

CHAPTER FOCUS

Geographic Setting

Like population, most agriculture and industry are concentrated in the river valleys and coastal plains of East Asia. The climate and terrain in much of the region make huge areas unsuitable for human habitation.



Geographic Themes

Section 1 Living in East Asia

MOVEMENT Most of the countries of East Asia depend heavily on both regional and international trade for their growth and prosperity.

▲ **Photograph:** Farm market in Beijing, China

Section 2 People and Their Environment

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT

INTERACTION The intense concentration of people and industries in a fairly small part of the region has had a severe impact on the natural environment.

Living in East Asia

SETTING THE SCENE

Read to Discover . . .

- the importance of agriculture and fishing in East Asian economies.
- how smaller nations are challenging Japan's economic dominance in Asia.
- what the economic future holds for East Asia.

Key Terms

- commune
- cooperative
- trading partner
- merchant marine

Identify and Locate

Xinjiang, Tian Shan, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Fujian (province), Wuhan, Guangzhou

Wuhan, China

Ni Hao! Early morning grocery shopping at farm markets is a Chinese ritual. Items such as meat, fish, fruit, eggs and vegetables are bought fresh every day. Besides shopping, people in China come to the market to walk, meet friends, eat breakfast, or just watch the shoppers and farmers bargain for produce. Bing Liu



Bing Liu, who lives in central China, describes the importance of agriculture in Chinese daily life. Until recently most people in East Asia depended on agriculture for a living. Today industry and trade have become very important. Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan are leading industrial nations. Despite recent economic downturns, their economies have grown tremendously since the 1950s.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Agriculture

Politics and economic development have changed farming styles in East Asia since the 1950s. Supplying enough food, however, remains crucially important.

China

China is the most agricultural of the nations of East Asia, with a huge land area and a growing population. More than 55 percent of the people in China work in agriculture. It is one of the world's leading producers of rice, wheat, and tea. Chinese farmers also produce large quantities of soybeans, cotton, jute, and silk. Livestock is an important product in the rugged western province of Xinjiang.

Since 1949, China's Communist government has made many changes in the country's agriculture. In the Great Leap Forward in 1958, farmers were organized into huge **communes**, collective farming communities whose members share work and products equally. An average commune had 5,000 households, divided into units called production brigades.

Most peasants disliked the communes, and crop production fell, bringing famine. Since then, smaller farms and smaller groups of workers have been allowed. Many farmers also have private garden plots and sell extra crops or animals.

Japan

Because farmland is scarce in the Japanese islands, farmers use every inch of it carefully. In the warmer southern islands, they may plant and harvest three crops a year. Farmers terrace their fields and use machinery, fertilizers, and irrigation.

Most farms—usually about three acres—are family businesses. In some families, women and grandparents run the farm while men commute to city jobs.

Even with limited land, Japan grows all the rice, and many of the vegetables, that it needs. In higher areas, tea and mulberry bushes—to feed silkworms—are grown.

Korea

Much of the land in the Korean Peninsula is too rugged for farming. As industries and

cities grow, fewer Koreans work in agriculture, causing farmers to depend on machines.

Rice is the main crop in both North and South Korea. South Korean farmers plant two crops of rice a year using special seeds and farming methods to produce high yields. They grow other grains and potatoes and raise farm animals such as chickens, cattle, and pigs.

Taiwan

Taiwanese farmers also terrace their fields to grow rice. Most farms there are only two or three acres. The warm climate lets farmers plant pineapples, bananas, tea, peanuts, and vegetables.

Mongolia

Most of the land in Mongolia, in north-central East Asia, is used for grazing herds of sheep, goats, camels, and cattle.

Until the early 1990s, Mongolia followed the Soviet Union as its economic model. Herders were organized into collectives with quotas for producing milk and wool. State farms also grew food for people and fodder for animals. Today Mongolian farmers are slowly moving toward free enterprise.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Fishing

Three of the world's leading fishing nations are in East Asia—Japan, China, and South Korea.

Fishing is an important food source and export of the region. In China, people depend on freshwater fish while the Japanese catch and eat more seafood than any other people.

Commercial fishing is especially important for peninsular and island nations. Fleets of trawlers catch tons of snapper, tuna, squid, shrimp, and other seafood. Factory ships often travel along to clean and freeze the fish soon after it is caught.

Most Japanese fishing communities have organized **cooperatives**, or co-ops. Co-op members work together to buy boats, sell the catch, and provide housing and benefits for their members.



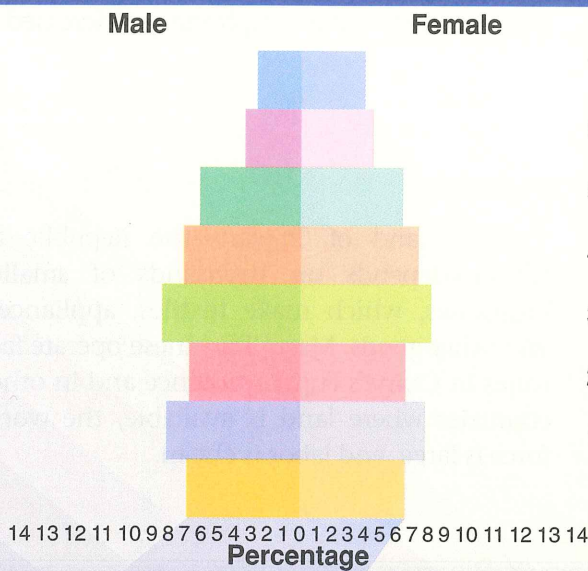
Geographic Themes

Region: Eastern China

China's farmers rely on human and animal labor as well as machinery. *What percent of China's people work in agriculture?*



POPULATION OF JAPAN BY AGE AND SEX



POPULATION OF CHINA BY AGE AND SEX

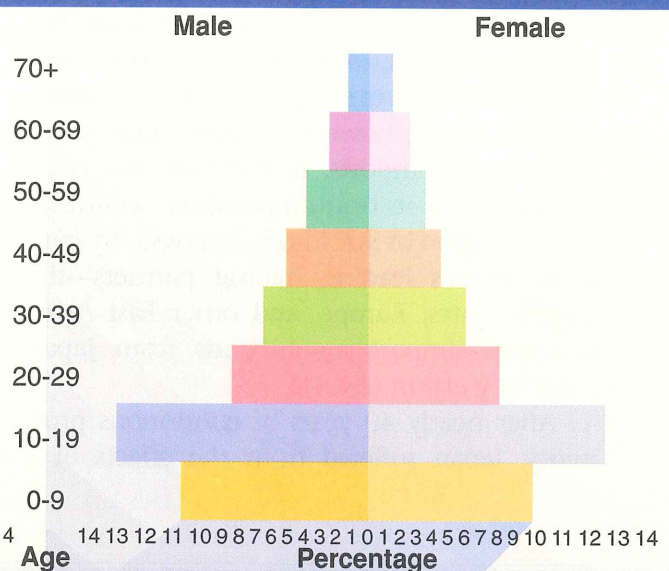


CHART STUDY

Japan's population is stable, but China's population had been growing rapidly. In recent years, however, the Chinese government has attempted to reduce population growth. Using the population pyramid, determine whether the Chinese government has been successful at slowing population growth.

MOVEMENT

Industry and Trade

Since the 1950s most nations of East Asia have become important trading and industrial nations. Many have invited foreign investors.

Despite political differences regional nations are economically interdependent. Japan and Taiwan have all made investments in China, and state-owned Chinese companies are exporting products to China's neighbors.

Japan

After World War II, Japan recovered quickly with American aid and became Asia's economic miracle. A highly skilled, cooperative workforce and use of the latest technology enabled Japanese industries to prosper. By the 1990s, high quality Japanese-made cars, VCRS,



Geographic Themes

Region: South Korea

South Korea has a free-enterprise economy based on exports. A major industry is shipbuilding. What products does South Korea export?



cameras, and other electronic equipment had gained a world market.

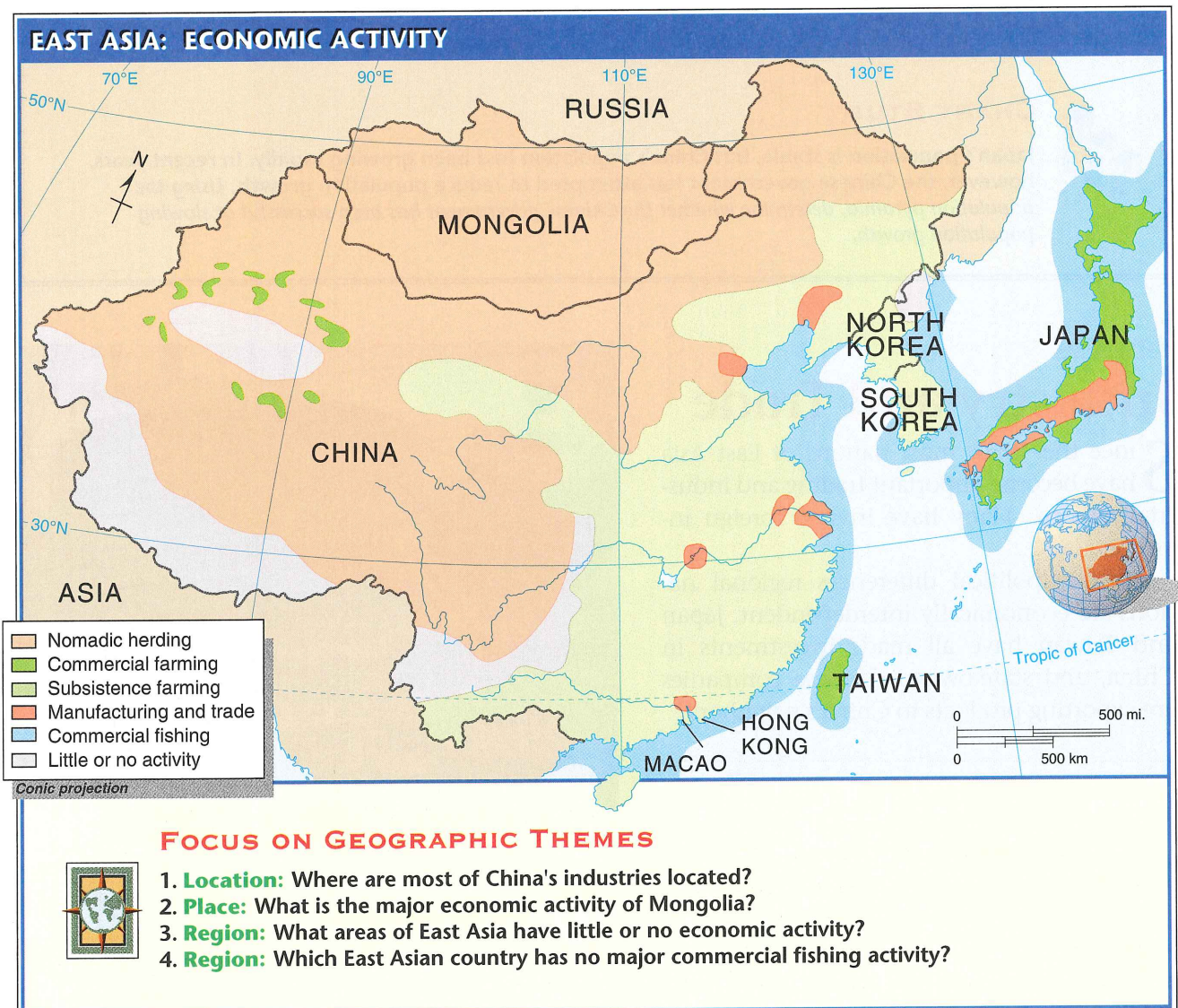
Because Japan has few industrial raw materials, it depends on trade. Although Japan is a major steelmaker, for example, it imports iron ore. It also imports some food and most energy fuels. Japan, however, exports more products than it imports. It therefore has trade surpluses with its **trading partners**—countries that buy from or sell to the Japanese. By contrast, Japan's leading trading partners—the United States, Europe, and other East Asian countries—import more goods from Japan than they export to it.

After nearly 40 years of continuous prosperity, Japan suffered from the effects of a

global economic slump during the late 1990s. Japanese banks, which had invested in risky overseas ventures, failed. Industrial production dropped, and unemployment increased.

Taiwan

The island of Taiwan—the Republic of China—depends on thousands of smaller businesses, which make textiles, appliances, and other goods. Many Taiwanese operate factories in China's Fujian province and in other countries where land is available, the workforce is large, and labor is cheap.



China

Outdated technology, poor government planning, and a lack of skilled labor long slowed industrial growth in the People's Republic of China. A producer of coal, steel, cement, petrochemicals, and textiles, China now is carrying out capitalist-style reforms to improve its economy. For example, while the Communist government still controls major industries, it now allows small businesses and private property.

Today foreign investment flows into China, and the Chinese have set up special economic zones where foreigners can own and operate businesses with little government interference. An additional source of wealth for China is capitalist Hong Kong, which returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

Experts agree that the reforms have sparked economic growth and raised standards of living. However, rapid economic change has created a gap between prosperous industrial areas on the coast and less wealthy agricultural regions of the interior.

Korea

South Korea exports electronic equipment, textiles, ships, and motor vehicles. During the late 1990s, slow economic growth, bank failures, and rising unemployment forced the South Koreans to seek international financial aid. Today, they are trying to rebuild their economy.

In North Korea the Communist government emphasizes heavy industry such as machinery and chemicals. However, it has neglected agriculture. In recent years, crop failures, partly caused by drought and floods, have led to severe food shortages and widespread starvation.

Mongolia

Most industries in Mongolia are based on its livestock, farms, and forests. Factories make textiles from wool and leather shoes and coats from hides. They also process meat and milk products and make furniture, paper, and other wood products.

JAPAN'S BALANCE OF TRADE

Year	Value of Imports (in billions of dollars)	Value of Exports (in billions of dollars)	Balance of Trade (in billions of dollars)
1983	126.0	146.0	+20.0
1984	136.5	170.1	+33.6
1985	130.0	177.0	+47.0
1986	126.4	209.2	+82.8
1987	149.5	229.2	+79.7
1988	187.4	264.9	+77.5
1989	210.8	275.2	+64.4
1990	234.8	286.9	+52.1
1991	236.7	314.5	+77.8
1992	233.0	339.1	+106.1
1993	240.6	360.9	+120.3
1994	274.3	395.5	+121.2
1995	336.1	442.8	+106.7
1996	329.0	385.0	+56.0

Source: *The World Almanac*, 1985–1998

CHART STUDY



Japan has maintained a positive balance of trade since 1983. In what year did the value of Japan's exports start to exceed \$200 billion?

Before the fall of communism in Russia, Mongolia traded mainly with China and Soviet bloc countries. In the 1990s Mongolia began to move gradually toward capitalism.

MOVEMENT

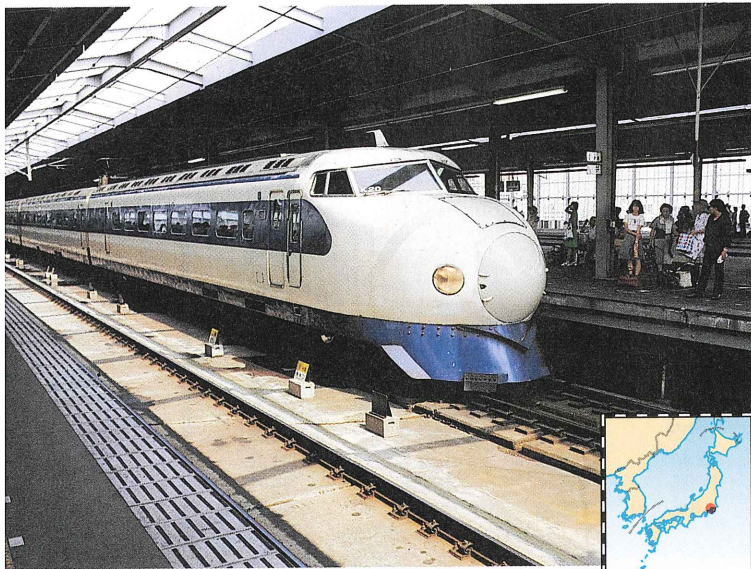
Transportation and Communication

Before air travel was common, rugged mountains isolated East Asia. Today every country in the region has at least one scheduled air service. Overland travel in mainland Asia, however, involves long journeys by railroad or road. Transportation and communication networks are concentrated in the heavily populated areas.

Water

Rivers in China are important routes from inland industrial cities to seaports. The Chang





Geographic Themes

Region: Honshu, Japan

Japan's bullet-shaped, high-speed electric trains run the length of the main island of Honshu. *How fast can the bullet trains travel?*

Jiang is the longest navigable river and the major port of Shanghai lies at its mouth. Large oceangoing ships can travel upriver 680 miles (1,090 km) to the transportation center of Wuhan in central China.

Other major ports are also at the mouths of rivers: Tianjin (TYEN•JIN) on the Huang He, and Guangzhou, on the Xi River. The world's oldest and longest artificial waterway, the Grand Canal, connects the Chang Jiang and the Huang He.

Much of the trade of East Asian nations depends on their **merchant marine**, ships that engage in commerce. The leading nation is Japan, with a merchant fleet of nearly 10,000 ships, the second largest in the world. Japan's coast, especially the Inland Sea, has many fine harbors. Major ports are Yokohama, Kobe (KOH•bee), and Nagoya.

Land Travel

Japan has had busy highways since the 1600s. Railroads were an important part of Japan's drive toward modernization in the late 1800s. Today Japanese railway systems include high-speed trains, known as bullet trains, that can travel at 145 miles per hour (240 kmph).

Outside Japan few East Asians own cars. Railroads are important for long-distance travel, especially for the great distances within China. In the northwest a major railway line links Beijing with the Trans-Siberian Railway in Russia. Locally, buses connect towns. In rural areas people still travel by animal-drawn carts. Bicycles are popular everywhere.

North Korean railroads link that country with China. Railroads connect major South Korean cities. South Korea also built new highways for the 1988 Olympic Games held in Seoul.

Communications

In the Communist nations of East Asia, governments keep tight control of communications media. China's largest newspaper is the *People's Daily*, the official paper of the Communist Party.

Access to mass communications varies with a country's standard of living. Most people in Japan and Taiwan own television sets; a typical Chinese working family, on the other hand, is lucky to have a radio.

The Japanese have more than 125 daily newspapers, 3,800 magazines, and a large book publishing industry. A Tokyo paper, *Asahi Shimbun*, has a circulation of more than 11 million copies a day, the largest in the world.

SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding

- 1. Define** commune, cooperative, trading partner, merchant marine.
- 2. Locating Places** What Chinese port city is located on the Chang Jiang?
- 3. Place** What are China's major food crops?
- 4. Movement** Why is trade important to Japan's prosperity?

Critical Thinking

- 5. Analyzing Information** Why are the nations of East Asia interdependent in spite of their political differences?





SETTING THE SCENE

Read to Discover . . .

- how industrialization has harmed the environment in East Asia.
- what actions East Asians are taking to fight pollution and other environmental problems.
- how natural forces affect East Asia.

Key Terms

- acid rain
- chlorofluorocarbon

Identify and Locate

Beijing, Guangzhou, Guangdong

In terms of the environment, the people of East Asia have paid a high price for economic growth and prosperity. Industry and development have caused serious pollution problems. The region is also subject to natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes.

HUMAN/ENVIRONMENT INTERACTION

Environmental Concerns

In many parts of East Asia, industrial growth has seemed so important that its effects on the environment have been largely ignored. This has created serious environmental problems that affect not only this region but the entire world.

China

Coal is an inexpensive fuel—and China has huge reserves of it. As China works to industrialize, coal provides about 70 percent of its energy, running factories and heating homes. Burning coal, however, causes serious air pollution, especially in industrial cities. In

Beijing where the air is already polluted by wind-blown dust, coal adds soot and poisonous fumes. In regions of China devoted to heavy industry, large numbers of people suffer from lung disease.

Burning coal gives off sulfur dioxide, a major ingredient of **acid rain**. When sulfur dioxide and other acids mix with water in the air, the rain that falls can be more acid than vinegar. It damages trees and can kill wildlife in lakes and rivers. Acid rain is a serious problem in the industrial region of southeast China, especially Guangdong, Guangxi, and Guizhou provinces. Winds spread acid rain across the sea to Japan's forests.

As China industrializes, problems with polluted water and toxic wastes increase. Thousands of acres of forests are cleared every year, adding to desert land and making floods worse. Government policies such as the Great Leap Forward caused damage to the environment by neglect. Although China has laws regulating pollution, they often are not enforced.

As a nation industrializes, its people tend to use more goods, consume more energy, and create more waste. Because China has more than 1 billion people, its continuing econom-



ic growth will have a great impact on the world's environment.

Japan

Japan is highly industrialized and very crowded. Waste products from factories, plus the trash of a rich “throwaway society,” have polluted the air and water.

For many years the Japanese were criticized for ignoring the environmental problems their technologies were creating. In the 1970s, however, the Japanese government began to encourage industries to prevent pollution. Today its pollution-control laws are among the world's strictest.

Japanese industries sought new technologies to clean up or prevent air and water pollution. Japan soon became efficient in using energy. Of all the industrialized nations, it produces the least carbon dioxide, which contributes to the greenhouse effect. The United States, on the other hand, produces the most carbon dioxide, about 24 percent of the world total.

In the 1990s Japan became a world leader in environmental issues. It urged other nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and **chlorofluorocarbons**, or CFCs. These

substances, found in liquid coolants, destroy parts of the earth's protective ozone layer. Japan also offered “clean” technology and financial help for environmental projects to neighboring East Asian countries and other developing nations.

Other Countries

Rapid economic growth also brought environmental problems in Korea and Taiwan. In Taiwan, for example, computer factories were producing toxic waste, and petrochemical plants polluted river water. Both countries took steps to regulate industries.

Conservation

Other threats to the environment in East Asia are caused by growing populations, overfishing, and trade in rare animal products. Carved elephant ivory is valued in Asian art, and rhinoceros horn is used in traditional medicine. Yet both animals are endangered.

Japan has been criticized worldwide for some of its fishing methods. It is one of the few countries in the world that still hunts whales. In 1991 Japan agreed to stop fishing with drift nets, huge deep-sea nets that drastically lowered fish populations and killed anything caught in them, including dolphins and birds.

REGION

Natural Disasters

Because of its geography, East Asia constantly faces catastrophic natural disasters. Throughout its history, China has had to deal with disastrous floods on the Huang He and the Chang Jiang. To control floods, the Chinese have built networks of drainage and irrigation canals and channels that can carry off or bring in water quickly. They also have constructed dams as well as dikes along the sides of the rivers.

In the late 1990s, Chinese officials moved ahead with the world's largest public works project, the Three Gorges Dam on the Chang Jiang in central China. When completed in 2009, the dam is expected to prevent dangerous flooding and will provide electricity for

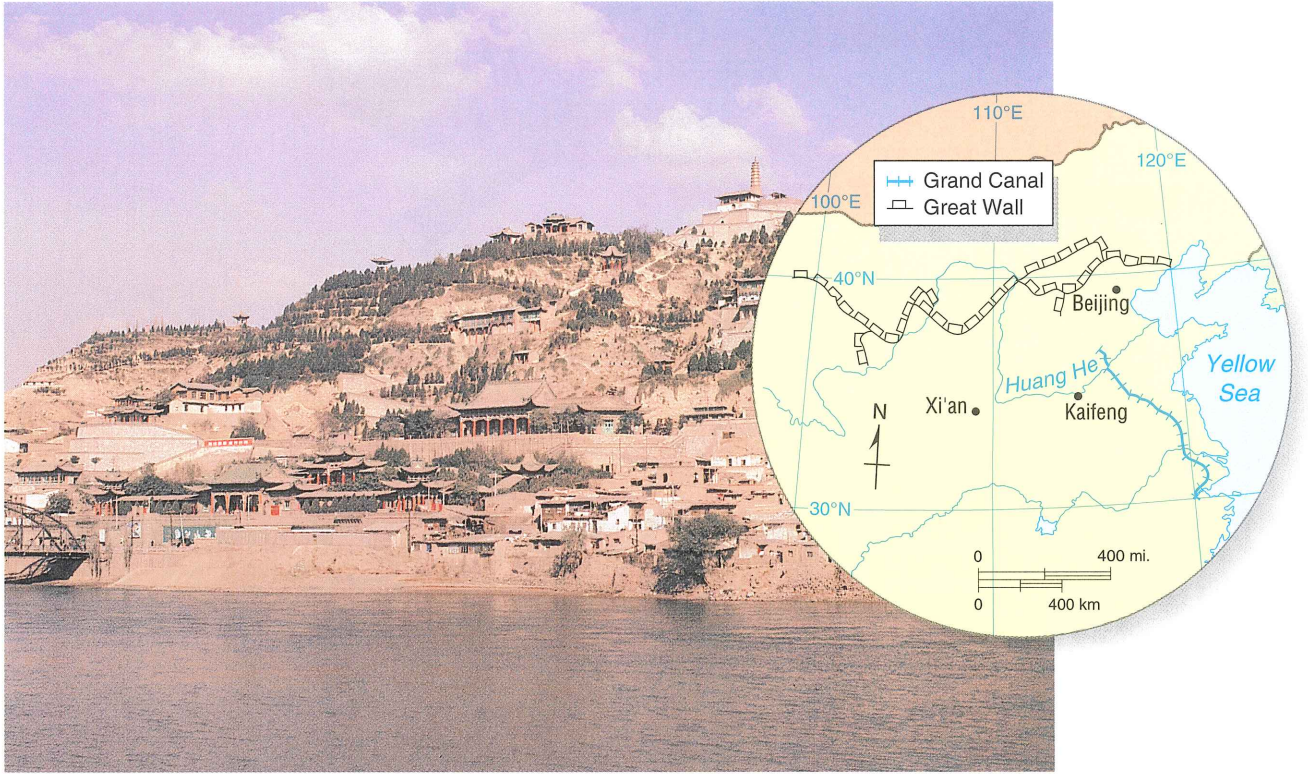


Geographic Themes

Place: Tokyo, Japan

Some Japanese often wear masks on days when pollution is severe. How has Japan sought to improve the environment of East Asia?





Geographic Themes



Place: Huang He valley, China

Because the Huang He often floods over a large area and causes great destruction, it has been called "China's sorrow." *How have the Chinese sought to control floods?*

new commercial ventures. Almost 2 million people will be relocated before the dam's giant reservoir covers up farms, villages, and canyons. Critics charge that the project is destroying one of the world's most scenic areas and covering up centuries-old temples.

In addition to floods, several parts of China also suffer from frequent, damaging earthquakes. Typhoons often devastate coastal areas.

The island nations of East Asia are part of the Pacific Ocean's Ring of Fire. Located at plate boundaries where the earth's crust sometimes shifts, this region has frequent earthquakes and volcanic activity. Japan has about 50 active volcanoes and many hot springs from underground sources.

Each year Japan has about 1,500 small earthquakes. The most devastating, in 1923, destroyed large parts of Tokyo and Yokohama and killed about 130,000 people. In 1995 another severe earthquake struck the area around the port city of Kobe. Earthquakes on

the sea floor can be equally serious for coastal areas. They can send huge tsunamis crashing onto inhabited shoreline areas.

SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding

1. **Define** acid rain, chlorofluorocarbon.
2. **Locating Places** In what part of China is the problem of acid rain most serious?
3. **Place** What is the Ring of Fire?
4. **Human/Environment Interaction** What kinds of natural disasters are a threat to East Asia?

Critical Thinking

5. **Predicting Consequences** Why will China's continued economic growth have an effect on the world environment?



TROUBLESOME TREMORS

I never had much, but what I had, I lost it all.

Fujiharu Hatsuzuka, 63-year-old fisher who survived a 1993 earthquake in northern Japan.

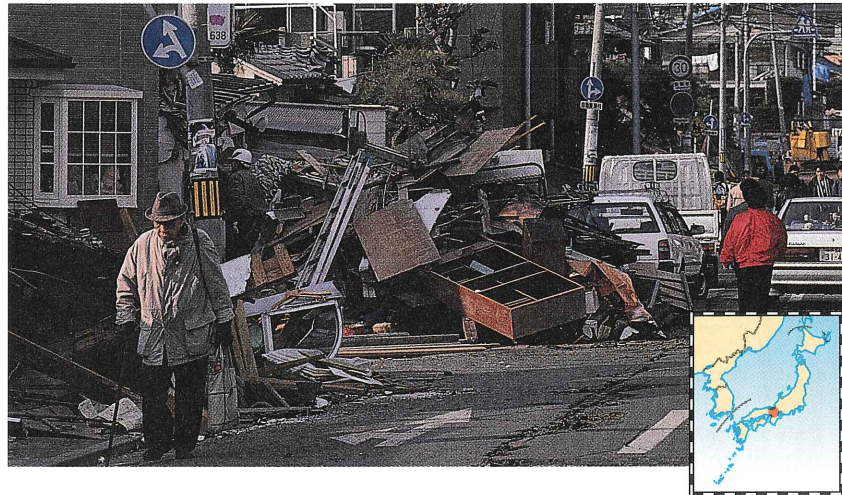
On January 17, 1995, a 7.5-magnitude earthquake struck central Japan, demolishing the city of Kobe, the country's second-largest port. Within minutes the quake triggered landslides and raging firestorms. More than 6,000 people were killed, another 250,000 were made homeless, and the city experienced nearly \$120 billion in damage. The quake was the worst to hit Japan in seven decades.

THE ISSUE

The 1995 quake was one of about 1,500 that shake Japan every year. Building construction and city planning are areas of intense interest as the Japanese study ways to minimize the devastating effects of major earthquakes.

THE BACKGROUND

Japan lies in a region where three huge plates of the earth's surface crunch against one another. The collisions are continuous, accounting for the thousands of earthquakes that



More than 94,000 buildings and houses were demolished in Kobe when a devastating earthquake struck the city in early 1995.

are part of Japan's geological make-up.

Most quakes are short tremors. Every few years, however, a serious quake occurs. Major crunches usually cause several other natural catastrophes, such as landslides and tsunami.

Through the centuries the Japanese have developed housing that is remarkably resilient to quakes. Most famous is the traditional Japanese house—one story, of wood, constructed on a sturdy skeletal frame. The

frames are able to sustain the repeated shocks of frequent earthquakes. Luckily, Japan has tremendous timber resources, so wooden houses can be quickly and easily rebuilt.

Although wooden houses can withstand a quake's jolts, they are vulnerable to the firestorms that often occur in conjunction with quakes.

Traditional Japanese cooking is done over an open charcoal fire: the earth's shaking upsets the stoves, spilling smoldering charcoal on the floor, which

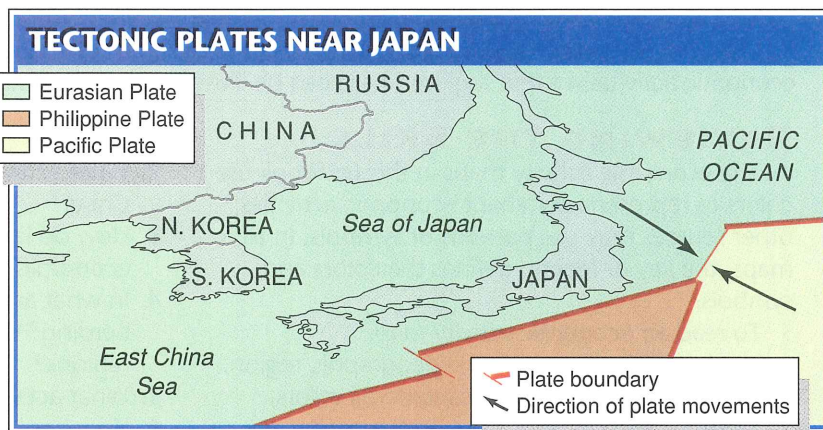
catches fire. Tokyo's 1923 quake—the century's worst—began during lunch hour. Overturned cookstoves fired the rubble, producing two great walls of fire that pushed fleeing crowds into the Sumida River.

To reduce the chance of fire, brick construction was introduced in the early 1890s. By the turn of the century, Japanese architects had learned how to strengthen brick walls with steel frame construction, build with composite brick-and-steel frame structures, and use reinforced concrete.

Through the centuries the Japanese have developed housing that is remarkably resilient to quakes.

THE POINTS OF VIEW

Although several construction techniques now exist for quake-proofing buildings, some Japanese architects say that such construction is not used as widely as it could be. In addition, say these architects, no time is ever given to examine ways in which destruction from a quake could be lessened through better city planning. Says a leading architect, "Our authorities only recognize the need for reconstruction and clearance after a catastrophe.



They see no necessity to prevent the recurrence of catastrophes by a new program of building."

Experts also point out that Japan's urban population is rapidly increasing. More people crowding in the cities means potentially more victims during a quake.

THE ISSUE TODAY

Japan continues to build. While more concrete buildings are going up, they do not necessarily replace wooden houses. Most are built in addition to wooden housing.

Charcoal stoves have been replaced by kerosene for heating and bottled gas for cooking. Unfortunately, both are much more highly flammable than charcoal.

Engineers and earthquake scientists are working together to design buildings that will not collapse during a quake. Cities have passed strict zoning

laws requiring tall buildings to conform to certain rigorous standards. Japanese citizens participate in frequent earthquake drills. Many families keep survival kits ready. Fire extinguishers are handy everywhere, even in buses and taxicabs.

Experts admit, however, that a large quake could demolish buildings—wooden or cement—by the thousands. As many as one-half million people could die.

Reviewing the Case

1. Why does Japan have many earthquakes?
2. What steps have the Japanese taken to minimize earthquake damage?
3. **Human/Environment**



Interaction What nongeographical problem contributes to earthquake damage in Japan?

MAP & GRAPH SKILLS

Reading an Economic Activity Map

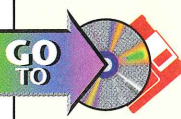
Most people in any region practice one or two basic types of economic activity—the dominant economic activities of that region. These can be illustrated in an **economic activity map**.

REVIEWING THE SKILL

The economic activity maps in this textbook use colors to represent dominant economic activities; other sources may use patterns or symbols. In all maps, the key or legend defines the colors and symbols.

To read an economic activity map:

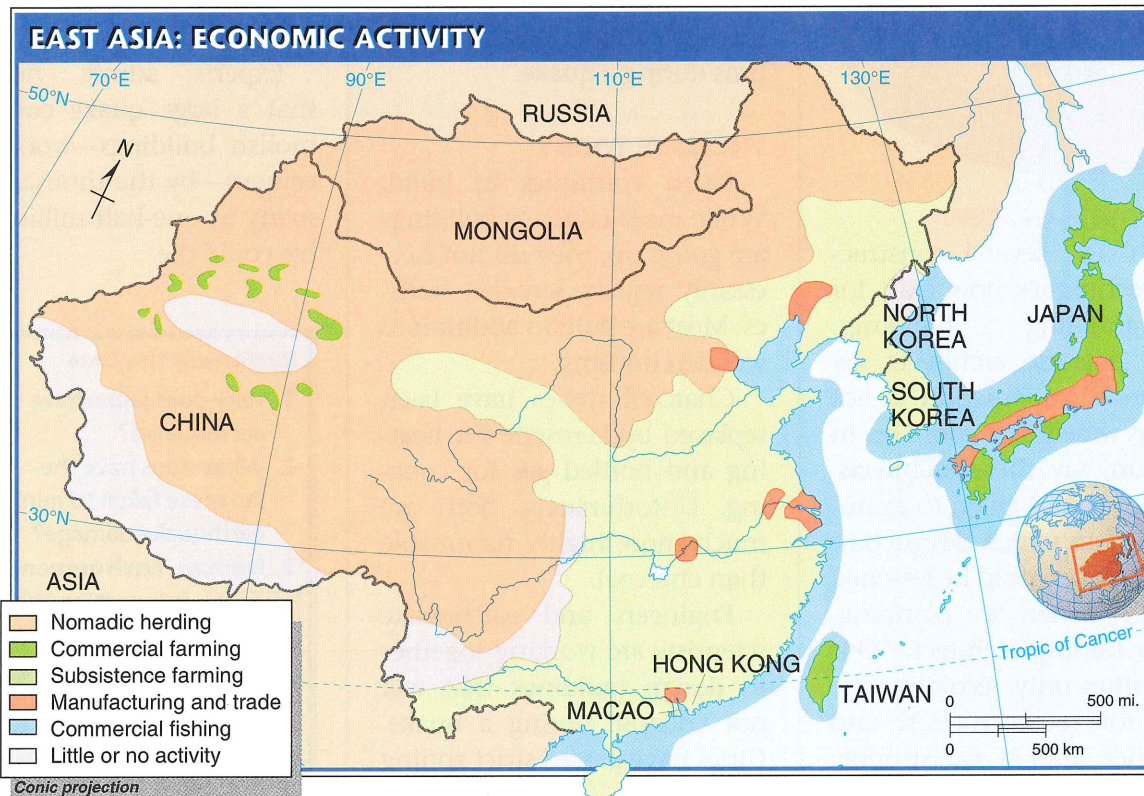
- Read the title to identify the geographic region.
 - Study the map key to understand all colors, symbols, and patterns used on the map.
 - Study the map to determine what activities dominate the economy of each area.
 - Compare the map with maps showing landforms, climate, and resources of the region to draw conclusions about the interaction of humans and the environment.
1. What economic activity dominates eastern China?
 2. What economic activity dominates eastern China?
 3. How do landforms and climate determine the economic activity in eastern China?
 4. In what areas do most people practice nomadic herding? Why is there little agriculture in these regions?
 5. What activities dominate Japan's economy?
 6. How has Japan's physical geography influenced its economy?



The **Glencoe Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook, Level 2** provides instruction and practice in key social studies skills.

PRACTICING THE SKILL

- Answer the following questions:
1. What color represents subsistence



1

SECTION

Living in East Asia

KEY TERMS

commune (p. 571)
cooperative (p. 572)
trading partner (p. 574)
merchant marine (p. 576)

SUMMARY

- East Asia was once mainly agricultural, but trade and industry have brought prosperity and economic growth to most of its nations.
- A majority of Chinese people still work in agriculture, following policies set by the Communist government.
- Fishing is important both for food and for export.
- Japan is East Asia's leading industrial nation but is being challenged by Taiwan and South Korea.
- Trade and business investment bring together capitalist and Communist countries in East Asia.
- Ships and railroads are important links within East Asia; transportation is most developed in the eastern part of the region.



Japanese bullet train

2

SECTION

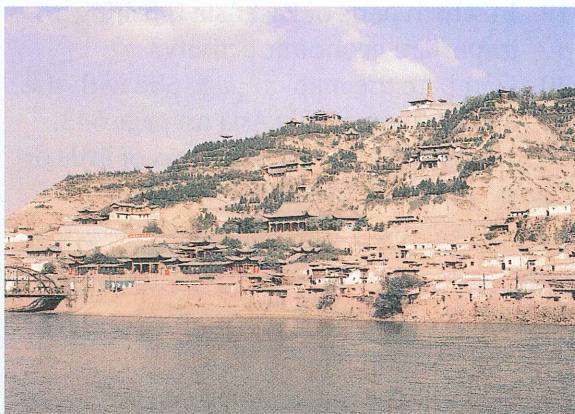
People and Their Environment

KEY TERMS

acid rain (p. 577)
chlorofluorocarbon (p. 578)

SUMMARY

- Rapid industrial growth in East Asia has caused air and water pollution and toxic wastes; such environmental problems were ignored for several decades.
- Japan has become a leader in protecting and cleaning up the environment, with strict anti-pollution laws.
- China's huge population increases the impact of its economic development on the environment.
- East Asia is subject to natural disasters such as flooding, earthquakes, tsunami, and typhoons.



Chinese town on the banks of the Huang He



Reviewing Key Terms

Choose the vocabulary term that best completes each of the sentences below. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

- commune (p. 571)
- cooperative (p. 572)
- trading partner (p. 574)
- merchant marine (p. 576)
- acid rain (p. 577)
- chlorofluorocarbons (p. 578)

SECTION 1

1. South Korea is a major _____ of Japan's.
2. Members of a farming or fishing _____ voluntarily work together to share the work and the profits.
3. Japan's _____ carries its exports to other countries.
4. During the Great Leap Forward, several thousand farm households were organized into a single _____.

SECTION 2

5. The greatest danger to the earth's ozone layer comes from _____.
6. _____ endangers forests in China and neighboring countries.

Reviewing Facts

SECTION 1

7. What is the most important food crop in North and South Korea?
8. What kinds of things must Japan import? Why?
9. How do industries in Taiwan differ from those in Japan and Korea?
10. What economic reforms have Chinese leaders introduced?

SECTION 2

11. What is the most important energy source in China? How does this affect the environment?

12. What steps has Japan taken to solve environmental problems?
13. Why are earthquakes and volcanoes common in the islands of East Asia?

Critical Thinking

14. **Making Predictions** How might China and Taiwan challenge Japan's economic power?
15. **Identifying Central Issues** Why did pollution problems develop in East Asia?



Geographic Themes

16. **Location** Why is fishing important and necessary for the people of East Asia?
17. **Human/Environment Interaction** How does acid rain in China affect pollution in Japan?



Practicing Skills

Reading An Economic Activity Map

Refer to the map on page 582.

18. How has physical geography affected the location of manufacturing and trade centers in China?
19. In which parts of East Asia is fishing an important economic activity?
20. Compare the map on page 582 with the climate map of East Asia on page 543. How would you explain areas of little or no economic activity?

Using the Unit Atlas

Refer to the physical geography section of the Unit Atlas on pages 532–533.

21. Describe the physical makeup of Japan.
22. What are the major natural resources of Mongolia?

Projects

Individual Activity

Research and write a brief report about the imports and exports of one country or territory. Answer these questions: Does the country import/export mostly food and agricultural products or industrial goods? What does this show about the country and its people?

Cooperative Learning Activity

The United States is an important trading partner for East Asia. Work with four or five classmates to find out what products from East Asia you use every day. Check all parts of your homes and schools for products. Make a group list of what you find to share with the class.

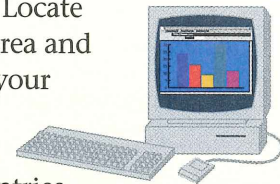
Writing About Geography

Comparison Imagine that you are a reporter making a tour of farming communi-

ties in two or more countries in East Asia. Write a short news article comparing and contrasting the farms and farm families. Consider the size of farms, farming methods, crops grown, or other factors. Use your journal to help you write your article.

Technology Activity

Using a Spreadsheet Locate sources about North Korea and South Korea. Organize your findings by creating a spreadsheet comparing data about the two countries.



Data to compare should include population, GNP per capita, literacy rate, birthrate, death rate, infant mortality rate, and life expectancy at birth for both males and females. Print out your spreadsheet and share your information with the class.

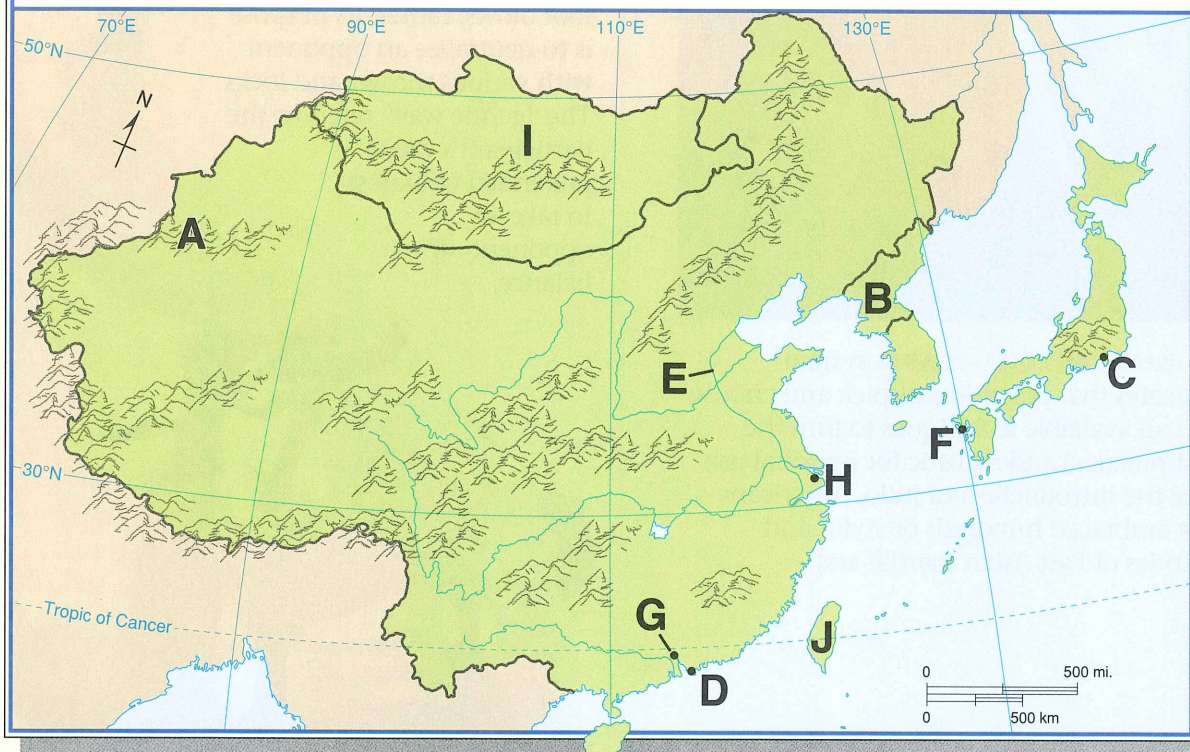


Locating Places

EAST ASIA: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Match the letters on the map with the places and physical features of East Asia. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Shanghai | 6. Mongolia |
| 2. Tian Shan | 7. Taiwan |
| 3. Hong Kong | 8. Grand Canal |
| 4. Guangzhou | 9. North Korea |
| 5. Yokohama | 10. Nagasaki |



East Asia and the United States

THE MARTIAL ARTS

Martial arts is a catch-all phrase identifying various fighting methods developed from ancient Asian combat skills. Experts believe that the martial arts began as forms of exercise and self-defense practiced by Buddhist monks in India and Tibet. The monks then introduced the skills in China; from there, they spread to Korea and Japan. Today, hundreds of martial arts systems and styles exist.

The most popular martial arts in the United States are tae kwon do, karate, kung fu, and judo. Millions of Americans participate for recreation, physical fitness, or competition.

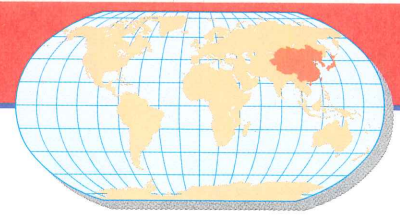


▲ **THE AMERICAN MARTIAL ARTS** system advocates that practitioners pick and choose from all available techniques to find the most practical and realistic for personal use. Since the introduction of judo, Americans have embraced hundreds of styles and substyles of East Asian martial arts.

JUDO ▶

gets its name from the Japanese words *ju* (gentle) and *do* (way). Judo uses no hand or foot blows; rather, its purpose is to neutralize an opponent with various throws and locks. The “gentle way” refers to the participant’s use of pretended weakness to take an opponent off balance.





◀ **KARATE** is a Japanese term: *kara* is most often translated “empty”; *te* means “hand.” The name refers to the sport’s beginning: Originally, karate skills were hand-and-foot blows learned by soldiers as defense if they became weaponless (“empty-handed”) during battle. Today, the term includes any martial art using hand-and-foot blows as basic techniques. Japanese karate employs hard, quick, powerful blows. Introduced in the United States in the 1940s, karate has more American participants than anywhere else in the world.

▼ **TAE KWAN DO,**

or Korean karate, is by far the favorite of all the martial arts. Known as the art of kicking and punching, this sport combines the abrupt movements of Japanese karate with the circular movement patterns of kung fu. The Koreans added their own touches—spectacular jumping and spinning kicks—which punctuate tae kwan do performances.



▲ **KUNG FU** —

Chinese karate—is the best known of the Chinese martial arts. Kung fu practitioners incorporate their blows and kicks into a flowing, circular motion.



Checking for Understanding

1. What martial arts are popular in the United States?
2. **Movement** How did martial arts spread from India and Tibet to China?

