WORLD HISTORY
UNIT 3
CH. 6.2: THE ZHOU & NEW IDEAS
PART I
THE ZHOU & NEW IDEAS
1. WHO WOULD RISE UP TO ATTACK AND EVENTUALLY OVERTHROW THE SHANG DYNASTY?
IN THE 1100S B.C., THE LEADERS OF A GROUP CALLED THE ZHOU JOINED OTHER NEARBY TRIBES AND OVERTHREW THE SHANG DYNASTY.
2. WHAT DID ZHOU KINGS LOOK TO IN TERMS OF HOW AND WHY THEY GOT THEIR POWER AND AUTHORITY?
THE ZHOU CLAIMED TO POSSESS SOMETHING CALLED THE MANDATE OF HEAVEN.
3. EXPLAIN THE MANDATE OF HEAVEN.
ACCORDING TO THIS MANDATE, HEAVEN GAVE POWER TO THE KING OR LEADER, AND NO ONE RULED WITHOUT HEAVEN’S PERMISSION.
IF THE KING WAS A BAD LEADER, IT WAS BELIEVED THAT HEAVEN WOULD CHOOSE A REPLACEMENT.
4. WHERE DID THE ZHOU COME FROM?
THE ZHOU CAME FROM AN AREA TO THE WEST OF THE SHANG KINGDOM.
5. EXPLAIN THE NEW POLITICAL ORDER ESTABLISHED BY THE ZHOU.
THE POLITICAL SYSTEM SET FORTH BY THE ZHOU WAS BASED OFF A SYSTEM OF LAND GRANTING IN RETURN FOR MILITARY SERVICE.
THE ZHOU KING WAS THE HIGHEST LEVEL. HE GRANTED PLOTS OF LAND TO LORDS, WHO PAID TAXES PROVIDED SOLDIERS WHEN THE KING NEEDED.
Peasants were at the bottom of this order. They received a smaller plot of land and had to work additional farms for their lords.
6. HOW DID ZHOU RULERS GOVERN THEIR LANDS?
THE ZHOU SYSTEM BROUGHT ORDER TO CHINA. RULING THROUGH LORDS HELPED THEM KEEP CONTROL OF DISTANT AREAS AND HELPED ENSURE LOYALTY TO THE KING.
PART II
THE DECLINE OF ZHOU POWER
7. HOW DID THIS POLITICAL SYSTEM BREAK DOWN?
OVERTIME, THE LORDS LOYALTY TO THE ZHOU KINGS DECLINED, AND MANY REFUSED TO FIGHT AGAINST INVASION.
8. EXPLAIN THE LEGEND OF HOW THE ZHOU KING FELL.
ACCORDING TO LEGEND, THE KING CONTINUED TO LIGHT WARNING FIRES, AS A FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT FOR HIS FRIENDS.
EVERY TIME A FIRE WAS LIT, THE ARMY WOULD COME TO PROTECT HIM.
WHEN THE REAL ATTACK CAME, THE ARMIES IGNORED THE FIRES, GUESSING IT WAS ONLY ANOTHER JOKE AGAIN.
9. WHAT DID CHINA ENTER INTO STARTING AROUND 481 B.C.?
FOLLOWING THE DEFEAT, CHINESE LORDS BEGAN FIGHTING ONE ANOTHER, STARTING A PERIOD OF HISTORY CALLED THE PERIOD OF WARRING STATES. THIS BEGAN AROUND 481 B.C.
PART III
CONFUCIUS AND SOCIETY
10. WHAT DID CONFUCIUS THINK WAS NEEDED TO RESTORE ORDER TO CHINA?
UPSET BY THE NUMBER OF RUDE AND IMMORAL PEOPLE IN CHINA, CONFUCIUS FELT THAT THE CHINESE NEEDED TO RETURN TO ETHICAL BEHAVIOR.
11. WHAT GUIDELINES DID CONFUCIUS PRESENT TO RESTORE ORDER TO THE FAMILY?
THE IDEAS OF CONFUCIUS TO IMPROVE THE FAMILY WERE:
• Fathers should display high moral values.

• Children should respect and obey their parents.

• All family members should be loyal to each other.
12. WHAT WERE HIS IDEAS ABOUT GOVERNMENT?
• MORAL LEADERSHIP, NOT LAWS, BROUGHT ORDER TO CHINA.

• A KING SHOULD LEAD BY EXAMPLE, INSPIRING GOOD BEHAVIOR IN ALL OF HIS SUBJECT.

• THE LOWER CLASSES WOULD LEARN BY FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF THEIR SUPERIORS.
13. WHAT AREAS OF LIFE DID CONFUCIANISM FOCUS ON?
The key ideas of Confucianism focused on morality, family, society, and government.
14. WHAT DID CONFUCIUS BELIEVE ABOUT THE WAY PEOPLE BEHAVED?
CONFUCIUS BELIEVED THAT WHEN PEOPLE BEHAVED WELL AND ACTED MORALLY, THEY WERE SIMPLY CARRYING OUT WHAT HEAVEN EXPECTED OF THEM.
15. WHAT IS THE DAO?
THE "DAO" SIMPLY MEANS "THE WAY". IT REFERS TO LIVING IN HARMONY WITH THE UNIVERSE AND ALL THINGS IN IT.
16. How did Daoism differ from Confucianism?
DAOISM DIFFERED FROM CONFUCIANISM IN THAT WHILE CONFUCIUS TAUGHT THAT LEADERS SHOULD HAVE STRONG MORAL FIBER, DAOISTS THOUGHT THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULDN’T BE INVOLVED IN PEOPLE’S LIVES.
WHAT WAS THE CENTRAL IDEA OF DAOISM? HOW DID DAOISM DIFFER FROM CONFUCIANISM?
The central idea of Daoism is that people should avoid interfering with nature. It focused on the natural world, while Confucianism focused on the human world.
18. WHAT WAS THE CENTRAL IDEA OF THE TEACHINGS OF LAOZI?
Laozi was the most famous Taoist teacher. He taught that people should not try to gain wealth, nor should they seek power.
19. EXPLAIN THE IDEAS OF LEGALISM.
THE BASIC BELIEF OF LEGALISM IS THAT PEOPLE ARE INHERENTLY EVIL AND NEEDED TO BE CONTROLLED BY HARSH LAWS AND PUNISHMENTS.
20. How did Legalism differ from both Confucianism and Daoism?
Unlike Confucianism and Daoism, Legalism was a political philosophy without any religious concerns.
21. WHAT DID LEGALISTS FEEL WAS NECESSARY TO SOCIETY IN ORDER?
LEGALISTS FELT THAT SOCIETY NEEDED STRICT LAWS TO KEEP PEOPLE IN LINE, AND THAT PUNISHMENTS SHOULD FIT CRIMES.
22. WHICH GROUP WOULD BE FIRST TO PUT THEIR IDEAS INTO PRACTICE?
ALL THREE OF THESE BELIEFS BECAME POPULAR, HOWEVER LEGALISM WOULD BE THE FIRST TO PUT THEIR IDEAS INTO PRACTICE THROUGHOUT CHINA.