

Name _____

Journey Through Time: A Brief History of China

Short Answer Key

1. The Han Dynasty made significant contributions to Chinese culture and society, including advancements in science, technology, and the arts. They standardized currency, developed papermaking, and constructed the Silk Road. Confucianism became a prominent philosophy during this time.
2. The Silk Road was a trade network that connected China to the Mediterranean, facilitating the exchange of goods, ideas, and culture between East and West. Goods such as silk, spices, and ceramics were traded along this route, as well as knowledge and religions like Buddhism.
3. The Ming Dynasty expanded and fortified the Great Wall, built the Forbidden City in Beijing, and was known for its high-quality porcelain production, including Ming vases.
4. The Opium Wars were conflicts between China and Britain over the opium trade. China's loss in these wars led to the cession of Hong Kong to Britain and the opening of Chinese ports to foreign trade.
5. The Great Leap Forward aimed to rapidly industrialize China's economy but resulted in widespread famine and economic setbacks. The Cultural Revolution sought to eliminate traditional Chinese culture and promote Communist ideology, resulting in political purges and cultural upheaval.

