

“The Other Tibet”

Mathew Teague

National Geographic

1. How does the author, Mathew Teague, draw you into the story? Does he use the front door or back door approach?
2. How do you pronounce Uyгур?
3. Paraphrase the event that occurs at the beginning of the article and finishes on page 8.
4. Explain the significance of Xinjiang’s (shin – jyang) location in both ancient and modern China. (refer to the “Exploiting a Rich Frontier” map – link left-hand side)
5. The author states that “Xinjiang isn't empty. It's strategic.” Describe the problems Chinese officials came to realize about Xinjiang.
6. What population changes occurred in Xinjiang from 1947 to 2007?
7. Why won't many Uyгур's take a government job? What is their religion?

8. How did the Chinese government use the attacks of 9/11 to manipulate control of the Uygurs?

9. How is the “old city” part of Kashgar a refuge for the Uygurs? Is this simply a case of progress or a thinly disguised relocation program?

10. Ahun, one of the people the author interviewed for this article, says “China's economic development will bring political change, and hope for his people. ‘China will be obliged to receive a democratic system’ . (a)Do you agree or disagree? Why? (b)What might the consequences be for the Chinese if the government doesn't stay in pace with the social change?