

Discovery

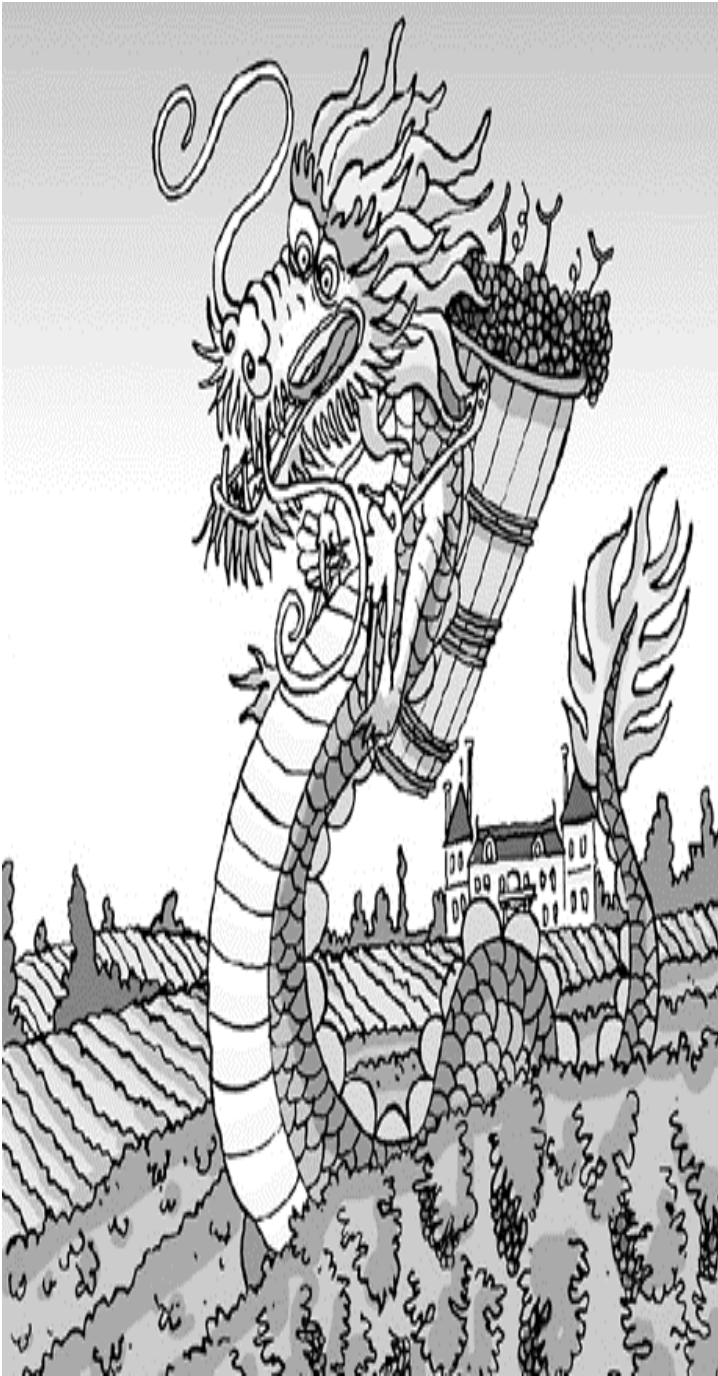


Question 1: According to archaeological discoveries, when was dragon first occur in Chinese philosophical texts? (Answer the question in workbook)



Recent **archaeological** discoveries confirm the dragon's association with Chinese culture for at least six thousand years. Dragon references occur prominently in early philosophical texts as well as in the images of **shamanistic worship**.

Legend



One legend has it that six to seven thousand years ago when living conditions were extremely harsh, the early Chinese believed that certain species of animals or plants possessed the power to overcome nature's fury. Different tribes regarded a particular animal or plant as their **totem** or common ancestor as well and the tribe's special guardian able to provide food and **avert** disaster through **omens** or signs.

Question 2: What did the tribes believe in Dragon? (Answer the question in workbook)

How current image of Dragon came to being



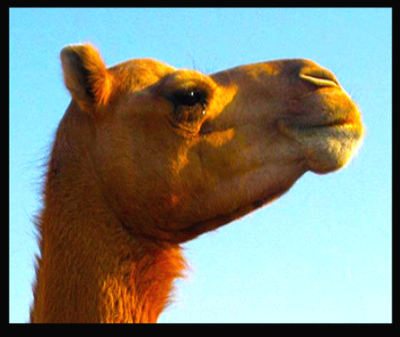




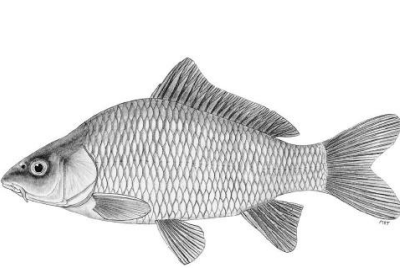
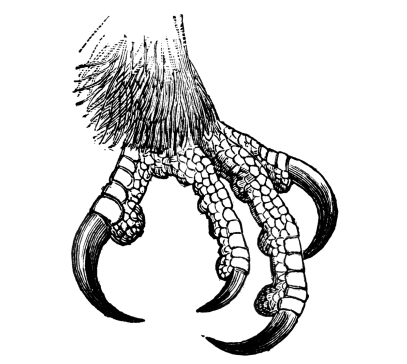

At that time there were great numbers of tribes scattered all over China each worshipping its own totem. Among them was a tribe located in Central China on the middle and lower reaches of the **Yellow River**, which used the snake as its totem. They called the snake "dragon" and owed their victories in battle to the dragon's protection. Whenever they conquered another totemic tribe, they added part of that totem to the snake to show that they had **annexed** another tribe. For example, when they annexed the tribe with a deer totem, the deer's antlers were added to the head of the snake.

Question 3: How the image of dragon form? (Answer the question in workbook)

What does Chinese Dragon Look like

In that way, the dragon finally became the creature of *Nine Resemblances*:

Head of a camel, horns of a deer, eyes of a hare, ears of a bull, neck of a snake, belly of a clam, scales of a carp, claws of an eagle, and paws of a tiger.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Belly of a clam |
|  |  |  |

Task: Fill in the given worksheet based on the above description.