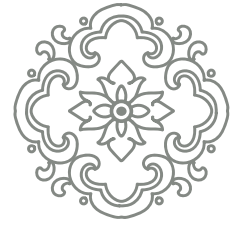


# Ancient China: The First Four Dynasties



Show what you know! Use the information on page 1 to complete the questions.

## Sample Answers

1. Why was bronze an important invention for the people of the Shang dynasty?

During the Shang dynasty, people combined metals like tin and copper to make a new, stronger metal called bronze. The stronger metal allowed them to make tools that worked more efficiently and lasted longer.

2. Why did scholars like Confucius and Lao Tzu encourage people to live harmonious lives during the Zhou dynasty?

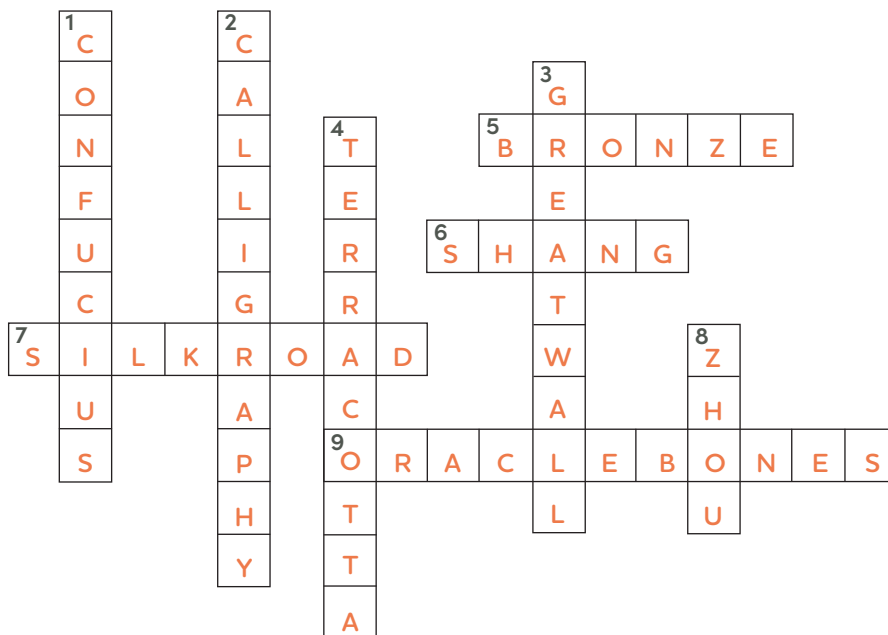
There were many wars during the Zhou dynasty. Scholars like Confucius and Lao Tzu responded to the need for order and reassurance by teaching that a peaceful life focused on good behavior was possible.

3. Why did people across Asia and Europe need to travel to China to buy silk? Can you think of a product today that people make great efforts to get?

Silk was produced only in China, so foreigners were willing to travel long distances to buy this rare item.

Today, people are willing to wait in long lines to buy new cell phones and travel far distances to see a sports or entertainment event.

4. Use the vocabulary terms in the descriptions to complete the crossword puzzle.



## Across

- Shang dynasty metal that combined tin and copper
- first dynasty in recorded Chinese history
- famous route traveled by Han dynasty traders
- early examples of Chinese writing found on animal parts and used for fortune-telling

## Down

- Zhou scholar who wrote rules for living with honor and morality
- beautiful writing created with brushes during the Han dynasty
- border to defend northern China that was first built during the Qin dynasty
- material used to create the Qin dynasty's clay army
- dynasty marked by frequent warfare

