

Knowledge organiser

Timeline

2400 BCE	The Bronze Age begins in China
1600 BCE	King Tang overthrows the last emperor of the Xia Dynasty; the Shang Dynasty begins
1250 BCE–1192 BCE	Emperor Wu Ding reigns over the Shang Dynasty
1250 BCE–1192 BCE	General Fu Hao leads many successful military campaigns
1046 BCE	The Shang Dynasty is defeated
1898	Antique dealers notice Chinese writing on oracle bones
1928	Excavations in Anyang; many items from the Shang Dynasty are found
1976	The tomb of Fu Hao is discovered near Anyang

Vocabulary

Archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by looking at objects, buildings and remains
Artefact	An object created by a human, usually found a long time after it was made
Bronze	A metal made by melting and mixing copper and tin
Dynasty	A family that rules a country for a long time
Emperor	The ruler of a country or empire
General	A leader in an army
Jade	A green rock that is used in a lot of Asian art
Oracle bones	Animal bones with Chinese writing on, used in Ancient China to try and predict the future
Tomb	an underground monument to a dead person
Yellow River	A major river running across the north east of China

Important people

Tang	First emperor of Shang; very popular and successful
Fu Hao	A great military leader and warrior; wife of Wu Ding
Wu Ding	A very successful emperor; ruled for 58 years
Zhou	The last emperor of the Shang Dynasty; a tyrant; born 'Xin'
Daji	Cruel woman (wife of Zhou), who made up awful punishments

