Objective: Understand how Emperor Shi Huangdi unified China and determine if his rule was overall good or bad.

Focus Question: Did Emperor Shi Huangdi improve China?

Review/Application: we are on a quest to understand the changes that happened under the leadership of Shi Huangdi. In doing so we must look at a variety of sources in order to get a better idea if his leadership was a positive experience for China. So far we’ve looked at 3 documents regarding the way Shi Huangdi controlled the area he … controlled. Using our previous document experience, answer the questions below.

- What does the term “warring states” mean?
- Why is it important to note that Shi Huangdi unified the warring states?
- How do laws help the emperor deal with untrustworthy government officials?
- Define Feudalism. Why do you think it was important for Shi Huangdi to end this practice?
- How did Shi Huangdi unify China politically?

Vocabulary
- Standardize
- Measures
- Canal
- Society
Supporting question #2 – How did Shi Huangdi’s reforms standardize society?

1. What is the purpose of a coin?

2. What are coins made of?

3. How could the material of the coin matter in its value?

4. Why would it be important to standardize money?

Image 1: Unification of currency. Bronze banliang coin. China, Qin dynasty, Third century BCE. The Chinese inscription on this coin reads banliang, with ban to the right of the hole and liang to the left. Banliang means “half-ounce”—the weight of the coin.

© The Trustees of the British Museum / Art Resource, NY.
Focus Question: Did Emperor Shi Huangdi improve China?

Image 2: Unification of weights and measurements. Courtesy National Palace Museum/Taipei City, Taiwan.

5. What does it mean to measure something?

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6. Other than cooking … Why would it help society to have everyone’s measurement be the same?

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Focus Question: Did Emperor Shi Huangdi improve China?


7. What is the purpose of a vehicle?

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8. What are some ways that the vehicle above could be standardized?

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9. Knowing that vehicles are standardized how could office holders plan a town, village or city?

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- Note the use of the word office in question 9. Think about what we said it meant to have an office and the type of job that a person with an office would have.
10. How does a canal form?

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11. What is the purpose of a canal?

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12. How could a canal standardize society?

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13. Assess the need for canals in societies.

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Image 5: Books with the same characters. 
Public domain. Available at Wikimedia Commons: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:XiaozhuanQinquan.jpg.

14. What the symbols above represent?
____________________________________________________

15. How is language used by societies?
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16. How could Emperor Shi Huangdi use written language to strengthen the unification policies that we looked at yesterday?
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17. How would individuals and society under Si Huangdi’s leadership benefit from documents like this?
____________________________________________________
Focus Question: Did Emperor Shi Huangdi improve China?


18. What is the Great Wall of China made of?
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19. From yesterday who (specifically) built the Great Wall of China?
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20. What was the purpose of the Great Wall of China?
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21. The Great Wall is over 3100 miles, what features of the wall can be standardized?
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22. Name 2 benefits of standardizing those features.
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Focus Question: Did Emperor Shi Huangdi improve China?

**READ DIRECTIONS FULLY!** Directions: you will now take the information you gathered on the previous documents to summarize the benefit of the standardization. *Be sure that you consider the title of the category when you fill in the answer to the benefit to society.* Many of the standardizations go beyond the image that was provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Standardization</th>
<th>Benefit to society</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canals and Waterways</td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Response Questions: How did Shi Huangdi’s reforms standardize society? Were these reforms beneficial or harmful to the people of China? Explain.

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