



Social Studies Virtual Learning

6th Grade: Lesson # 22

Date: April 21, 2020



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Objective/Learning Target:

Identify reasons why the Great Wall of China was built and describe how it changed over time.

Warm Up

The Great Wall of China is considered one of the Seven Wonder of the World.

First, make a list of anything you already know about the Great Wall of China on your piece of paper.

Next, [click here to take](#) a virtual tour of the Great Wall of China.

Now, write down three questions you have about the Great Wall of China after taking the virtual tour.

Warm Up

The Great Wall of China is considered one of the Seven Wonder of the World.

Three Questions I Have After Taking the Virtual Tour:

1. How long is the Great Wall?
2. How long did it take to build the Great Wall?
3. How much did it cost to build the Great Wall?

Lesson Activity

Important Vocabulary

Dynasty- a line of rulers from the same family.

Emperor- the name given to the ruler when China had dynasties.

Xiongnu- a group of nomads from Mongolia known for fighting on horseback.

Write down each question on your piece of paper.

1. What were the first two important wall-building dynasties?
2. How many years did these dynasties last?
3. Was there one Great Wall of China? Explain.
4. What is the connection between the wall and the Mongols?
5. What was the primary building ingredient of a hang-t'u wall section?
6. Why did they build walls in the first place?

Lesson Activity

[Click here to read a text](#) about the Great Wall of China.

[Click here to listen](#) to the text read aloud.

After reading, answer the questions you wrote down on your paper.

Lesson Activity

Check your answers.

1. What were the first two important wall-building dynasties?

The first two important wall-building dynasties were the Qin Dynasty and Han Dynasty.

2. How many years did these dynasties last?

The Qin Dynasty lasted 15 years and the Han Dynasty lasted 400 years.

3. Was there one Great Wall of China? Explain.

No, there was not one Great Wall of China but a series of walls built over 2,500 years by various dynasties.

4. What is the connection between the wall and the Mongols?

The connection between the wall and the Mongols was to protect China's northern borders from being attacked by the Mongols.

5. What was the primary building ingredient of a hang-t'u wall section?

The primary building ingredient of the hang-t'u wall section was dirt pounded in layers to fill the frame.

6. Why did they build walls in the first place?

The walls were first built to increase security (protect from invaders), impress visitors, and enhance the glory of China.

Practice

We learned that the walls built during the Qin and Han Dynasties were much different than the Great Wall we think of today, which was built during the Ming Dynasty.

But how different were they?

Draw a T-Chart to take notes as you compare the walls built during the Qin and Han Dynasties with the walls built during the Ming Dynasty.

Great Wall(s) of China	
Qin and Han Dynasties	Ming Dynasty

Practice

Use the links here to collect information for your T-Chart.

Qin and Han Dynasties

[Click here to watch](#) a video about the early Great Wall.

[Click here to view](#) a map of the Qin wall.

[Click here to view](#) a map of the Han wall.

[Click here to look](#) at a photograph of the Han wall today.

Ming Dynasty

[Click here to explore](#) an animation of the Ming Wall. (Make sure to allow Flash player in your browser settings.)

[Click here to view](#) a map of the Ming wall.

[Click here to look](#) at a photograph of the Ming wall today.

Practice

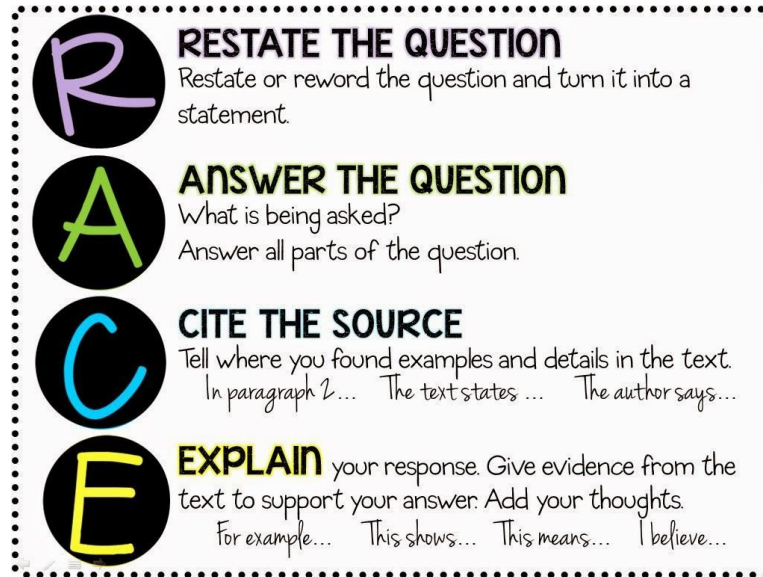
Compare your T-Chart with the one below. Add or make changes to your T-Chart as needed.

Great Wall(s) of China	
Qin and Han Dynasties	Ming Dynasty
<p>Enemy was Xiongnu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- From what is now Mongolia- Talented Horse Archers- Ancestors of Genghis Khan- Chinese Emperors knew their job depended on protecting their people from the Xiongnu <p>Building the Wall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Made of pounded dirt and reeds in layers- Spikes were added for additional defense- Built in sections- not one big wall <p>Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Qin-Covers about one third of modern northern border with Mongolia.- Han- Covers about one half of modern border	<p>Enemy was Northern Nomads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- From what is now Mongolia- Built to protect trade routes, farmland <p>Building the Wall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Made of a stone base with stone walls. Then filled with gravel and covered with brick to make a paved road wide enough for horses.- Watchtowers were used to warn of attack. <p>Fighting at the Wall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Crossbows were shot from watchtowers.- Catapults were used to fire over the wall. <p>Location</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Covers about two thirds of the modern border

Reflection

Using evidence from the practice sources, write a RACE response to answer the following question:

How did the Great Wall of China change over time?



R **RESTATE THE QUESTION**
Restate or reword the question and turn it into a statement.

A **ANSWER THE QUESTION**
What is being asked?
Answer all parts of the question.

C **CITE THE SOURCE**
Tell where you found examples and details in the text.
In paragraph 2... The text states ... The author says...

E **EXPLAIN** your response. Give evidence from the text to support your answer. Add your thoughts.
For example... This shows... This means... I believe...

Reflection

How did the Great Wall of China change over time?

Here is an example RACE response:

The Great Wall changed over time because it got longer and stronger. The three maps prove that the Great Wall got longer. On the Qin map, the wall does not even protect half of the northern border, but by the Ming Dynasty, the map shows that the wall protected over two-thirds of the northern border. The wall also got stronger. In the photograph of the Han wall, you can see it was made of dirt. In the photograph of the Ming wall, you can see it was made of stone bricks. The animation of the wall also talks about it being filled with gravel. These are stronger building materials. This evidence proves that the Great Wall of China got longer and stronger over time.

Reflection

Look back at your answer to #6 in the Lesson Activity.

6. Why did they build walls in the first place?

The walls were first built to increase security (protect from invaders), impress visitors, and enhance the glory of China.

Next, reflect on these questions:

Do countries today face similar problems to that of the wall-building dynasties in China? Explain your thinking on your piece of paper.

Do you think building a wall would be a good solution to these problems today? Why or why not? Explain your thinking on your piece of paper.