

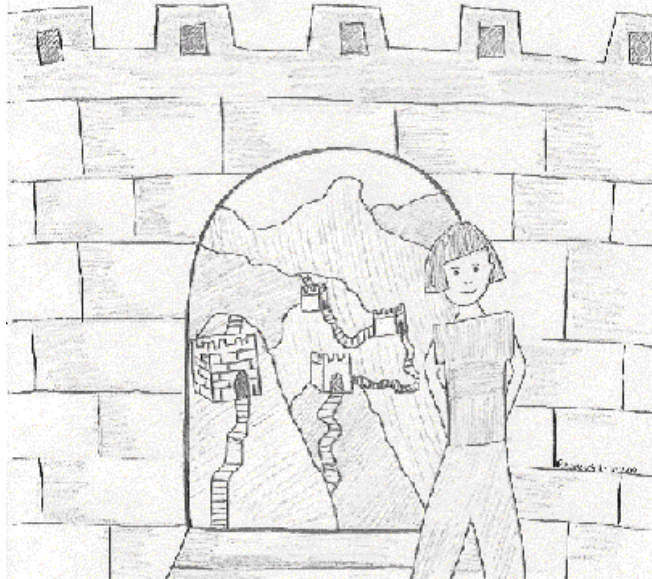
## Ancient China Journal Day 4

Today we took a bus ride out to the Great Wall of China. You wouldn't believe the size of this thing! With all of its branches included, the Great Wall is more than 13,000 miles long. I didn't see the entire wall, of course. But, what I did see was unbelievable.

The wall was started by Emperor Qin Shi Huang of the Qin Dynasty. He's the same emperor who built the terracotta warriors. He began building the Great Wall over 2000 years ago, but it was under **construction**<sup>1</sup> for hundreds of years. It was built to defend China from its enemies, namely the Huns and the Mongols. The section of the wall we climbed was on the Mongolian border.

Today, the Great Wall is no longer used for defense. Thousands of tourists go to China every year to visit the wall. Chinese people visit and climb the wall as well. It's a very popular tourist **attraction**<sup>2</sup>.

The wall is made of brick and it winds through beautiful mountains. There are thousands of stairs to climb on the wall. Some are very narrow and steep. The climb was difficult. At times it was so steep, I felt like I was climbing a ladder. On the way down, I was sure to use the railing on the sides.



<sup>1</sup> **construction:** the process of building something

<sup>2</sup> **attraction:** something that people want to see

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the purpose of this passage?

- a. to inform
- b. to persuade
- c. to inform and entertain
- d. to inform and persuade

2. Why is the Great Wall likely such a popular attraction?

- a. it is a difficult climb
- b. it defended China from its enemies
- c. it is very old, very big, and has nice views
- d. it was under construction for hundreds of years

3. The Huns and the Mongolians were \_\_\_\_\_ of China

- a. Friends
- b. Enemies
- c. Peoples
- d. Tourists

4. How long did it take to build the Great Wall?

- a. ten years
- b. hundreds of years
- c. a thousand years
- d. two thousand years

5. Read the following sentence: "The section of the wall we climbed was on the Mongolian border."

The word **border** most nearly means

- a. dividing line
- b. tourist attraction
- c. construction
- d. branches

6. About how long is the Great Wall of China?

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7. Why did it take so long to build the Great Wall? Provide supporting details from the text.

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8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence:

The Great Wall of China has many steps to climb, \_\_\_\_\_ many are narrow and steep.

- a. so
- b. and
- c. yet
- d. for

9. Read the following sentence.

**Thousands of years ago the Emperor Shi Huang began building the Great Wall of China to defend China from enemies.**

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

1. Who is the subject of the sentence? Emperor Shi Huang
2. The emperor began what? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why? \_\_\_\_\_

10. **Vocabulary Word:** railing: a structure consisting of one or more rails used to provide a barrier or support while walking or climbing.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher Guide and Answers**

**Passage Reading Level:** Lexile 660

**Featured Text Structure:** Descriptive – the writer explains, defines or illustrates a concept or topic

**Passage Summary:** The author describes her experience seeing and climbing the Great Wall of China for the first time.

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- b. to persuade
- c. to inform and entertain**
- d. to inform and persuade

2. Why is the Great Wall likely such a popular attraction?

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- a. dividing line**
- b. tourist attraction
- c. construction
- d. branches

6. About how long is the Great Wall of China?

**Suggested answer:** With all of its branches included, the Great Wall of China is more than 13,000 miles long.

7. Why did it take so long to build the Great Wall? Provide supporting details from the text.

**Suggested answer:** It would take a lot of people a lot of time to build a wall that is made from brick and is 13,000 miles long.

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence:

The Great Wall of China has many steps to climb, \_\_\_\_\_ many are narrow and steep.

- a. so
- b. and**
- c. yet
- d. for

9. Read the following sentence.

**Thousands of years ago the Emperor Shi Huang began building the Great Wall of China to defend China from enemies.**

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

- 1. Who is the subject of the sentence? Emperor Shi Huang
- 2. The emperor began what? **building the Great Wall**
- 3. Where? **China**
- 4. When? **thousands of years ago**
- 5. Why? **to defend China from enemies**

10. **Vocabulary Word:** railing: a structure consisting of one or more rails used to provide a barrier or support while walking or climbing.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: answers may vary.