

CHINESE EXPLORATION AND TRADE

Use the information in the box to make a chart of important events in Chinese exploration and trade. Then answer the questions that follow. The first event has been filled in for you. For additional help, refer to pages 114–117 in your textbook.

- Zheng He begins the first of seven sea voyages to places outside the Chinese empire.
- As the new emperor of China, Zhu Di increases trade along the Silk Road.
- A new Chinese emperor orders that the empire's sailing ships be destroyed.
- Mongols from northern Asia gain control of the Chinese empire.
- Zhu Di orders the building of thousands of sailing ships.

CHART OF CHINESE EXPLORATION AND TRADE

DATE	EVENT
late 1200s	Mongols from northern Asia gain control of the Chinese empire.
1368	
1403	
1405	
1525	

1. About how many years was it from the time Zhu Di increased trade on the Silk Road until he ordered the building of thousands of ships?

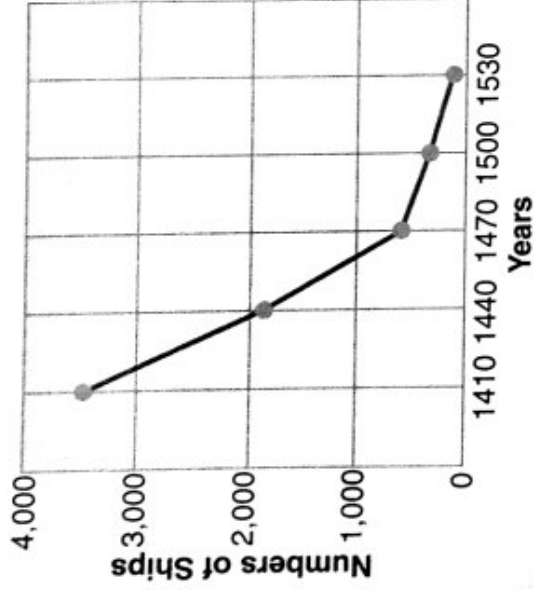
2. For about how many years was China a sea power?

3. Why was the Silk Road so important?

USING CIRCLE AND LINE GRAPHS

In the early 1400s China's rulers built a fleet of ships for the purpose of exploring areas beyond China's borders. The graphs below show some facts about China's fleet. Use the graphs to complete the activities on this page. Circle the answer to each question. For help, you can refer to pages 118–119 in your textbook.

CHINA'S SHIPS, 1400–1530



Graph A

Source: *When China Ruled the Seas*, by Louise Levathes, 1994

1. Which graph is a line graph?

Graph A Graph B

2. Which graph shows how many ships China had in 1500?

Graph A Graph B

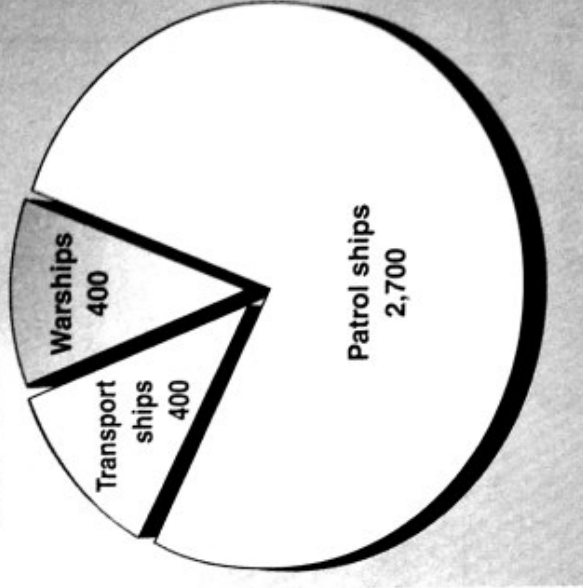
3. Which graph shows how many of each kind of ship the Chinese had in 1410?

Graph A Graph B

4. In which year did China have the most ships?

1410	1440	1470
1500	1530	

THE CHINESE FLEET, 1410



Graph B

Source: *When China Ruled the Seas*, by Louise Levathes, 1994

5. Which graph did you use to answer question 4?

Graph A Graph B

6. How many transport ships did the Chinese fleet have in 1410?

400 2,700

7. Which graph did you use to answer question 6?

Graph A Graph B

8. How many ships were in the Chinese fleet in 1410?

2,700 1,900 3,500

TRADE AND THE SONGHAI EMPIRE

Use the map to complete the activities below. For help, you can refer to pages 120–123 in your textbook.



- Outline the kingdom of Songhai in blue. Then label it.
 - Who was king of Songhai in 1464?

 - How did his tolerance of different religions help Songhai?

- Draw the major caravan trade routes into and out of Songhai in red.

- List the parts of the world outside of Africa to which these trade routes led.

- List two goods that Songhai traded that helped make it the most powerful kingdom in Africa.

- Make a dot to show the location of each of the following cities. Then label each city.
Gao Timbuktu Jenne

- Why were these cities important to Songhai?

- Where did these goods come from?

EARLY EUROPEAN EXPLORERS

Use the pictures on the right to help you complete the activities on this page. For help, you can refer to pages 124–127 in your textbook.

1. a. Draw a line to the picture of one of the first European explorers to travel to China.



Prince Henry

- b. Which route did he take to China?

- c. What things did he bring back to Europe from Asia?

2. a. Draw a line to the picture of the person whose inventions and technologies proved that it was possible to reach Asia by ship.



Vasco da Gama

- b. Which route did his ships follow to try to reach Asia?

- c. Why did European traders want to find a sea route to Asia?

3. a. Draw a line to the picture of the Portuguese explorer who finally reached Asia by ship.

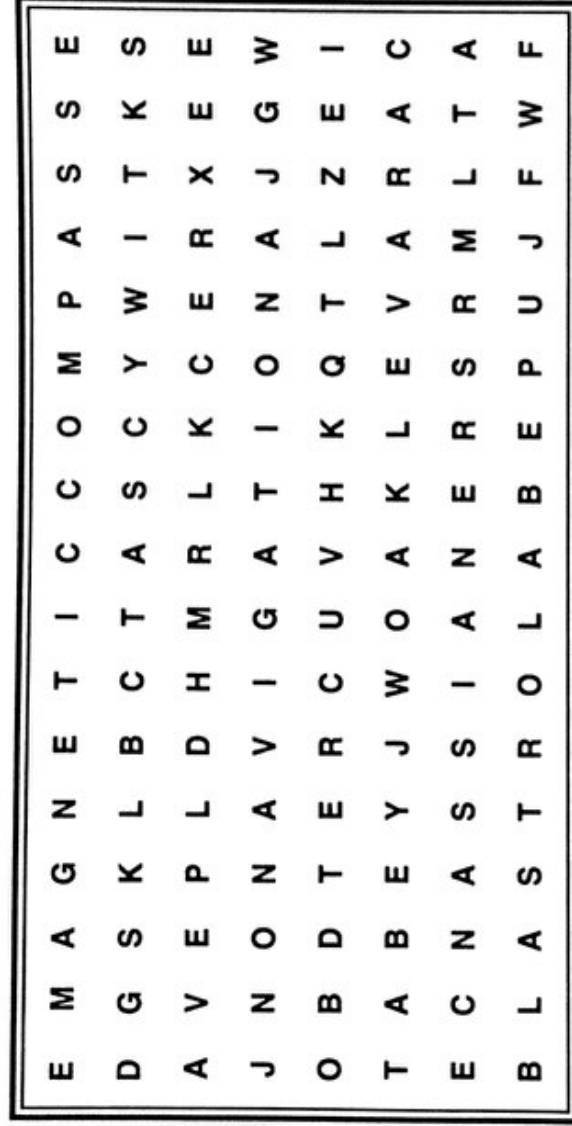


Marco Polo

- b. What did his voyage show European traders?

FINDING AND USING NEW WORDS

Hidden among the letters in the box are words that match each definition that follows. The words may be read forward, backward, up, or down. Circle each word as you find it. Then write the word in the space before its definition. For help, you can refer to the lessons in Chapter 5 of your textbook.



- _____ 1. a group of people traveling together for safety, especially through desert areas
- _____ 2. a disease caused by the bite of certain kinds of mosquitoes
- _____ 3. an instrument that helped sailors and desert travelers find their way by the stars
- _____ 4. a small ship that was fast and easy to steer, even in dangerous waters
- _____ 5. a period of cultural and artistic growth that began in Italy in the 1300s
- _____ 6. an instrument that helps sailors and other travelers find the cardinal directions
- _____ 7. the science of determining a ship's direction and location