical Features
    - North China Plain
    - Chang Jiang Basins
    - Gobi Desert
    - Tibet-Qinghai Plateau
    - Himalayas
- Describe how the geography of China affected where and how people lived.

Dynasties and the Mandate of Heaven

*BIG QUESTION:* How did the Mandate of Heaven shape ancient China’s dynasties?

- Put the four major dynasties in chronological order on a timeline
- Match ideas, major accomplishments and achievements to specific dynasties
- Describe the Mandate of Heaven and its place in the Dynastic Cycle.

Belief Systems

*BIG QUESTION:* What are belief systems? How did belief systems shape the way of life in China?

- Understand foundational ideas of the three main belief systems studied in class
  - Founder
  - Ideas on the “true nature” of life

Silk Road

*BIG QUESTION:* What impact did the Silk Road have on the development of Eastern and Western civilization?

- Identify the geographic reach of the Silk Road
- Describe the purpose of the Silk Road
- Explain who/what traveled the road and how people were affected