

Texas UIL

SOCIAL STUDIES

NOTES



A summary based on

Everlasting Flower: A History of Korea

Supplemental Reading | Additional Resources



Social Studies Notes

2019-2020

East Asia:

The Middle Kingdom, the Rising Sun, the Land of the Morning Calm, and Beyond

Written by
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Edited by
Hexco Academic

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INTRODUCTION

Social Studies Notes is a time-tested 'tool kit' for building a solid annual topic foundation. Covering concepts, documents, terms, people, themes, events, and a plethora of significant facts, *Social Studies Notes* is arranged to facilitate full-topic comprehension, and the order of discussion may differ from the actual test. In this regard, students will be able to form their own unique ideas and opinions, which are especially useful in the essay portion of the contest as well as in everyday life. We encourage students to become familiar with the format of the contest, which consists of 45 multiple-choice questions and an essay, while reading.

UIL High School Social Studies contest test format is as follows, for a possible total of 100 points.

- Part 1—General Knowledge = 20 points (20 questions, 1 point each)
- Part 2—Primary Reading = 30 points (15 questions, 2 points each)
- Part 3—Supporting Documents = 30 points (10 questions, 3 point each)
- Essay = 20 points

MEET THE AUTHOR

Andrew Bates is the UIL Social Studies state contest director. He has been in education for over 15 years as a teacher, curriculum director, and now as principal at Sabine Pass School. He studies and lectures on various social studies topics and possesses a B.S. in Social Studies Education and an M.A. in History with a minor in Political Science. As UIL Coordinator, Mr. Bates has led Sabine Pass to six overall academic titles and in the past coached multiple students to state in seven different events capturing over 10 team titles. He was named as a recipient of the UIL Sponsor Excellence Award in 2013 and is a member of the Texas Council for the Social Studies and the National Council for the Social Studies.

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BACKGROUND

East Asia Civilization

The Social Studies topic for 2019-2020 is similar in many ways to the format of previous topics (Latin America, Oceania, Russia) but has some key distinctions that make it fairly unique and require a novel approach to studying it. The section covering country profiles will consist of information largely from the *CIA World Factbook* and *BBC* profiles as has been seen in past contest years, however, this has been moved to section II of the test and so will have 15 questions per test rather than the customary 10. With a 50% increase in the number of questions covering this information, it is imperative to have a working understanding of the major similarities and differences between these countries as well as a grasp of the general trends throughout the history of the region. This overview will give a general discussion of some of the more important themes that are necessary to understand this wide-ranging topic.

Much like this year's topic structure, the area of East Asia itself possesses unique components that may not seem obvious. This particular portion of the globe encompasses a diversity of geography that is readily apparent just by comparing three of its more well-known and picturesque features: the Himalayas, the Gobi, and the sprawling terraced rice fields that span the more southerly latitudes. What is not as apparent, but just as dramatic and important to this region, is the diversity of its culture. Perhaps one reason for Westerners viewing East Asia as more monolithic than is accurate or fair is the immense role that China plays and has played as a cultural and political hegemon since the beginnings of civilization. While China's role cannot be denied and should be respected, it should not overshadow the accomplishments, traditions, and idiosyncrasies of Japan, Korea, and Mongolia.

With all that being said, it is China where the story must begin. Each country that is included in this topic needs to be looked at individually, but without understanding the roots of culture in the region, it is difficult to get a firm grasp of the prevailing themes through its history. The roots of East Asia are certainly in China. Learning about how civilization began along the Huang He (Yellow River) before rapidly becoming one of the most politically organized and technologically advanced in the world is essential in learning how the various cultures of Korea, Japan, and Mongolia developed. You will save time and increase understanding of each of the smaller nations by starting your studies with the Middle Kingdom since the foundations of each subsequent area owes a large part of its founding story to the government, society, and culture developed in China.

Korea is very closely connected to China even today. It is difficult to understand the history of the peninsula if there is not a basic grasp of Confucianism, the tribute system, Buddhism, and its geography in relation to the main body of Asia. Many of the early kingdoms that battled for supremacy not only amongst each other in Korea, but also in the eyes of China owed their court structures and basic bureaucratic structure to the dynastic model developed in China close to a millennium before it was instituted in Korea. As Korea developed, its separation from China became more and more apparent. The unification of most of its territory under Silla and subsequent kingdoms helped it assert not just a sense of political independence, but more importantly a cultural independence. Korea's position between China and Japan had advantages for trade and an exchange of ideas, but it also meant it was often caught between the ambitions of the two nations. After gaining an appreciation for the unique qualities of Korea, especially during the Koryo and Choson eras, it is important to look at Japan since perhaps the last 400 years of Korean history and certainly the last 150 are intertwined with Japan's.

Japan took longer to develop to a level of advancement as what was found in China and even Korea. Its geography gave it relative isolation that explains some of the initial slow start, but it also failed to establish a centralized government until well after its two neighbors to the West. It is because of this that Japan's trajectory in the last 500 years is so impressive and perhaps completely unprecedented. Japan went from a nation dismissed by Western powers to an imperial juggernaut in the span of less than 50 years. It vastly overhauled its political, economic, and even social structure, casting off much of its Chinese and Korean influences to create a new hybrid of Eastern and Western cultures. After the disaster of WWII, it remade itself once again to become an economic juggernaut that was again perhaps unequalled in its growth. Japanese ancient and medieval culture still play a large role in a country that is generally perceived as one of if not the most modern in the world. The fact that its imperial family has stayed on the throne for almost 1,500 years is enough to show the deep roots of culture that exist in this cutting-edge land. It is this interesting interchange of very old and very new that is seen in Japanese pop culture today. Though Confucianism and Buddhism had and still have a continuing role in the country, Shintoism's continued power shows another way Japan holds a one-of-a-kind role in East Asian culture. Understanding the past of the entire region allows for a better appreciation for Japan's course of development and current culture.

As has been stressed, each country in this year's topic stands alone in its need for study and importance in the making of the world today. Mongolia is likely to be the most overlooked in the modern sense but may have the most impact of all in the historical sense. Though the study of the evolution of the singular brand of religion in the region is worthy of note, the role of the Mongols is the most far-reaching topic related to the country. It is a preferable option to arrive at their story with a working knowledge of China, Korea, and Japan first. Mongolia is novel in that, until the last few centuries, it arguably had a more significant impact on all three of its neighbors than they did on it. Understanding the making and the eventual collapse of the Mongol Empire is key to fully comprehending many of the major events of the 13th and 14th centuries and the forces behind the inertia that drove developments in the 15th and 16th centuries and beyond.

There are as many ways to approach this year's topic as there are stories within it. The prescription discussed here is one that is suited for individuals approaching the topic area with a relatively inexperienced background in East Asia. In addition to the idea of using China as a foundation and moving out from there, it is also recommended that this process is repeated several times. Since this topic incorporates such large periods of time, it can be extremely effective to try and get a very general sense of the region and each individual country before going back to the beginning and starting again but with a slightly more in-depth approach. This will allow the new information to have context as well as provide a refresher on the information you have already been exposed to. The material in this study guide is meant to provide both general and specific information that can be used throughout your journey studying East Asia.

1853	Admiral Matthew Perry of the United States arrives along with the "black ships."
1854	Perry returns and leverages the signing of the Treaty of Kanagawa. This leads to further unequal treaties with colonial powers and an opening of Japan to trade and Westernization.
Meiji period (1868-1912)	
1868	The Boshin War leads to the Meiji Restoration and the formation of the Empire of Japan.
1869	The emperor is installed in Edo which is renamed Tokyo.
1877	The Satsuma Rebellion occurs.
1894	The First Sino-Japanese War occurs. The Japanese gain Taiwan.
1904	The Russo-Japanese War occurs. Japan gains newfound respect as a world power, and the war ends with the Treaty of Portsmouth in 1905
1910	Korea is officially annexed as a Japanese colony.
1914-1918	Japan joins in the alliance with the Allied powers against Germany in WWI, gaining some colonial areas in the Pacific, but losing out as an equal partner at the Treaty of Versailles.
1926	Hirohito becomes emperor.
1931	Japan invades Manchuria in response to the staged Mukden Incident.
1932	Manchukuo is created as a Japanese puppet state.
1937	The Second Sino-Japanese War starts.
1941	Japan allies with Germany and attacks the United States at Pearl Harbor, bringing the U.S. into WWII.
1945	Hiroshima and Nagasaki are leveled by U.S. atomic bombs. Japan surrenders, beginning U.S. occupation.
1947	The Constitution of Japan comes into effect.
1952	The U.S. occupation comes to an end.
1956	Japan joins the United Nations.
1964	The Summer Olympics are hosted in Tokyo and are the first games held in Asia.
1968	Japan becomes the second-largest economy in the world after besting West Germany.
1971	The Okinawa Reversion Agreement reverts control of the island back to Japan from the U.S. after the Koza riot.
1989	Emperor Hirohito dies.
1991	The Lost Decade begins as the Japanese stock market crashes and the real estate bubble bursts.
1997	The Kyoto Protocol is signed to regulate greenhouse emissions in an effort to combat climate change.
2011	The Tohoku earthquake and tsunami lead to the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster.

Korea

500 BCE	Old Choson develops near the Taedong River.
First Century BCE	Koguryo arises near the Yalu and Tumen Rivers.
First Century CE	Lelang arrives as a stable kingdom and a rival to Koguryo.
108 BCE	The Han dynasty ends the Old Choson kingdom, leading to four commanderies.
57 BCE-42	The founding of the Silla, Koguryo, Paekche, and Kaya kingdoms occurs during this time.

Empress Wu Zetian: Born in 624 and died in 705 in China, she was a concubine who rose to empress of China during the Tang dynasty. Her rule united the empire by solidifying power and expanding territory into the Korean peninsula.

Giovanni da Pian del Carpine: Born in 1180 and died in 1252, he was a Franciscan friar who traveled to the Mongol Empire as commissioned by Pope Innocent IV. He wrote about the Central Asians and their invasion of Western Europe.

Hong Xiuquan: Born in 1814 and died in 1864 in China, he was a religious leader of the Taiping Rebellion from 1850 to 1864 in which he declared himself emperor after capturing the city of Nanjing.

Hu Jintao: Born on December 25, 1942 in Taizhou, China, he is a Chinese politician and government official. He was the president of China under the Chinese Communist Party from 2003 to 2013.

Huangdi: He is known as a mythological emperor of ancient China around 2600 BCE. His reign is credited with the use of wood for houses, boats, weapons, and writing, and his wife is known for discovering silk productions.

Inukai Tsuyoshi: Born in 1855 and died in 1932 in Japan, he was a Japanese politician and became the prime minister under the Constitutional National Party from 1931 until his assassination in 1932. He developed the plan in which cabinet members are selected by the majority party in parliament.

Ito Hirobumi: Born in 1841 and died in 1909 in Japan, he was a politician and premier who built modern Japan and drafted the Meiji Constitution which included a bicameral parliament, or National Diet.

Jiang Zemin: Born on August 17, 1926 in Yangzhou, China, he was a Chinese political official of the Chinese Communist Party and served as president of China from 1993 to 2003.

Kim Dae-Jung: Born on January 8, 1924 and died on August 18, 2009 in South Korea, he was a politician who became the opposition leader during President Park Chung Hee's term. He was elected South Korea's president from 1998 to 2003 and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2000 for his efforts to improve relations with North Korea.

Kim Il-Sung: Born on April 15, 1912 and died on July 8, 1994 in North Korea, he was the communist ruler of North Korea from 1948 until his death.

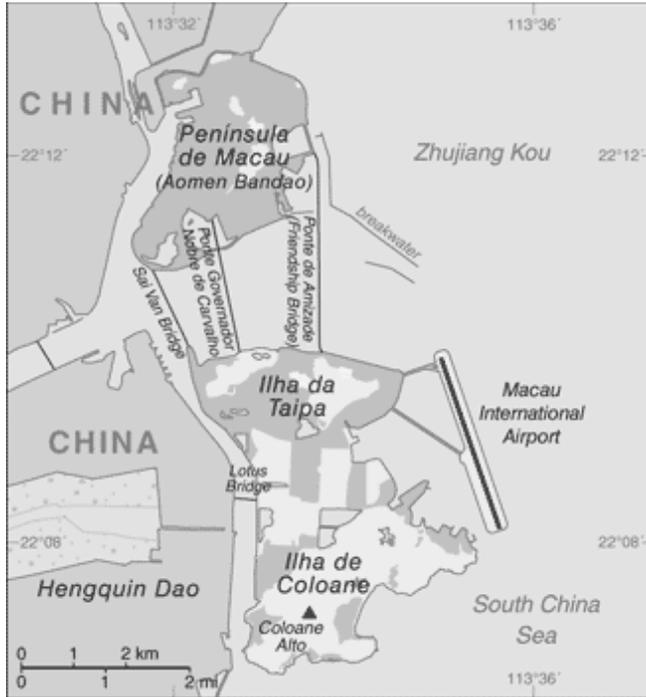
Kim Jong Il: Born on February 16, 1941 and died on December 17, 2011 in North Korea, he was the son of Kim Il-Sung and the chairman of the Korean Workers' Party. He was the successor to his father as ruler of North Korea from 1994 to 2011.

Kim Jong-Un: Born on January 8, 1984 in North Korea, he is the current supreme leader of North Korea who succeeded his father in 2011. Since his reign began, he has revamped the military to begin attempting to build intercontinental ballistic weapons and nuclear weapons. He has also met with foreign leaders from the U.S. and South Korea to open negotiations.



Kim Jong-Un
Public domain: Dan Scavino

Macau



Independence: December 20, 1999 as Macau Special Administrative Region Establishment Day

Government: executive led limited democracy and special administrative region of the People's Republic of China

Head of Government: Chief Executive Fernando Chui Sai On

Physical Geography: Macau is located in southeast Asia along the South China Sea with 28 square kilometers. The area is mostly urban and generally flat with 41 kilometers of coastline. The climate is subtropical marine with cool winters and warm summers.

Natural Resources: none

Major Religions: folk religions and Buddhism

Major Languages: Cantonese, Chinese, and Portuguese are official languages

Population: 606,340 in 2018; ranked 170th in comparison to world country populations

History: Macau had a limited history until the arrival of the Portuguese in the 1500s. Locals had developed small settlements due its remote location, though the Ma Kwok temple, which gives the area its modern name, did exist from early times. In 1557, Portuguese traders began paying the Chinese government tribute in exchange for the right to use the area as a base of trade. As China declined in power and Westerners became bolder in their attempts to exploit it, Portugal sought to increase its control over the port. The Protocol of Lisbon in 1887 basically forced the Qing government to recognize Macau as an open port for trade under Portugal's control.

After the creation of the People's Republic, Macau saw an increase in migration from people trying to escape the new communist government. Beijing pressured Portugal to stop the flow of refugees, and eventually, it was recognized as a Chinese territory in 1974 but was still administered by the Portuguese. In 1987, the two countries agreed to emulate the Hong Kong transfer agreement

treaty ports- This term refers to the major port cities in China and Japan that were open to foreign trade and residency beginning in the mid-19th century. The treaty ports led to uneven trade agreements and foreign control over the economy in these areas.

tsunami- Occurring more often around the Ring of Fire, a tsunami is a seismic sea wave caused by earthquakes on the seafloor or a volcanic eruption. The waves cause massive destruction.

Tsushima Island- Lying in the Korean Strait, this archipelago island in Japan consists of the Kami and Shimo Islands and are heavily forested with fertile land.

Tumen River- This river forms the border between North Korea with China and Russia. It flows through the Changbai Mountains towards the Sea of Japan and is the third-longest river in Korea.

Turkic Khaganate (First and Second)- This era began in 551 and lasted until 744. It was established by the Ashina clan in medieval Inner Asia around the Mongolian Plateau. The first written record of any Turkic language occurred during this time.

unequal treaties- This term refers to the agreements in Chinese history in which China was forced to concede many territorial and sovereign rights, typically during the 19th and 20th centuries, with Great Britain, France, Germany, the U.S., Russia, and Japan.

Uyghurs- These Turkic-speaking people are located in interior Asia around northwestern China, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. They are mainly sedentary dwellers who form villages along riverbanks.

Wade-Giles- This system of romanizing the modern Chinese written language was established by Sir Thomas Francis Wade and Herbert Allen Giles of England. It is mainly used to translate the Chinese language into other languages and is commonly used in Taiwan.

wako/wokou- These Japanese marauders raided the Korean and Chinese coasts during the 13th and 14th centuries, typically paid by feudal leaders who were fighting to expand trade and wealth.

Warring States period- This is a period in Chinese history in which seven smaller kingdoms vied for power between 475 BCE and 221 BCE. The rise of great philosophers, including Confucian Mencius and Xunzi, took place during this period.

Xia dynasty- This early dynasty in China existed from roughly 2070 BCE to 1600 BCE. The dynasty was founded by Yu who engineered the drainage of flood waters to create fertile lands.

Xiongnu- These nomadic pastoral people in Central Asia united and became a constant threat to China's northern frontier from 200 BCE to 300 CE. Their threat level led to the construction of the Great Wall of China.

Yalu River- This river in Northeastern Asia forms the border between North Korea and Manchuria, stretching across the Jilin and Liaoning provinces roughly 500 miles in length.

Yamatai kingdom- This ancient kingdom in Japan existed from the first to third centuries. The capital city was Yamato, and it had a monarchy government.

PRIMARY READING- EVERLASTING FLOWER: A HISTORY OF KOREA

By Keith Pratt

Introduction

- I. Korea was originally marked as an island on early European maps.
 - A. Martino Martini was the first to correct this in 1653.
 - B. The peninsula's shape is traditionally compared to a rabbit or a dagger or seen as a bridge from China to Japan.
- II. The peninsula was divided in 1948 into the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea (ROK).
- III. It was originally divided along the 38th parallel, making the North slightly larger in area but with less than half of the South's population.
- IV. Major rivers in the North include the Tumen, Yalu, and Taedong Rivers; major rivers in the South include the Han, Kum, and Nakdong Rivers.
- V. The North has superiority in minerals versus the South's agricultural edge.
- VI. The Changbaek Mountain range has the highest peak, Mount Paektu, and the Diamond Mountains (Kumgang-san) run southward.
- VII. In 1836, Father Pierre Maubant was the first Western missionary to enter Korea.
- VIII. The West showed little interest in Korea until WWII, the attack on the HMS *Amethyst*, and the Korean War. Most interest was fear-based because of the spread of Asian and communist influences.
- IX. Along with other East Asian economies (Asian Tigers), the ROK's economy boomed after the war, but the massive chaebol conglomerates that caused such growth suffered greatly in the late 1990s.
- X. The DPRK gained attention as a nuclear threat.
- XI. The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) marks the division between the North and South, which never signed a peace treaty.
- XII. Korea still has tensions over its previous occupation by Japan.
- XIII. Korea has strong influences from Japan and especially China, but its cultural influences are extremely distinct.
- XIV. Korea was formally spelled as "Corea" based on a translation by Marco Polo (Cauli: "High and Beautiful") in the 13th century from the Chinese title based on the Koryo dynasty.
- XV. Dongguk ("Eastern Country") was a common name used by Koreans before 1897 and the creation of the Great Han (Taehan) Empire.
- XVI. Other names it has been referred to include the "Hermit Kingdom," "Land of the Morning Calm," "Plaiice Country," and "Hibiscus Land." The hibiscus (known as the everlasting flower) is the national flower of the ROK.
- XVII. The Chinese considered Korea another part of tianxia ("all under heaven") as a tribute partner. The Korean court followed much of the Chinese traditions and was organized similarly.
- XVIII. The Japanese saw Korea in trade terms. Tsushima is the island located between the two that was the center of the relationship and run by a daimyo.
- XIX. Japan invaded Korea in order to establish a larger empire in 1592 under Toyotomi Hideyoshi and colonized the peninsula in 1910 as part of another imperial expansion.