2100 BC – AD 220

Put the Events in Order

Name _____ Date _____

These 10 events from the Ancient China timeline are out of order. Write a number from 1 to 10 in each box, from the earliest event (1) to the latest (10).

☐ **Shang Dynasty**
The Shang Dynasty — the first confirmed by archaeology — rules from cities along the Yellow River, leaving behind bronze vessels, royal tombs, and the first Chinese writing.

☐ **Han Dynasty Founded**
Liu Bang overthrows the brutal Qin Dynasty and founds the Han Dynasty, which rules China for over 400 years.

☐ **Han Dynasty Falls**
The Han Dynasty collapses after years of internal wars, peasant rebellions, and power struggles among nobles, ending four centuries of unified rule.

☐ **Zhou Dynasty**
The Zhou overthrow the Shang and establish the longest-lasting dynasty in Chinese history, ruling for nearly 800 years.

☐ **Confucius**
The philosopher Confucius teaches that social harmony comes from respect, duty, and virtuous government rather than force or fear.

☐ **Qin Shi Huang Unifies China**
The king of Qin conquers all rival kingdoms and declares himself the First Emperor — Qin Shi Huang — ruling a unified China.

☐ **The Silk Road Opens**
Han Emperor Wu sends diplomat Zhang Qian westward, establishing trade routes that connect China to Central Asia, Persia, and eventually Rome.

☐ **Terracotta Army**
Qin Shi Huang is buried with an army of more than 8,000 life-size terracotta warriors to protect him in the afterlife.

☐ **Warring States Period**
China fractures into seven competing kingdoms that fight for dominance for over 250 years.

☐ **Paper Invented**
Cai Lun, a Han court official, refines the papermaking process, producing cheap, light paper from bark, hemp, and rags.

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Put the Events in Order: Answer Key

~1600 BC	1.	Shang Dynasty
1046 BC	2.	Zhou Dynasty
551–479 BC	3.	Confucius
475–221 BC	4.	Warring States Period
221 BC	5.	Qin Shi Huang Unifies China
210 BC	6.	Terracotta Army
206 BC	7.	Han Dynasty Founded
~130 BC	8.	The Silk Road Opens
AD 105	9.	Paper Invented
AD 220	10.	Han Dynasty Falls