

MEP Student Project - The Land That Is China

Task 1 – The lay of the land

- a) long distances **and** natural barriers
- b) Tibetan Plateau
- c) The whole landscape is very high up (so may be difficult to get to in the first place)
- d) Himalayan mountains and Gobi Desert
- e) Pacific Ocean
- f) (No answer needed)
- g) They are very high.
- h) Positive: it was harder to invade China. Negative: there was less trade with the outside world; ideas could not reach China so easily
- i) (Your answers might include these, or something else:) It was easier to keep China united as one nation and to justify that it was one nation as it occupies a very clear geographical area. At the same time, this could cause conflict in some areas where people spoke a different language and did not feel that they shared the same culture as others living in 'China'.
- j) Huang He and Yangtze
- k) 黄河 huáng hé, 长江 cháng jiāng
- l) flooding (could destroy home), but after a flood soil is more fertile
- m) loess

Task 2 - Terrain

English	Characters	Pinyin
Mountain	山	Shān
Desert	沙漠	Shā mò
Plateau	高原	Gāo yuán
Ocean	海 or 海洋 or 大海	Hǎi, hǎi yáng, dà hǎi
Flood	洪水 or 水灾	Hóng shuǐ, shuǐ zāi

Task 5 – Let's combine directions!

东南 - southeast

东北 – northeast

西北 – northwest

西南 – southwest

Task 7 – China's provinces

These are not in any particular order. Don't worry if your English translations are not identical.

Province name in characters	Pinyin and English spelling	English translation (literal meaning)
e.g. 山东	Shān dōng / Shandong	East of the mountains
黑龙江	Hēi long jiāng / Heilongjiang	Black dragon river
海南	Hǎi nán / Hainan	South of the sea
河北	Hé běi / Hebei	North of the river
河南	Hé nán / Henan	South of the river
湖北	Hú běi / Hubei	North of the lake
湖南	Hú nán / Hunan	South of the lake
江西	Jiāng xī / Jiangxi	West of the river
青海	Qīng hǎi / Qinghai	Green ocean
四川	Sì chuān / Sichuan	Four rivers
云南	Yún nán / Yunnan	South of the clouds
陕西	Shǎn xī / Shaanxi	West of the mountain pass
山西	Shān xī / Shanxi	West of the mountains

Task 8 – Climate and weather

云 yún – cloud

雨 yǔ – rain

晴 qīng – clear/bright

雾 wù – fog/mist

雪 xuě – snow

风 fēng - wind

Task 10 – China's neighbours

There are 14 countries that share a border with China. They are (anti-clockwise):

1. North Korea
2. Russia (north east)
3. Mongolia

Russia (north west)

4. Kazakhstan
5. Kyrgyzstan
6. Tajikistan
7. Afghanistan
8. Pakistan
9. India
10. Nepal
11. Bhutan
12. Myanmar
13. Laos
14. Vietnam

China also includes the administrative regions of Hong Kong (which belonged to Britain until 1997) and Macau (governed by Portugal until 1999).