

On the next two pages are samples of province names in China. As you will see, you can tell a lot about the provinces' geography by knowing its name—where it is in relation to a river, mountain or lake, where it is in relation to the rest of China, etc.

Study these terms with a partner, then refer to the four maps of China that show where the provinces are and where China's major geographic features are.

Finally, on the last page is a blank map of China. Label as many provinces and places as you can—USING TRADITIONAL (not simplified) CHARACTERS, and give an English translation of the name. Maybe you can illustrate it, too. Make your map poster attractive—the class will vote on the best looking map. The creators will have the final say in naming our pet dragon sometime soon....

Things to include on the map:

* Your best guess for the locations of :

tàihángshān huáng hé chángjiāng poyánghú dòngtíng hú

太行山, 黄河, 长江, 鄱阳湖, 洞庭湖

* Provinces whose names you can write clearly in characters AND whose meaning you can explain in English and/or illustrate with a drawing. (Province and place names should be in characters, explanations should be in English.)

Have Fun! Maybe some day you'll get to visit these places. In the mean times, I'll bring in more pictures of the places I've been to if you remind me....

Some locations and provinces in China

Associated with tàihángshān 太行山	shāndōng 山東	“East of the mountain”
	shān x ī 山西	“West of the mountain”
Associated with the Yellow River huáng hé 黄河	h é b ě i 河北	“North of the river”
	h é nán 河南	“South of the river”
Associated with the Yangzi River or Chang chángjiāng River 長江	jiāng x ī 江西	“West of the river”
	jiāng s ū 江蘇	Place near the river
	zh è jiāng 浙江	Place near the river
Associated with the central lakes of China p ó yá ng h ú d ò ng tí ng h ú 鄱陽湖, 洞庭湖	h ú b ě i 湖北	“North of the lakes”
	h ú nán 湖南	“South of the lakes”

Associated with rivers This province is a basin with many rivers, including the Yangzi River. Chuān here is a different name for river that people don't use now.	s ì chuān 四川	“Four rivers”
Associated with clouds This is a poetic name that refers to its location south of Sìchuān province which is hot, humid and cloudy. Yúnnán by comparison is high in the mountains and known for clear skies.	yúnnán 雲南	“South of the clouds”

Some terms to help you interpret the names of provinces in China

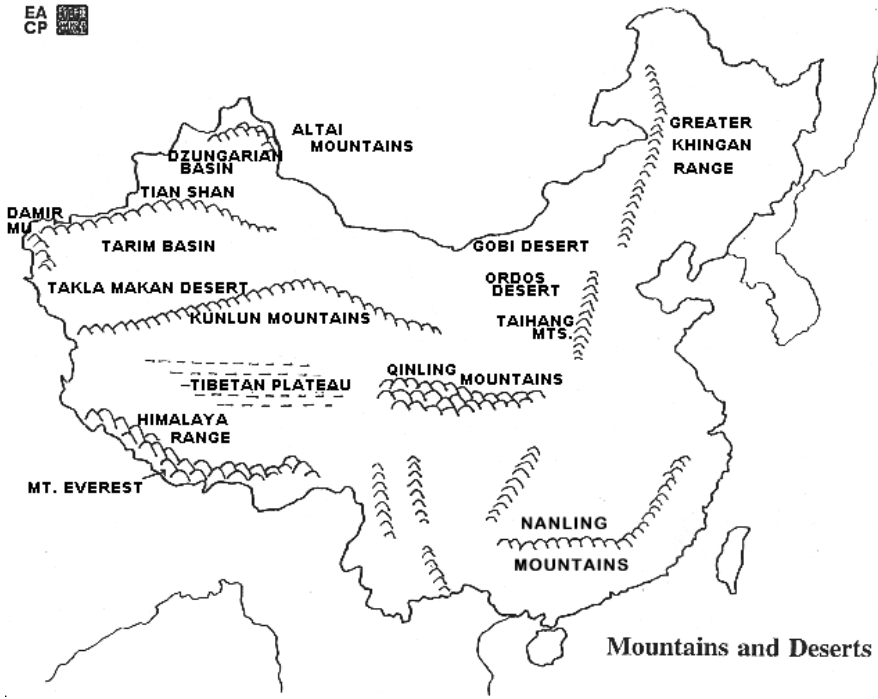
Pinyin	Character	English	Pinyin	Character	English
zhong [1]	中	middle	nan [2]	南	south
hai [3]	海	sea	bei [3]	北	north
he [2]	河	river/stream	ping [2]	平	peace
jiang [1]	江	river/stream	ning [2]	寧 / 宁	peace
chuan [1]	川	river/stream	an [1]	安	peace
hu [2]	湖	lake	po [1]	頗 / 颇	slope
huang [2]	黃	yellow	sha [1]	沙	sand
jing [1]	京	capital	shan [1]	山	mountain
guang [3]	廣 / 广	wide/broad	shang [4]	上	above/upon
gui [4]	貴 / 贵	honored	shen [3]	瀋 / 沈	a surname
liao [2]	聊	distant	xi [1]	西	west
lin [2]	林	woods	si [4]	四	four
ling [3]	嶺 / 领	range	tian [1]	天	heaven
yun [2]	雲 / 云	clouds	jin [1]	金	ferry/ford
yang [2]	楊 / 杨	sun	dong [1]	東 / 东	east

Map of China

Locations of provinces,
autonomous regions
and municipalities.

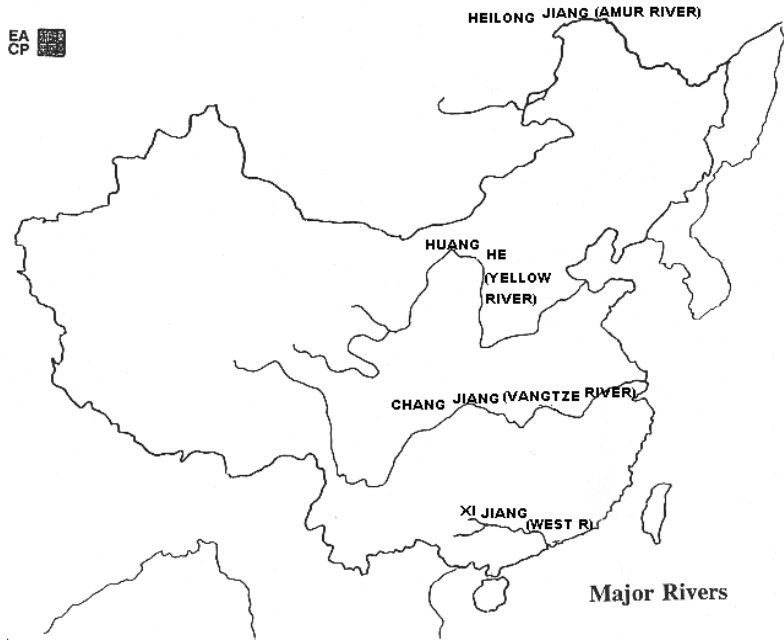


Islands of South China Sea



Mountains and Deserts

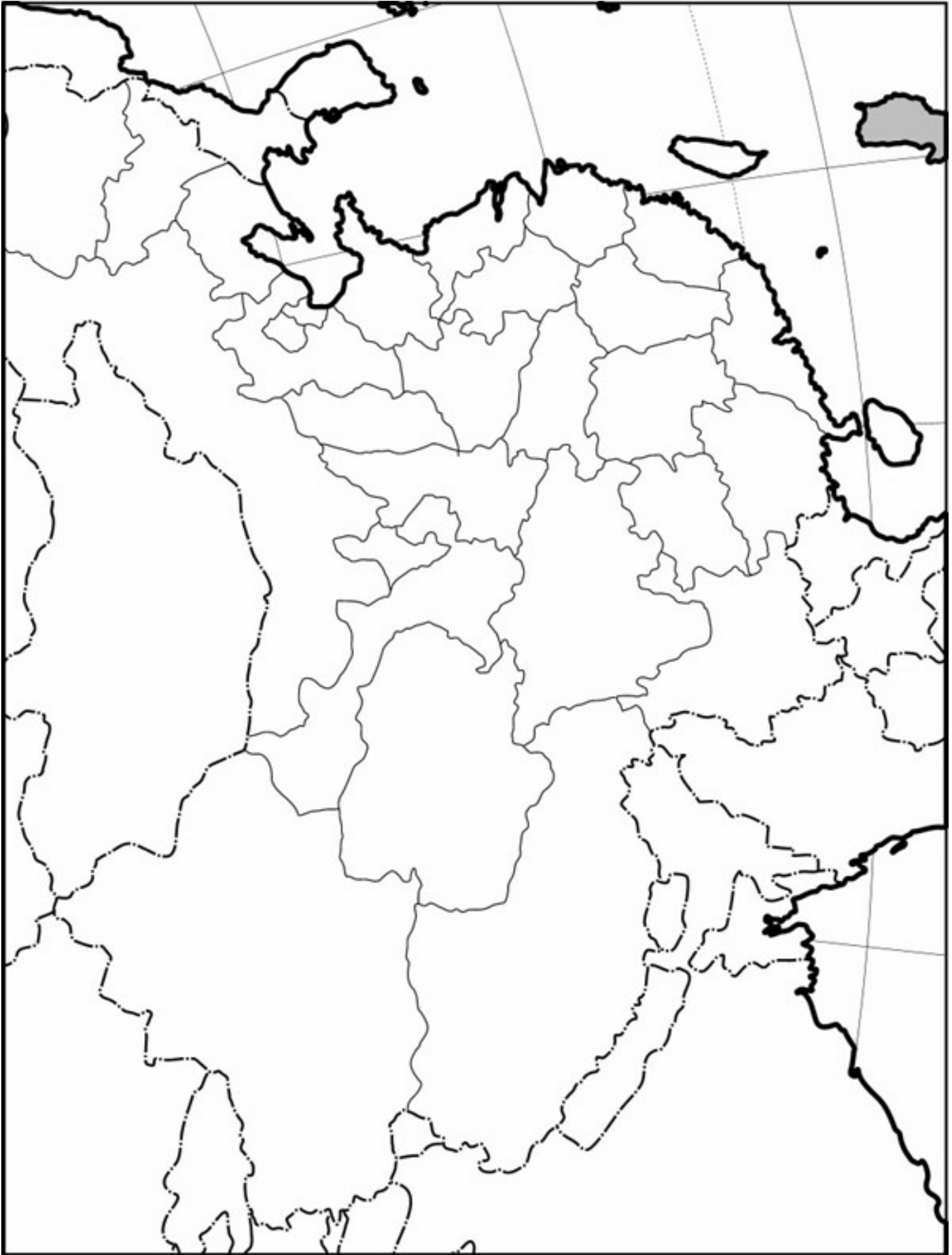
Deserts and Mountains

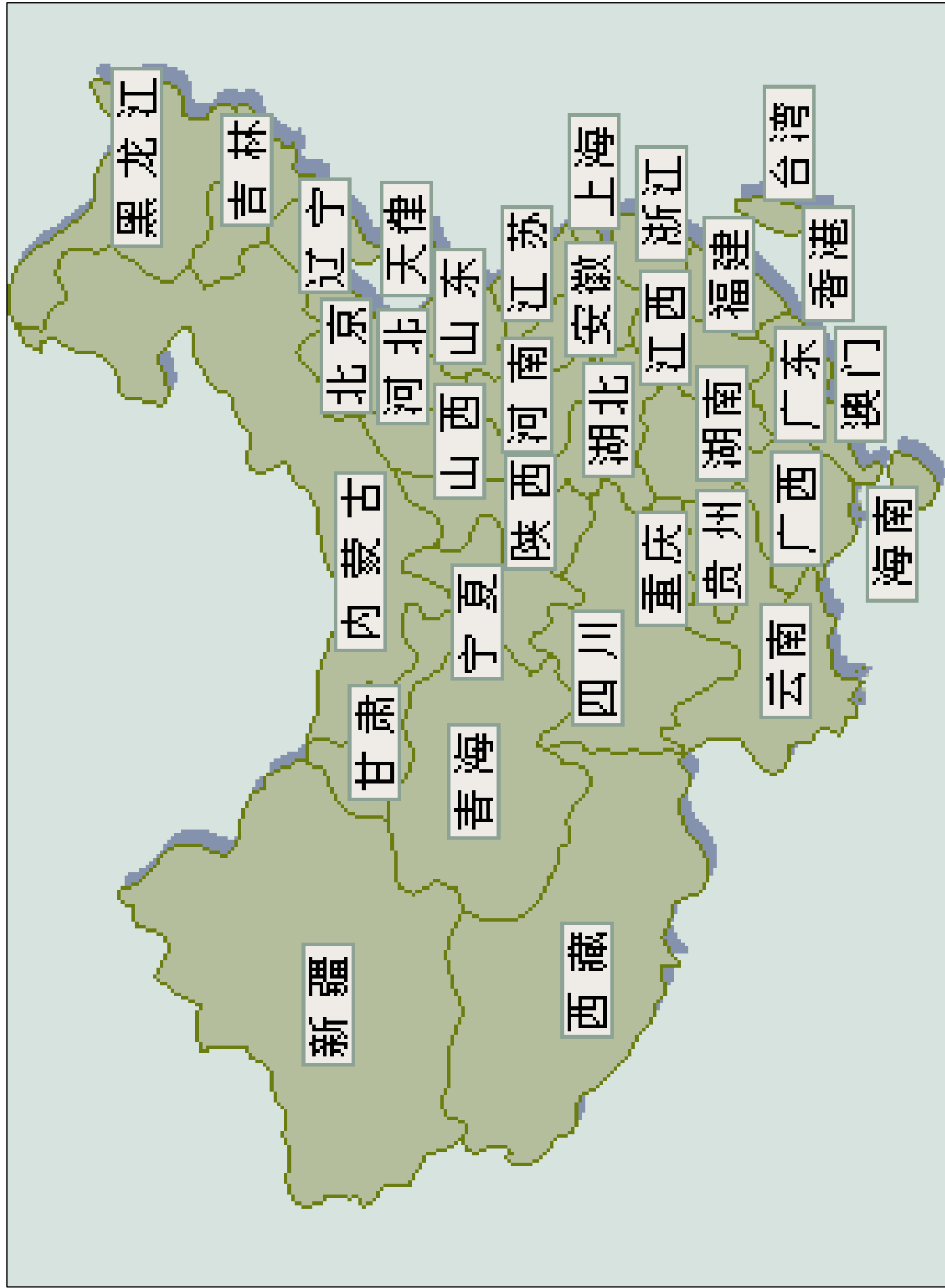


Major Rivers

Major Rivers

Blank Map of China—to be labeled with characters and English translations of the characters.





黑龙江

吉林

辽宁

北京

天津

河北

山西

山东

河南

江苏

安徽

上海

浙江

江西

福建

台湾

香港

内蒙古

陕西

湖北

湖南

广东

澳门

宁夏

四川

重庆

贵州

广西

海南

甘肃

青海

云南

新疆

西藏

新疆

西藏

A list of China's provinces along with their characters—in case you can't read the characters on the other map.

Anhui 安徽

[Fujian](#) 福建

[Gansu](#) 甘肃

[Guizhou](#) 贵州

[Guangdong](#) 广东

[Hainan](#) 海南

[Heilongjiang](#) 黑龙江

[Yunnan](#) 云南

[Hunan](#) 湖南

[Jiangsu](#) 江苏

[Jiangxi](#) 江西

[Jilin](#) 吉林

[Neimeng\(Inner Mongolia\)](#) 内蒙古

Liaoning 辽宁

[Qinghai](#) 青海

[Shaanxi](#) 陕西

[Shandong](#) 山东

[Shanxi](#) 山西

[Sichuan](#) 四川

[Zhejiang](#) 浙江

Taiwan 台湾

[Xizang \(Tibet\)](#) 西藏

[Xinjiang](#) 新疆

[Guangxi](#) 广西