

National Geographic Geopedia: Intro to China

URL: <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/geopedia/China>

Read each section below and answer the following questions:

INTRODUCTION

1. How many people live in China?
2. How did China's economy change in the 1970's?
3. Define "urbanization"
4. How many people "left rural areas for a new life working in manufacturing plants or the booming construction industry"?

CHINA'S ETHNIC GROUPS

1. What is the largest ethnic group in China and how long have they dominated Chinese society?
2. How many minority groups are officially recognized by the Chinese government?

CHINA'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

1. Define: "centrally planned economy" (hint: use Google)
2. Define: "market-oriented economy" (hint: use Google)
3. What spawned the growth spurt in China's economy in 1979?
4. What percentage of exports are manufactured goods?

5. How much was the average salary for someone working in a public-owned factory?

CHINA'S MIDDLE CLASS

1. What is considered middle class for the Chinese?
2. Approximately, how many people out of 1.3 billion Chinese, are considered middle class?
3. Do the math – approximately, what percentage of people are considered middle class?

CHINA'S POLLUTION

1. What is China's main source of energy? What is the percentage?
2. Approximately what percent of global CO₂ emissions come from China? How much of that is attributed to cement production?
3. How is water pollution in China a greater threat than air pollution?
4. How much has pollution cost China in both dollars and lives?

CHINA BY THE NUMBERS

1. Select three facts that you find particularly interesting, and either explain why you think it occurs, or what the implications are for the future of China.