





Hypothesis: How did the Shang rulers maintained their powers for over 500 years?

Hint--Both of these artifacts were found in a king's burial tomb.

Artifact 1 Artifact 2





Hypothesis: What were the social classes in the Shang Dynasty?

Hints--

- Artifact 1 is a Shang jade disk given to nobles for their service to the king.
- Artifact 2 are cowrie shells, a seashell from a distant region, used as money.
- The Shang social classes were similar to other social classes we've discussed.

Artifact 1 Artifact 2





Hypothesis: What were some early Chinese beliefs about the Afterlife?

Hint--Artifact 2 was found in a king's burial tomb. The person is believed to have been a slave.



Hypothesis: How were people fed during the Shang Dynasty?

Hint-Artifact 1 is a stone sculpture of an ox.



Hypothesis: Why would Shang artisans create elaborate pieces of art?

Hint--Why is art important today?

Artifact 1 Artifact 2





Hypothesis: Why is it important that archaeologists have discovered so many different types of weapons that date back to the Shang Dynasty?

Artifact 1 Artifact 2





Hypothesis: Why is Shang writing so important to historians?