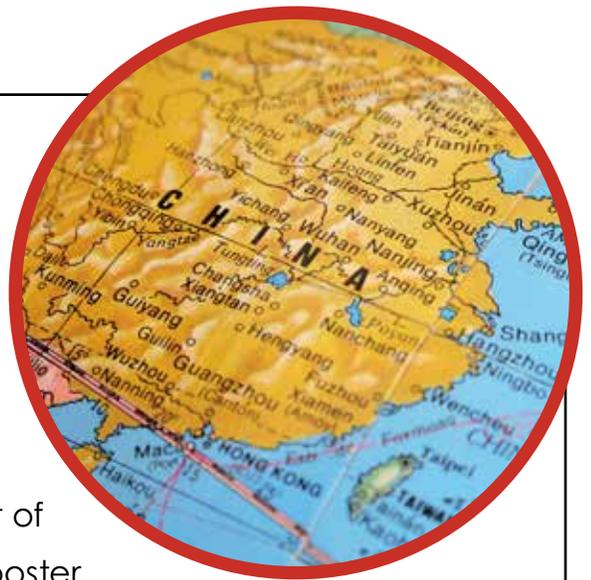


Name: _____

Let's Get to Know China!

By Anita Kim Venegas

The country of China is located on the continent of Asia. The shape of China is often compared to a rooster, with the rooster's head facing east. Although China's land area is nearly the same as that of the United States, the population is more than four times as large. The population of the United States as of 2023 is about 334,000,000, while the population



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in the cities live in high-rise apartments rather than in single family homes. Most families do not have a garage to park their car in, nor do they have a front or back yard. Instead, there are parks inside the city where people can take the opportunity to walk under shady trees, treat themselves to an ice cream or tasty snack, or simply sit on a park bench and watch people walk by. Inside elementary classrooms, there may be 40 to 45 students. The city streets are three lanes wide. Cars crowd the streets like sardines in a can. Family cars share the road with taxis, buses, scooters, and bicycles. In the last several years, subways have been built in major cities to decrease the traffic on the streets. During the morning and evening rush hours, cars honk their horns and weave in and out of traffic to get to their destination.

Food vendors selling dumplings, steamed buns, meat on a stick, and bowls of

noodles are busy from early morning and into the evening along city sidewalks. Children and parents often buy a quick breakfast as they hurry to work and school. Bottled water is necessary because the local water is not safe for drinking. At home, families will boil water before using. Hot water is served in restaurants as well. Most people prefer to drink hot water instead of cold water.

At one time, China's population was growing so



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country with a different language and cultural practices, the daily lives of Chinese people are more similar to people in the U.S. than they are different. Adults work, children attend school, and someone cooks dinner. Clothes are washed, floors are scrubbed, and homework is finished. The biggest difference is that families move through their days speaking Mandarin, the people's language.

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1. Before 2015, why did the Chinese government only allow families to have one child?
 - a. Too many families were having more than five children.
 - b. Too many families lived out in the country.
 - c. The Chinese government wanted to decrease the country's population.
 - d. The Chinese government wanted to protect families from starvation by



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larger population.

- d. The land area of China and the United States are about the same, but China has a larger population.

3. Describe what a typical family home is like in one of the major cities in China.

4. If you wanted to pick up a quick bite to eat while you were out and about in China, what might you find?

Name: _____

Let's Get to Know China!

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Match each vocabulary word from the article with the correct definition.



1. _____ continent

a. people who sell something, especially in the street



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5. _____ vendors

e. plants in the pea family

6. _____ dumplings

f. small fish similar to herring

7. _____ droughts

g. extended periods of time without rainfall that lead to water shortages

8. _____ Mandarin

h. the total number of people that live in a particular area, such as a town, city, state, or country

9. _____ soybeans

i. indicating a rough estimate

10. _____ approximately

j. small, savory balls of dough

Name: _____

Let's Get to Know China!

By Anita Kim Venegas

In the article, "Let's Get to Know China!" you learned many fascinating facts about a country that is on the other side of the world from the United States.

On the lines below, tell about three things you learned about China from the article that were surprising or most interesting to you. Why did you find those things surprising or interesting?



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ANSWER KEY

Let's Get to Know China!



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4. If you wanted to pick up a quick bite to eat while you were out and about in China, what might you find?

**You might find dumplings, steamed buns, meat on a stick,
or bowls of noodles.**

ANSWER KEY

Let's Get to Know China!



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state, or country

9. e. soybeans
10. i. approximately
- i. indicating a rough estimate
- j. small, savory balls of dough