



**There are three activities in this pack to follow that act as an introduction to China. Work through each activity.**

*Read through the statements about China, decide whether you think these are true or false. Check your answers. If you had any misconceptions about China think about why.*

### **China or not?**

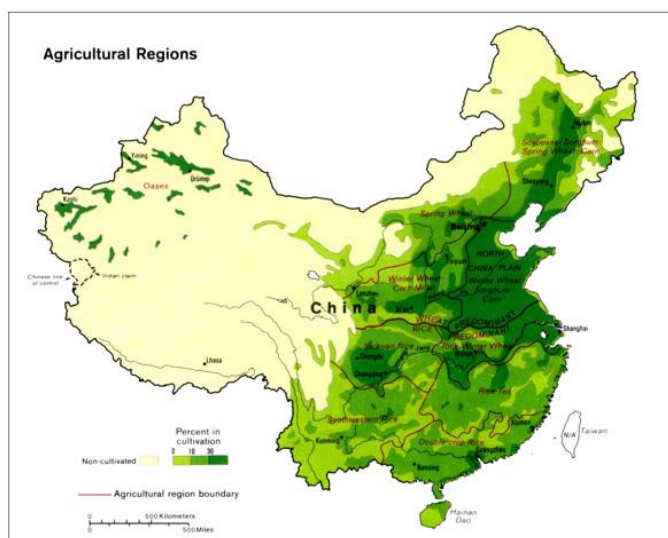
A set of statements about China – indicate whether you think the statement is true (T), false (F) or you are unsure (U).

1. China is the largest country in the world (by area). [ ]
2. China has the largest population in the world. [ ]
3. Half of all the world's cement is used in China each year. [ ]
4. In China, the people who speak Mandarin Chinese cannot be understood by those that speak Cantonese Chinese. [ ]
5. It is considered bad luck in China if fish or chicken is served without its head and tail. [ ]
6. About 60% of the Chinese people live in large towns and cities. [ ]
7. In order to prepare the dish called Peking Duck, the duck has first to be inflated with a pump! [ ]
8. In China, there are many different political parties to vote for. [ ]
9. Aircraft, helicopters, machine guns and grenades made in China are sold to many different countries around the world. [ ]
10. China is in the southern hemisphere. [ ]
11. The capital of China is called Shanghai. [ ]



12. Since the year 2000, China has built and launched 22 satellites into space using its own designed and built rockets. [ ]
13. The last emperor of China was only two years old when he became emperor. [ ]
14. Between 1979 and 1986, couples in China were only allowed by law to have a single child. [ ]
15. The Chinese invented toilet paper and fireworks. [ ]
16. 2007 is known as the year of the dragon and 2008 as the year of the snake. [ ]
17. Only about 15% of the land in China can be used for growing food. [ ]
18. The Chinese flag is red with 10 small stars in the top left-hand corner. [ ]
19. Hong Kong was ruled by the British until 1997 when it was given back to China. [ ]
20. The Emperor of China used to live in the Forbidden City. [ ]

**Next, read through the powerpoint on China. Spend time looking at each map. What does it show you? Write a paragraph on two of the maps explaining what it shows you. For example:**



*This map illustrates the agricultural regions of China. The map helps to show the scale of China's size and how the main areas of agriculture are to the South and East of the country. This is because most of China's cities and heavily populated regions are found here. It shows that the area to the West is not cultivated at all, this could be because of ...*



**Draw a table in your books with four columns and label them as below.** Then sort the headlines below the table into the four categories. If you feel they could go in more than one category pick the one that is most affected.

<b>Social</b> ( <i>If people are affected</i> )	<b>Economic</b> ( <i>If finances / money is affected</i> )	<b>Environmental</b> ( <i>If <u>the environment</u> is affected</i> )	<b>Other</b>

## China Headlines – a selection of recent headlines from the BBC News

### China trade surplus hits record

Surging exports trigger a rise in China's trade surplus with the rest of the world to a record \$27bn in June.

### China officials break child rule

Nearly 2,000 officials broke the one-child rule in China's Hunan province in the five years to 2005, authorities say.

### China trade threatens tropical trees

Demand in China for merbau wood is driving the species towards extinction, reports the BBC's Michael Bristow.

### China's eco-city faces growth challenge

Shanghai plans to turn a huge island in the Yangtze River into an eco-city - but how green are its expansion plans?

### China unable to commit on climate

China is not able "for the time being" to commit to binding agreements to cut carbon emissions, a government official has told British parliamentarians.

### Beijing to trial removing 1million cars



Beijing has confirmed it is planning to keep a million cars off the city's roads next month to test what effect it has on pollution.

### **Fifth of China goods sub-standard**

A Chinese government report has found that nearly 20% of products made in the country are below standard.

### **China Southern in \$4bn jet order**

China Southern Airlines reveals it has placed orders to purchase 45 new jets - worth a total of \$3.7 billion.

### **China's hunger for African minerals**

Africa's minerals are vital for the booming Chinese economy, writes the BBC's James Reynolds.

### **China strikers 'beaten by thugs'**

Hundreds of Chinese migrant workers have been attacked after striking over unpaid wages, state media reports.

### **China finishes longest sea bridge**

China says it has finished building the world's longest sea-crossing bridge, in the east of the country.

### **China's Hu sets out policy goals**

Chinese President Hu Jintao puts clean government and sharing wealth at the top of his political agenda.

### **China to launch \$1bn Africa fund**

China is launching a \$1bn fund, backed by the Chinese Development Bank, to boost trade and investment in Africa.

### **Chinese farmers battle the elements**

Farmers in China are at the mercy of accidents, natural disasters and fluctuating market prices while their incomes fall further behind those of city-dwellers.

### **China building more power plants**

China is now building two new power plants every week, says the UK's top climate change envoy.

### **Many people arrested over Chinese slavery**

Scores of people including a key suspect are arrested in China over slave labour in illegal factories, police say.



### **China factory output accelerates**

Chinese industrial production speeds up in May in spite of government measures to control the fast-growing economy.

### **China re-think on names shortage**

Chinese officials want to expand the number of surnames in China in order to prevent confusion, state media says. At the moment around 85% of China's 1.3bn residents share around 100 surnames.

### **Rural China's suicide problem**

China has one of the highest rates of female suicide in the world, particularly in the rural areas, Dan Griffiths finds.

### **Intel's \$2.5bn China chip plant**

US computer chip manufacturer Intel unveils plans to build a \$2.5 billion chip plant in China.

### **'Thousands riot' in China protest**

As many as 20,000 rural workers in central China reportedly clash with police in a large-scale protest.

### **China's mixed media messages**

China is relaxing its reporting rules for foreign journalists ahead of the Olympics, but the domestic media are not enjoying the same freedoms.

### **China confirms Moon probe in 2007**

China will launch its first unmanned mission to the Moon later this year, a senior space official confirms.

### **China car firms gear up for booming sales**

A decade ago there were hardly any privately owned cars in China, yet the country could soon be the biggest car market in the world.

### **'Half Chinese' in cities by 2010**

Half China's 1.3 billion people will be living in cities by 2010, according to officials quoted in the state media.

### **Health plan protects China's poor**

A government-backed health insurance scheme in China has been such a success that it is now being extended nationwide, writes the BBC's Michael Bristow.