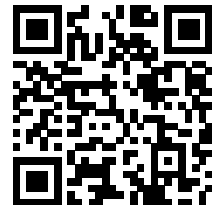


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# Ancient Chinese Language



Long ago, the \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese civilization developed a unique form of writing. This system was unlike any other in the world because each \_\_\_\_\_ represented a word or an idea. The roots of this language can be traced back to oracle bones, which were used for \_\_\_\_\_ purposes. Priests would carve questions into these bones and interpret the cracks formed by heating them as \_\_\_\_\_ from the ancestors.

This early script evolved over time, becoming more \_\_\_\_\_ and varied. It played a crucial role in the administration of the vast Chinese empire, enabling communication and \_\_\_\_\_ across great distances. The language also held a deep spiritual and philosophical significance, with \_\_\_\_\_ and other thinkers using it to convey their teachings.

In addition to literature and philosophy, this script was essential for documenting \_\_\_\_\_ and historical events, helping to unify the diverse regions of China. Despite its complexity, the script was a powerful tool for \_\_\_\_\_, with scholars and officials needing to master it to succeed. The creation of the \_\_\_\_\_ further increased the importance of this language, as it facilitated trade and cultural exchange between East and West.

Interestingly, the development of paper by \_\_\_\_\_ during the Han Dynasty greatly boosted literacy and the spread of \_\_\_\_\_, making books more accessible. Today, modern Chinese characters still bear a \_\_\_\_\_ to their ancient counterparts, linking current generations with their rich \_\_\_\_\_. This enduring script is a testament to the innovation and continuity of Chinese \_\_\_\_\_, influencing not just Asia but the entire world.

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|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| ancient    | character | knowledge | laws    | Silk Road | complex        | education    | resemblance |
| divination | Cai Lun   | Confucius | answers | heritage  | record-keeping | civilization |             |