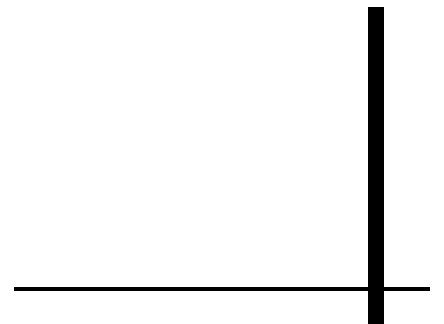
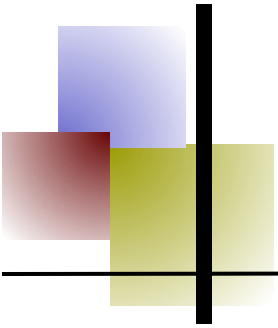


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# The Great Wall

By Dylan S.



To the north of Beijing, a huge, serrated wall zigzags its way to the east and west along the rolling mountains. This is the Great Wall, which is said to be perceptible from the moon.

Construction of the Great Wall started in the 7th century B.C. The aggressive states under the Zhou Dynasty in the northern parts of the country each built their own fortifications. After the state of Qin unified China in 221 B.C., it joined the walls to hold off the invaders from the Xiongnu tribes in the north and extended them to more than 10,000 li or 5,000 kilometers. This is the origin of the name of the "10,000-li Great Wall".



The Great Wall was renovated from time to time after the Qin Dynasty. A major restoration started with the founding of the Ming Dynasty in 1368, and took 200 years to complete. The wall



we see today is almost exactly the product of this effort. With a total length of over 6,000 kilometers, it extends to the Jiayu Pass in

Gansu Province in the west and to the mouth of the Yalu River in Liaoning Province in the east. What lies north of Beijing is but a small section of it.

### Questions???



**True or False**

**The great wall is visible from the moon?**

**The great wall is**

**6,000 miles long**

**5,000 kilometers long**

**10,000 li long**

**5,000 feet long**

**When did the state of Qin unite?**

**231 BC**

**221 AD**

**758 BC**

**221 BC**

**How long did the renovation take?**

**1 year**

**700 years**

**2000 years**

**200 years**

**How long is the great wall?**

**700 li**

**Over 6000 kilometers**

**1 foot**

**9060865432845 inches**

# Chinese Medicine

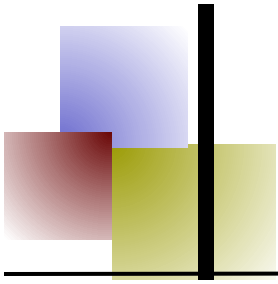
By Jack D.

In the ancient times, China was very skilled in making different kinds of medicines. For different symptoms they used spicy, sweet, bitter, salty, bland, and astringent herbs. They also used acupuncture to cure sickness and disease.

Spicy herbs are for increasing movement of the body and also of the blood vessels. Sweet herbs are good for the spleen. Bitter herbs are good for the heart. They also cure asthma, constipation, and dampness. Sour herbs are good for the liver. They also cure diarrhea, excess perspiration, and soften arteries. Salty herbs cure constipation and reduce phlegm. They are good for your kidneys. Bland herbs promote urination. Astringent herbs cure diarrhea, bleeding, frequent urination, and excess perspiration.

There are many channels for acupuncture needles, and many particular points to put them in on these channels. The lung channel has 11 points. The large intestine channel has 20 points. There are 45 points in the stomach channel. The spleen channel has 21 points. There are 9 points in the heart channel. The small intestine channel has 19 points. The bladder channel has 67 points. There are 27 points in the kidney channel. The pericardium channel has 9 points. There are 23 points in the San Jiao channel. The gall bladder channel has 44 points. There are 14 points in the liver channel. The conception channel has 24 points.

Those are the basic medicines of ancient China.



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# Technology

By Dylan S.

**The Chinese were amazing inventors even thousands of years ago! Here are but a few of their amazing achievements.**

**The Seismograph: China, Second Century AD.** Earthquakes have always been a problem for China and the government wanted to know when the economy would be interrupted. A seismograph was first created by scientist, mathematician, and inventor Chang Heng. His invention was noted in court records of the Han Dynasty in 132. Modern seismographs only began development in 1848.

**The Horse Collar: China. Third Century BC** the Chinese devised a harness with a breast strap known as the trace harness, modified approximately one hundred later into the collar harness. Unlike the throat-and-girth harness used in the West, which choked a horse and reduced its efficiency (it took two horses to haul a half a ton), the collar harness allowed a single horse to haul a ton and a half. The trace harness arrived in Europe in the sixth century and made its way across Europe by the eighth century.

**The Wheelbarrow: China, First Century BC.** Wheelbarrows did not exist in Europe before the eleventh or twelfth century (the earliest known Western depiction is in a window at Chartres Cathedral, dated around 1220 AD). Descriptions of the wheelbarrow in China refer to first century BC, and the oldest surviving picture, a frieze relief from a

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**tomb-shrine in Szechuan province, dates from about 118 AD.**

**Matches: China, Sixth Century AD. Impoverished court ladies invented the first version of the match in 577 AD during a military siege. Hard pressed for tinder during the siege, they could otherwise not start fires for food preparation, heat, etc. The matches consisted of minute sticks of pinewood infused with sulfur. There is no evidence of matches in Europe before 1530.**

**Paper: China, Second Century BC. Papyrus, the internal bark of the papyrus plant, is not true paper. Paper is a sheet of sediment that results from the settling of a layer of disintegrated fibers from a watery solution onto a flat mold. Once the water is drained away, the deposited sheet is detached and dried out. The oldest existing piece of paper in the world is made of hemp fibers, discovered in 1957 in a tomb near Xian, China, and dates from between the years 140 and 87 BC. The oldest paper with writing on it, also from China, is dated to 110 AD and contains about 24 characters. Paper reached India in the seventh century and West Asia in the eighth. The Arabs sold paper to Europeans until manufacture in the West in the twelfth century.**

**The rocket and multistage rockets: China, Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries AD. Around 1150 it crossed someone's mind to attach a comet-like firework to a four-foot bamboo stick with an arrowhead and a corresponding weight behind the feathers. To make the rockets multi-staged, a secondary set of rockets was attached to the shaft, their fuses lighted as the primary rockets burned out. Rockets are initially mentioned in the West in connection with a mêlée in Italy in 1380, arriving in the wake of Marco Polo.**

**Chinese physicists also developed a nuclear reactor in 1958, an atomic bomb in 1964, a missile to deliver it in 1966, and put a satellite into orbit in 1970! The Chinese technology continues to advance with new inventions every year.**

**Questions???**

**Who invented the seismograph?**

**Jon Smith  
Chang Heng  
Wen Ton  
A Cow**

**When was the oldest piece of paper found?**

**1210  
1836  
72130974  
1957**

**When was the first match made?**

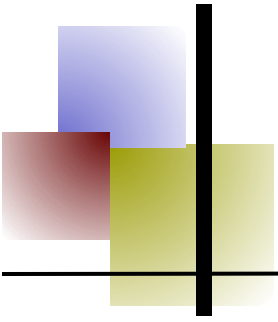
**2093 BC  
1357 AD  
577 AD  
0001 BC**

**What were the first rockets made out of?**

**Titanium  
Paper  
Plastic  
Bamboo**

**True or false?**

**Papyrus is real paper**



## Terra-Cotta Warriors

By Jack D.

Imagine being a simple peasant. You're in rural China and you're digging a well to get water for your farm. Then you hit something hard. Something like rock. Then you uncover the head of a terra-cotta warrior, one of the many that has not been touched for over 2,000 years. Now let's travel back to when these discoveries were created in the first place.

A long time ago in China, there was an emperor named Qin(Chen). He was the first emperor of China. He was a very warlike emperor. When his people did wrong, he punished them with torture, or death. He was very mean, and most people really disliked him as an emperor.

Like most rulers of ancient civilizations, Qin had a huge and religious tomb being built for him once he came into power. His tomb was piled high with gold and valuables for him to take into the afterlife. He even had a scale model of his entire empire in one chamber.

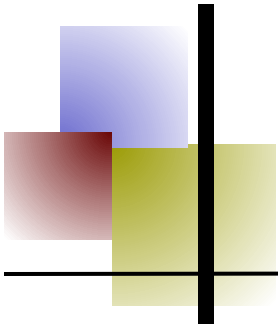
Near his tomb was another tomb. It wasn't exactly a tomb though. They found emperor Qin's terra-cotta warriors. These warriors were made to guard Qin's body in the afterlife.



One of Qin's terra cotta warriors.

***DID YOU KNOW?***

*After Qin died, the Chinese people revolted. They had no weapons though. Qin had confiscated all weapons belonging to the citizens. Then, the citizens realized where the most valuable weapons of all were. In the hands of the terra cotta warriors!*



# The Silk Road

By Alyssum Q.

There would be caravan after caravan. Traveling with their heavy loaded camels. They kept on walking and praying that that slight breeze meant a sandstorm would sweep them off their feet in seconds. There was also the possibilities of thieves and dehydration. These people were facing death for a simple piece of cloth.

The Silk Road was a treacherous path to follow. The Silk Road was a trade route reaching from Japan all the way to the Mediterranean Sea. This treacherous path, despite its name, consisted of many roads and paths that all total covered over 4,000 miles.

When an Italian explorer in 1271 went out and endured the travel of 24,000 miles to reach the prosperous, isolated China, that's when everything started. His name was Marco Polo. The Chinese at this time had remained culture free of any but their own because of geographic isolation, or the separation of regions or countries by water bodies or landforms. When they saw Polo they were extremely surprised by his arrival and willing to trade many goods with him and his companions. He became multi-lingual, and a trusted agent to the king of the Mongols, and the largest empire in the world—Khubilai Khan (1214-1294). In 1292, Marco Polo and his travelers left the land with many riches and a golden passport. They faced many troublesome obstacles, like the death of many of his companions and being robbed of most of their riches, but they continued home. In 1295, three years after they left, they surprised many relatives who thought them dead by returning home to Venice.

But why did these people risk so much? The answer is, you guessed it, money. One of the most valuable things brought back by merchants, explorers, and other travelers of the Road was silk, the very thing it's named for. Silk was *very* expensive in these times. Only kings, queens, nobles, and other rich folk could afford to wear it. The reason this fabric was so valuable was because no one else knew how to make it, and it is a long process, taking much time & skill to make. The reason no one else knew how to make it was because the Chinese didn't want them to. In fact, anyone who knew the secret and told it was put to death.

Now that the Silk Road had been developed, China was no longer isolated so much from the world. Before, the Chinese thought that they and the tribes surrounding their country were the only ones who existed in the world. Thanks to the new passageway not only did they know about the West, but they could exchange traditions, culture, and knowledge with them.

