

UNIT LESSON PLAN – CHINA

Day 1

1. Daily Writing
2. Introduction of Unit. Begin discussion of China by asking students to share their views and knowledge about China. The discussion will be based on myths, stereotypes and past knowledge about the Chinese. Include the idea that China is and has been known as the “Land of Mystery.” Have students compile a list of the ideas discuss.
3. Show introductory video entitled Touring China. The video will last approximately sixty-eight minutes and highlights Beijing, the Forbidden City, Suzhou, the Great Wall and Xi’an where the terra cotta warriors are located. It also includes Shenzhen, Shanghai and Hong Kong. According to the video description, “It’s all here, the new China reaching out to the entire world.”

Day 2

1. Daily Writing
2. If necessary, conclude showing the video and have a short discussion of what the students saw and what, if any, misconceptions or stereotypes were noticed. Discuss the propaganda aspect of the film.
 - a.) Who produced the film?
 - b.) Who would have edited the film and why?
 - c.) How would the video have been different if produced by Americans?
 - d.) What would have been included in the video if it had been produced by an independent source?
 - e.) Is the video a propaganda tool and what was the intention.
3. Begin discussion/lecture about China.
 - a.) Location / Boundaries *Show overhead transparency of world
 - b.) Brief overview of Chinese history
 - c.) People, population, ethnic groups, and religions

Day 3

1. Daily Writing
2. Review previous material.
3. Discussion / lecture about government
 - a.) Communist state
 - b.) Constitution
 - c.) Legal system
 - d.) Suffrage
 - e.) Branches of government
 - f.) Opposition parties
4. Discussion / lecture about Economy
 - a.) Review information about the types of economic systems
 - b.) Labor force
 - c.) Debt
 - d.) Imports/exports
 - e.) Natural resources
5. **CLASS ACTIVITY** - Divide class into four groups and have them research an article on China, Japan, South Korea or North Korea. Students will use The China Daily (www.chinadaily.com.cn/-124k); Japan Times (www.japantimes.co.jp/); The Seoul Times (www.theseoultimes.com/st/index.html); and the North Korea Central News Agency of DPRK (www.kena.co.jp/index-e.htm-2k). Print the article off and keep for future use.

Day 4

1. Daily Writing
2. Discussion of the newspaper articles that were selected on the previous day. Topics of discussion to be considered are propaganda, reliability, and credibility of sources.
3. Distribute copies of newspaper article “Protest adds to China’s Olympic Woes,” The Parkersburg News, Saturday, March 29, 2008.
4. Students will read the article and then write a summary based on the standard form (copy included).

Day 5

1. Daily Writing
2. Review previous material.
3. Conclude work on current events article.
4. Discuss different aspects of article and how the issues relate to government. Topics to be included but not limited to would include human rights issues, international cooperation, the Olympic Games, Tibetan independence, role of diplomacy, people involved in foreign policy and the role of a free press vs. censorship.