

East Asian Studies Seminar

Lesson Plan #3: China

By: Tom Molnar

3 Day lesson Plan on Addressing the Question: “Which city, Hong Kong or Shanghai, will prosper most in the new century?”

Purpose: The purpose of this set of lessons is to have the students speculate on which of the two rival Chinese cities is best poised to become the economic leader and model for the 21st century Chinese state. In working on this issue, the students will discover much about the economic, political, and social past of these important cities. Also, the students will have to measure the most important factors necessary for economic growth to flourish within a society.

Rationale: To allow students to explore the internet as a way of accessing statistics and information from which they can make economic predictions on China's two rival cities.

Materials: Computer/Internet access, readings, research assignment handout.

Activities: - group work w/computer/internet access
- student presentations

Assessment: - student presentations
- written synopsis of research findings
- class debriefings of information given
- response essay on the central question

Grade Adaptation: High School, 10th – 12th Grade. For Middle School, the teacher could provide more supervision and guidance over the research portion of the three-day lesson.

* A more detailed daily lesson plan is included with this material.

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3 day Lesson Plan on – “Which city, Hong Kong or Shanghai, will prosper most in the new century?”

- Day 1:**
- Present the central question
 - Distribute the handout, “Rivals more than ever”*
* Global Studies – China, Tenth Edition, Dr. Suzanne Ogden, McGraw-Hill, Guilford, CT, 2004 pp. 180 -183.
 - Read and discuss the handout
 - Students are divided into 6 groups
 - Research assignment handout distributed with each research category discussed
 - Different research sites are discussed
- Day 2:**
- Class taken to the library to do their research and assemble their results for presentation
- Day 3:**
- Research findings of each of the six groups are presented.
 - Discussion of each group’s findings
 - Class discusses overall prognosis of the economic future of Hong Kong and Shanghai
 - Journal response to the initial question is assigned for homework

Hong Kong v. Shanghai Research Assignment

This is a group Internet research assignment. You will be assigned to one of the 6 following groups. As a group, you will work together in the library accessing various sites on the Internet to find the information and statistics that your group is responsible for. We will be looking at just the following two cities: Shanghai and Hong Kong, China. Your group needs to find the appropriate statistics for each of the two cities. The results of your research will be shared orally tomorrow with the class. You also need to submit your data in written form.

- Group 1: current population analysis (more than just overall population – include age, gender, nationalities, etc.)**
- Group 2: current business analysis (scope, strength of the present economy in each of the two cities)**
- Group 3: infrastructure (roads, rails, mass transit, shipping facilities, warehousing, factories, offices, etc. that exist in the two cities)**
- Group 4: current trade partners & connections with the cities; what goods, commodities are being traded and with whom?**
- Group 5: information on existing labor force (education, training, skill levels, languages spoken, etc.)**
- Group 6: current government restrictions, oversights on businesses, business aids and incentives**

* Some suggested web sites:

- World Fact book
- C.I.A.
- Hong Kong and Shanghai City Websites
- U.S. Embassy cite – Beijing

Response to the Question:

“Which city, Hong Kong or Shanghai, will prosper most in the new century?”

From your own research, from presentation, from the readings and from the classroom discussion, what is your response to this question? Be sure to back up your choice with ample support. This response should be a minimum of one page in length.