Apart from having the LARGEST POPULATION of 1.34 billion, China also has the world’s:

- LARGEST HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER STATION – the Three Gorges on the Yangtze River which produces 14% of China’s total hydroelectric power.
- LARGEST BUILDING – the Global Centre at Chengdu has the largest floor space of any building and contains shopping malls, hotels and a water park.
- LONGEST BRIDGE – the bridge over Jiaozhou Bay is 42km long and has the world’s first overseas interchange.
- LARGEST NUMBER OF CELL PHONES – over 1.2 billion in use.

NELSON KEY GEOGRAPHY

for Key Stage 3

Now into its 5th edition, Nelson Key Geography has been completely revised and updated to reflect the Key Stage 3 Programme of Study. You and your pupils will find all of the important and familiar Key Geography features, with an increased focus on skills and enquiry, providing a tried and trusted approach to teaching and learning Key Stage 3 Geography.

Nelson Key Geography Interactions provides:

- stimulating visual introductions to stimulate interest in each topic
- exciting new topics, including case study units such as China
- a Key skills: enquiries chapter to help embed key geographical techniques
- enquiry section to encourage pupils to apply their knowledge and investigate
- appropriate and accessible resources for all levels of ability.

The accompanying Kerboodle course offers comprehensive support to each of the pupil books and provides a wealth of classroom and skills-led assessment materials.

How to get in touch:
web www.oxfordsecondary.co.uk
email schools.enquiries.uk@oup.com
tel +44 (0)1536 452620
fax +44 (0)1865 313472


₨ 900
Contents

1 Environmental regions

How are environmental regions at risk? 4
How do environmental regions change? 7
How do factors affect climate? 9
How is Britain's climate at risk? 10
How are ecosystems at risk? 13
What is the equatorial climate? 14
What areas in the world are at risk? 17
What are tropical rainforests? 21
What is a Mediterranean climate? 24
What is a tropical desert? 27
What is a hot desert? 30
What is an environmental region in hot desert climates? 32
What are polar regions like? 34
Environmental regions enquiry 37

2 Plate tectonics

What can the earth be damaged by? 56
How can earthquakes and environmental regions happen? 58
How can volcanoes and environmental regions happen? 61
What is the equatorial climate? 64
What do plants and wildlife survive in hot deserts? 67
What factors affect climate? 70
What is Britain's climate? 72
How are environmental regions at risk? 75
How can environments be damaged? 78

3 Resources and the environment

What is the environment problem? 84
Why are we concerned about the environment? 87
Who cares for the environment? 90
What are environmental regions causal in hot desert climates? 93
How do wildlife need protecting? 96
How can industry pollute the environment? 99
How can environments be damaged? 102

4 China – the emerging nation

What is China like? 112
What are China's main physical features? 115
What factors affect climate? 118
What is China's main population feature? 121
A journey through China 124
What is it like living in Shanghai? 127
What is life like in rural Sichuan province? 130
Shenzhen – a powerhouse in the Chinese economy 133
The China enquiry 136

5 International development

What is the development problem? 142
Where in the world? 145
Too many people? 148
How do jobs affect development? 151
How does trade affect development? 154
Is development spread evenly? 157
How can the rich help the poor? 160
Should we give aid? 163
International development enquiry 166

6 Key skills: enquiries

How can we use questions in geography? 172
How can we design a questionnaire? 175
How can we measure shopping quality? 178
How is electricity and the environment? 181
What is a geographical enquiry? 184
How can we design a questionnaire? 187
What is a key skill? 190

Glossary and Index

912965 Chapter 0.indd   3
912965 Chapter 0.indd   3
2 3
China – the emerging nation

What is China like?

What is this unit about?

This unit is about China, a country that is now developing faster than perhaps any other in human history. It is the world’s fourth largest country by area, and it has the largest population. Within it are huge differences in relief, climate, population, standard of living and quality of life.

In this unit you will learn about:

- some of China’s main physical features
- some of the population characteristics
- what an overseas tourist may see
- differences between rural and urban life
- rapid change in parts of the country
- China’s interdependence and development.

Why is learning about China important?

Learning about China helps you to understand a country that is very different from the UK, and to learn about its people. China could soon be the most economically developed country in the world.

This unit will help you to:

- broaden your knowledge of the world
- learn about different landscapes and climate
- understand ways of life that are very different from your own
- appreciate the speed at which China is developing
- realise that development is never evenly spread
- develop an interest in other countries.

A crowded beach in Dalian City, Liaoning province

Why is learning about China important? [continued]

Why is learning about China important?

Learning about China helps you to understand a country that is very different from the UK, and to learn about its people. China could soon be the most economically developed country in the world.

This unit will help you to:

- broaden your knowledge of the world
- learn about different landscapes and climate
- understand ways of life that are very different from your own
- appreciate the speed at which China is developing
- realise that development is never evenly spread
- develop an interest in other countries.

B Modern urban development (Pudong)

C Traditional farming

D Cormorant fishing on the River Li

Write down six words to describe each of the four photos.

Describe what you think it would be like if your family visited the beach in photo A.

What do you think could be the good points and bad points of:

- living in the modern urban area in photo B
- farming in photo C
- fishing in photo D

Give reason for your answers.

Describe the scenery and wildlife in photo D.
What are China’s main physical features?

North and west
- Mainly high mountains and inland drainage basins.
- Very cold winters and warm summers give a large annual range of temperature.
- Rainfall is light and spread evenly throughout the year.
- Snow may lie for over 100 days each year.
- Strong winds, especially in winter.
- Mainly desert and semi-desert.
- Hazards include extreme cold with a high wind chill in winter, strong winds causing dust-storms, and an annual drought.

North-east
- Includes the North China Plain and the valley of the Huang He, or Yellow River.
- The Huai He flows, in parts, over a deep yellow, fertile, easily eroded soil known as loess.
- Very cold winters and very warm summers give a large annual range in temperature.
- Snow may lie for up to 150 days a year and rivers may freeze for up to six months.
- Winters are dry but summers are usually very wet.
- Forest grows nearer the coast with grassland inland.
- Hazards include very cold winters, high humidity in summer, soil erosion and occasional drought and river flooding.

South and west
- Includes the Himalayas (Mt Everest 8,850 metres) and the high Plateau of Tibet (over 4,000 metres).
- Winters are very cold.
- Summers are quite warm but the nights are very cold.
- Large annual range of temperature.
- Wet summers and dry winters.
- Limited vegetation cover.
- Hazards include snow and high wind chill in winter.

South-east
- Includes the tropical rainforest.
- Hazards include typhoons (tropical storms) and high humidity in summer.

The Yangtze River
The Yangtze is the third longest river in the world (after the Nile and the Amazon) and has the third largest discharge (after the Amazon and the Congo). It flows , km from its source in ... to its mouth in the ..., (near the city of ...). In its upper course it passes through deep ..., while in its lower course if flows over a wide area ... A large dam has been built to stop the ..., hazard and to improve transport and trade.

Summary
China is a huge country with high mountains and low-lying plains. Its climate includes places that are very hot, very cold, very dry and very wet. The Yangtze is China’s largest river.
What are China’s main population features?

China’s population in 2012 was 1.34 billion. This was 20 per cent, or one in five, of the world’s total. Despite this huge total, China’s population density is little more than half that of the UK (143 km² compared with 257 km²). Map A shows that China’s population is far from being evenly spread across the country with:

- 94 per cent on only 40 per cent of the land area – mainly in coastal areas and the lower Yangtze basin
- 6 per cent living in the remaining area, which coincides with the more mountainous and desert regions of the north and west.

NEGATIVE FACTORS

The North and West

- This is either snow-covered, a high plateau or dry desert.
- Climate is very cold in winter, the growing season is short and rainfall is unreliable.
- Isolated with poor communications.
- Very limited farmland.
- Limited resources and energy supplies.
- Very little government aid.

POSITIVE FACTORS

The South and East

- More low-lying with the large flood plains of the lower Huang He and Yangtze rivers.
- Climate is much warmer, rainfall is heavy and reliable and the growing season is long (all year in south).
- Less isolated with better communications and coastal ports (overseas trade).
- Fertile soil (loess and river silt) makes good farmland.
- More resources and energy supplies.
- Most government aid.

One-child policy

During the middle of the 20th century, Chinese families were encouraged to have many children. Realising that this was causing an unsustainable increase in population, the Chinese government decided in 1979 to enforce a one-child policy and to set a minimum age for marriage. Couples had to apply to be married, and again before having a child. Those who failed to conform were deprived of benefits, had to pay a fine and were liable to forced abortions and, in extreme cases, sterilisation.

In reality, there were exceptions to the one-child policy. Families having a disabled child, belonging to an ethnic minority group, or living in more remote rural areas were allowed a second baby.

The policy has been so successful in reducing both the birth rate and population growth that it is now being relaxed. Women are now offered a wider choice in methods of contraception and when two ‘one-only’ children marry they can have a second child.

It has been estimated that without this policy China’s population could now have been 400 million greater (graph D). Imagine the extra pressure this would have had on resources such as energy and food supplies, as well as on schools, hospitals, housing and jobs.

At present China is more concerned with its ageing population than with its declining proportion of young children.

China’s ageing population results from an increase in life expectancy. Life expectancy increased from 40 in 1950 to 73 in 2010 – in other words, a person born in 2010 can expect to live 33 years longer than someone born 60 years earlier.

Predictions suggest that the percentage of Chinese people aged 60 and over will increase from 10 per cent in 1980 to 30 per cent by 2050. This will have a huge impact upon Chinese society.

With fewer children and more ageing people, China is developing a 4–2–1 family structure. This is when a ‘one-only’ child starts to work, he or she will have to care for two parents and four grandparents who are in retirement.

Activities

1. Map E shows five regions.
   a. For each of regions A, B and C:
      i. Name one large city
      ii. Give three reasons why it has an above average density of population.
   b. For each of regions D and E, give three reasons why it has a below average density of population.

2. In 1979, China introduced the so-called ‘one-child’ policy.
   a. What was the ‘one-child’ policy?
   b. Why was this policy introduced?
   c. Give one reason why you think it was a good policy.
   d. Give one reason why you think it was a bad policy.

3. China now has an ageing population.
   a. Why is China’s population ageing?
   b. What problems result from an ageing population?

Summary

China’s population is very unevenly distributed. It has a low birth rate and an ageing population.