



Buddha statues  
made of celadon

### WITNESS HISTORY AUDIO

#### The Power of Ideas

Buddhism was brought to the Korean peninsula from China in the fourth century. It influenced Korea greatly, and its effects were seen in both culture and politics. Here, a Korean writer discusses Buddhism:

“If you teach people to rely on this teaching [Buddhism] and practice it, then their minds can be corrected, and their bodies can be cultivated. You can regulate your family, you can govern the state, and you can bring peace to all the world.”

—Gihwa, *The Exposition of the Correct*

**Focus Question** How are Korea’s history and culture linked to those of China and Japan?

## Korea and Its Traditions

### Objectives

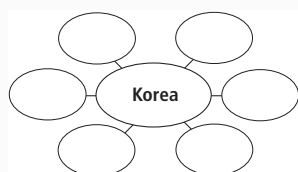
- Describe how geography affected life on the Korean peninsula.
- Understand the influence of China and Buddhism on Korea.
- Explain the major achievements of the Choson dynasty.

### Terms, People, and Places

Silla dynasty	King Sejong
Koryo dynasty	hangul
celadon	literacy rate
Choson (Yi) dynasty	

### Note Taking

**Reading Skill: Categorize** Draw a concept web like the one shown below. As you read the section, fill in the blank circles with relevant information about Korea. Add more circles as needed.



As early as Han times, Korea’s larger neighbor to the north—China—was an influence. However, although Koreans absorbed many Chinese traditions, they also maintained a separate and distinct culture.

### Geography of the Korean Peninsula

Korea is located on a peninsula that juts south from the Asian mainland and points toward Japan. At the northern end of the peninsula, mountains and the Yalu River separate Korea from China.

**Living Among Mountains and Seas** An early visitor once compared Korea’s landscape to “a sea in a heavy gale.” Low but steep mountains cover nearly 70 percent of the Korean peninsula. The most important range is the Taebaek (ta bak). It runs from north to south along the eastern coast, with smaller chains branching off to form hilly areas. Because farming is difficult on the mountains, most people live along the western coastal plains, Korea’s major farming region.

Korea has a 5,400-mile coastline with hundreds of good harbors. In addition, the offshore waters feature thousands of islands. Since early times, Koreans have depended upon seafood for most of the protein in their diet. Today, South Korea has one of the largest fishing industries in the world.

**Location Affects Korea** Korea’s location on China’s eastern border has played a key role in its development. From its powerful

## SECTION 3 Step-by-Step Instruction

### Objectives

As you teach this section, keep students focused on the following objectives to help them answer the Section Focus Question and master core content.

- Describe how geography affected life on the Korean peninsula.
- Understand the influence of China and Buddhism on Korea.
- Explain the major achievements of the Choson dynasty.

### Prepare to Read

#### Build Background Knowledge L3

Have students think of other people they have studied who were surrounded by large, powerful neighbors. (*Examples might be people living near the Roman Empire.*) Discuss what often happens to the smaller group.

#### Set a Purpose L3

- WITNESS HISTORY** Read the selection aloud or play the audio.

**WITNESS HISTORY Audio CD,**  
The Power of Ideas

Ask **What benefits does the writer suggest can come from studying Buddhism?** (*well-behaved, healthy people; a well-run family; good government; and peace*) **How is the quote linked to the photographs?** (*It is about Buddhism, and shown are statues of the Buddha.*)

- Focus** Point out the Section Focus Question and write it on the board. Tell students to refer to this question as they read. (*Answer appears with Section 3 Assessment answers.*)
- Preview** Have students preview the Section Objectives and the list of Terms, People, and Places.
- Note Taking** Have students read this section using the Structured Read Aloud strategy (TE, p. T21). As they read, have students fill in a concept web about Korea.

**Reading and Note Taking**  
Study Guide, p. 111

### Vocabulary Builder

Use the information below and the following resources to teach the high-use word from this section.

**All in One Teaching Resources, Unit 2, p. 106; Teaching Resources, Skills Handbook, p. 3**

#### High-Use Word

evolve, p. 384

#### Definition and Sample Sentence

v. to develop gradually

The Chinese system of using examinations to staff the civil service **evolved** over a long period of time.

## Teach

### Geography of the Korean Peninsula

L3


#### Instruct

- **Introduce: Vocabulary Builder** Have students read the Vocabulary Builder term and definition. Ask **Over what time period did Korean culture evolve?** (*many centuries*)
- **Teach** Review the impact of geography on Korean development. Ask **How did Chinese influence first begin to reach Korea?** (*During the Han dynasty, emperor Wudi invaded Korea and set up a military colony there.*)
- **Analyzing the Visuals** Direct students' attention to the map on this page. Ask **How has Korea's geography influenced the way of life of its people?** (*Because farming on mountains is difficult, most people live along the western coastal plains. Since it is a peninsula, seafood is abundant, and many people depend on seafood for most of the protein in their diet.*)

#### Independent Practice

Have students access **Web Code nap-1231** to take the **Geography Interactive Audio Guided Tour** and then answer the map skills questions in the text.

#### Monitor Progress

- As students complete their concept webs, circulate to make sure they understand the key facts about Korea. For a completed version of the concept web, see  **Note Taking Transparencies, 98**
- Check answers to map skill questions.

## Answers

### Map Skills

1. Review locations with students.
  2. because the interior is mountainous and the coastal plain has the best farmland
  3. Japan might have chosen to invade Korea first since Korea is between Japan and China.
- ✓ Because it was near China, Korea was influenced by Chinese culture and technology and sometimes came under China's political control.

### Korea's Three Kingdoms

**Geography Interactive**  
For: Audio guided tour  
Web Code: nap-1231

**Map Skills** Korea occupies a peninsula that juts south from China toward the islands of Japan.

1. **Locate** (a) T'aebaek Range (b) Silla (c) East Sea (Sea of Japan)
2. **Region** Why do most Koreans live along the western coastal plain?
3. **Predict Consequences** In the 1590s, Japan made plans to invade China. How might this have affected Korea?



mainland neighbor, Korea received many cultural and technological influences. At various times in history, China extended political control over the Korean peninsula. Korea has also served as a cultural bridge linking China and Japan. Koreans have, from early times, adapted and transformed Chinese traditions before passing them on to the Japanese.

The earliest Koreans probably migrated southeastward from Siberia and northern Manchuria during the Stone Age. They *evolved* their own ways of life before the first wave of Chinese influence reached the peninsula during the Han dynasty. In 108 B.C., the Han emperor, Wudi, invaded Korea and set up a military colony there. From this outpost, Confucian traditions and Chinese ideas about government, as well as Chinese writing and farming methods, spread to Korea.

- ✓ **Checkpoint** How did the relative location of the Korean peninsula influence the development of Korean civilization?

### Development of the Silla and Koryo Dynasties

Between 100 B.C. and A.D. 676, powerful local rulers forged three separate kingdoms: Koguryo in the north, Paekche in the southwest, and Silla in the southeast. Although they shared the same language and cultural background, the three kingdoms often warred with one another or with China. Still, Chinese influences continued to arrive. Missionaries

### Differentiated

#### Instruction Solutions for All Learners

#### L4 Advanced Readers

Give students the following Korean proverbs and have them interpret their meaning and, if possible, give an equivalent American proverb. The Korean proverbs are:  
1. To begin is to be half done. 2. Even a sweet song, sung overmuch, becomes disagreeable. 3. Cousin buys a farm, and I get a stomach-ache. 4. Does smoke rise

from a chimney where no fire burns? 5. A great vessel takes time to be made. (*American equivalents: 1. Getting started is half the battle. 2. It is possible to have too much of a good thing. 3. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. 4. Where there's smoke, there's fire. 5. Rome wasn't built in a day.*)



spread Mahayana Buddhism, which took root among the rulers and nobles. Korean monks then traveled to China and India to learn more about Buddhism. They brought home the arts and learning of China.

Backed by the Tang emperor, the Silla kingdom defeated Paekche and Koguryo in 676 and united Korea. From this time until 1910, Korea had only three unified dynasties. The Unified Silla ruled from 668 to 935, the Koryo ruled from 918 to 1392, and the Choson ruled from 1392 to 1910.

**Silla Dynasty Unites Kingdoms** Under the **Silla dynasty**, Korea prospered and the arts flourished. Silla civilization was among the most advanced in the world. Buddhism grew to become a powerful force, and hundreds of Buddhist temples were built. A brisk trade was conducted with China. Chinese culture, written language, and political institutions continued to be extremely important influences on Korea.

Much of this great cultural and technical flowering centered at the Silla capital, Kyongju, which was modeled on the Tang capital at Chang'an. Kyongju was renowned as the "city of gold," where the aristocracy pursued a life of high culture and extravagance. Medicine, astronomy, metal casting, sculpture, and textile manufacturing reached especially high levels.

In 682, the Silla set up a national Confucian academy to train high officials and later instituted a civil-service examination modeled on that of China. But in China, even a peasant could win political influence by passing the exam. In Korea, only aristocrats were permitted to take the test. Eventually, conflicts between peasants and the aristocrats led to the overthrow of the Silla dynasty.

**The Koryo Dynasty** The **Koryo dynasty**, from which the modern word Korea is derived, replaced the Silla in 918. A new capital was established at Songak, present-day Kaesong.

Confucianism and Buddhism were both influential and widespread during this time. Koreans used woodblock printing from China to produce a flood of Buddhist texts. Later, Korean inventors took the Chinese invention one step further and created movable metal type to print large numbers of books. Koreans also improved on other Chinese inventions. They learned to make porcelain from China, and then perfected the technique for making **celadon**, or porcelain with an unusual blue-green glaze. Korean celadon vases and jars were prized throughout Asia. In the 1200s, when

The Pulguksa Temple, completed during the Silla dynasty, is considered to be the most famous Buddhist temple in Korea.



## Development of the Silla and Koryo Dynasties/ The Choson Dynasty Rules for Over 500 Years

**E**

### Instruct

- **Introduce: Key Terms** Direct students' attention to the key term **hangul** (in blue) in the text. Ask **What is the difference between hangul and Chinese characters?** Guide students to see that hangul is based on sounds, whereas Chinese characters represent ideas. Point to the English alphabet as an example of a system of writing that is based on sounds.
- **Teach** Review with students the similarities and differences between Korean and Chinese culture. Ask **What religion came to Korea from China?** (*Mahayana Buddhism*) **How did the Chinese capital influence Korean rulers?** (*Korean rulers patterned their capital after China's.*) **What Chinese practices did Koreans improve upon? How?** (*printing, by making movable metal type instead of woodblocks; ceramic-making, by inventing celadon*)
- **Quick Activity** Direct students' attention to the Primary Source and image on this page. Ask students to jot down several words to describe the image of the Pulguksa Temple. Students will probably write "beautiful" or "ornate." Explain that the temple was built to honor the Buddha in the present world. By following the teachings of the Buddha, people could be released from the suffering of life. Therefore, Pulguksa, or "Land of Happiness," was built to be a temple of bliss and beauty.

### Independent Practice

- **Biography** To help students better understand the Choson ruler of Korea, have them read the biography *King Sejong* and complete the worksheet.

**All in One** Teaching Resources, Unit 2, p. 110

- Have students fill in the Outline Map *Korea's Early Kingdoms*.

**All in One** Teaching Resources, Unit 2, p. 113

### Monitor Progress

Circulate to make sure students are filling in their Outline Maps correctly, labeling Korea's three early kingdoms—the Koguryo, Paekche, and Silla.

During the Silla dynasty, Buddhism expanded and beautiful temples, such as the Pulguksa Temple shown here, were constructed. This oath is from an early Korean document:

#### Primary Source

"Hereafter we will worship the Buddha and revere the clergy. If we break this oath, may heaven strike us dead."

### Differentiated

#### Instruction

#### Solutions for All Learners

#### **L1** Special Needs **L2** Less Proficient Readers

Explain that students can build their reading skills by linking visuals to the text. For instance, the map on the previous page shows that Korea consisted of three kingdoms between 100 B.C and A.D. 676. The text states the same information but the map shows the kingdoms' location and relative size. Explain that they can use information from both sources as they take notes on the section.

#### **L2** English Language Learners

Use the following resources to help students acquire basic skills:



#### Adapted Reading and Note Taking Study Guide

- Adapted Note Taking Study Guide, p. 111
- Adapted Section Summary, p. 112

## Assess and Reteach

### Assess Progress

- Have students complete the Section Assessment.
- Administer the Section Quiz.

All in One Teaching Resources, Unit 2, p. 103

- To further assess student understanding use

 Progress Monitoring Transparencies, 50

### Reteach

If students need more instruction, have them read the section summary.

 Reading and Note Taking Study Guide, p. 112

 Adapted Reading and Note Taking Study Guide, p. 112

 Spanish Reading and Note Taking Study Guide, p. 112

### Extend

Ask students to reread the sections on the artistic advances during the Silla and Koryo dynasties. Have them write an essay in which they discuss the connections between a prosperous economy and flourishing art forms.

## Answers

- ✓ Achievements included movable metal type and the technique for making celadon.
- ✓ The adoption of a Korean alphabet helped preserve Korean identity.

**Caption** to preserve its own identity, as well as simplify the complex Chinese system

### The Korean Alphabet

Hangul (bottom), the Korean writing system, is fairly simple to learn and was developed to replace the complicated Chinese system (top). Notice that like Chinese, however, hangul is made up of a sequence of symbols that are relatively square-shaped. Hangul is now used for nearly all written communications in both North and South Korea. *Why did Korea want its own system of writing?*

施工 车辆绕道

▲ Chinese characters

무궁화미용실

▲ Hangul characters

the Mongols overran Korea and destroyed many industries, the secret of making celadon was lost forever.

✓ **Checkpoint** What were the achievements of the Koryo dynasty?

## The Choson Dynasty Rules for Over 500 Years

The Mongols invaded Korea between 1231 and the 1250s. In 1258, the Koryo made peace with the Mongols, but a lack of tax income weakened the kingdom. In 1392, the brilliant Korean general Yi Song-gye (yee sung gye) overthrew them and set up the Choson dynasty. This was the last and longest-lived of Korea's three dynasties. General Yi reduced Buddhist influence and set up a government based upon Confucian principles.

**Korea Creates Alphabet** In 1443, Korea's most celebrated ruler, **King Sejong**, decided to replace the complex Chinese system of writing. "The language of this land," he noted, "is different from China's." Sejong had experts develop **hangul**, the Korean phonetic alphabet that uses symbols to represent the sounds of spoken Korean.

Although Confucian scholars and Koreans of the upper classes rejected hangul at the outset, its use quickly spread. Hangul was easier for Koreans to use than the thousands of characters of written Chinese. Its use led to an extremely high **literacy rate**, or percentage of people who can read and write.

**Japan Invades** In the 1590s, an ambitious Japanese ruler decided to invade China by way of Korea. Japanese armies landed and for years looted and burned across the peninsula. To stop the invaders at sea, the Korean Admiral Yi Sun-shin, one of Korea's great heroes, used "turtle ships," so named because they were armored and shaped like turtles. The ships were able to sail right into the Japanese fleet. After six years, the Japanese armies withdrew from Korea. As they left, however, they carried off many Korean artisans to introduce their skills to Japan.

✓ **Checkpoint** How did Korea preserve its own identity under the Choson dynasty?

### Progress Monitoring Online

For: Self-quiz with vocabulary practice  
Web Code: naa-1231

## Section 3 Assessment

### Terms, People, and Places

1. What do each of the key terms listed at the beginning of the section have in common? Explain.

### Note Taking

2. **Reading Skill: Categorize** Use your completed concept web to answer the Focus Question: How are Korea's history and culture linked to those of China and Japan?

### Comprehension and Critical Thinking

3. **Make Generalizations** Why might Korea's location be considered strategic to other countries?
4. **Synthesize Information** Give two examples of how Koreans adapted or modified Chinese ideas under the Silla or Koryo dynasty.
5. **Analyze Information** Today, Hangul Day is a holiday in South Korea. Why do you think Koreans celebrate the creation of their alphabet?

### Writing About History

#### Quick Write: Create a Flowchart

Organize the information in this chapter by creating a flowchart. The chart should show either the course of Korean unification and the sequence of dynasties or the influences on Korean civilization. Remember that a flowchart connects information to show a relationship between the different pieces of information.

## Section 3 Assessment

1. They all have to do with Korea's history and culture.
2. Korea was influenced by many cultural and technological achievements in China and served as a cultural bridge that linked China and Japan. It also came under the political control of China at times and had to fight off a Japanese invasion.

3. Sample: Its location next to China gives it access to that country.
4. Sample: Koreans adapted the Chinese civil service examination so that only aristocrats could take the exam. They made books using movable metal type to make it easier to print books. They adapted Chinese ceramic techniques to make celadon.
5. Sample: It is a symbol of their unique identity.

### Writing About History

Students' flowcharts should show either the progression of Korean unification and dynasties or the influences on Korean civilization.

For additional assessment, have students access **Progress Monitoring Online** at Web Code **naa-1231**.