People and Culture
More than 1.3 billion people live in China. There are over fifty different ethnic groups in China. Most Chinese are part of the Han ethnic group. This group shares a written language and many cultural traditions.

Ideas and Family Life
From the time of the dynasties, people in China have followed certain ideas. These ideas include respecting teachers and elders, honoring ancestors, and living in peace with nature.

China’s Traditional Arts
Many art forms in China are based on traditional culture. Calligraphy is the art of writing characters with brush and ink. Performers act out traditional stories in dramas. Athletes practice martial arts to train their bodies, much as Chinese soldiers did in dynasties of the past.

Going to School
Children in China start primary school at age six. Students learn subjects such as Chinese, math, history, science, and English. When they are about 15, students must pass a test and pay in order to enter high school. Many rural students stop going to school at that point, but in urban areas, students are more likely to go to high school and then to college.