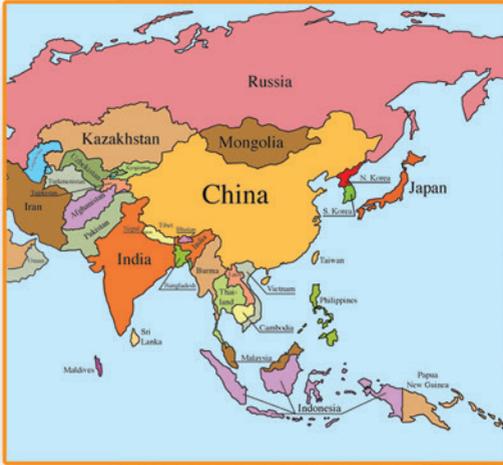


Location Map





Chapter 1

Welcome to China

Darwin pressed his nose hard against the window, looking out at this new land.

“Darwin!” his teacher called for the third time. “Are you coming?”

Ben, who had been sitting next to Darwin, gave his arm a friendly punch.

“C’mon,” he said. “We’ve arrived, in case you haven’t noticed. Are you coming or not?”

Darwin had noticed, but couldn’t drag his eyes away from the buildings and planes outside.

“I’m coming, Miss Chu,” he called to his teacher. He quickly pulled his backpack from under his seat and stood up.

It didn’t take too long to get out of the plane and collect their bags. Now they were set. The students gathered around Miss Chu like a magnet. The walls were covered in advertising posters and signs, all in a script they didn’t understand. Everything was written in symbols instead of words.

“That’s Chinese calligraphy,” said Miss Chu. “You’ve seen it before. That’s how Chinese people write.” She looked around for something she recognised. “There you go,” she said, pointing to a brightly coloured picture of a Chinese temple.

“That says, ‘Welcome to China’.”

Suddenly Miss Chu's attention settled on a sign in the middle of the crowd. It had an Australian flag on it and Miss Chu's name. Everyone clung together as they headed towards the man with the sign.

Miss Chu greeted the man enthusiastically, putting out her hand to shake his hand, and then giving a slight bow.

"Everyone," she said, "this is Jin. Jin will be our guide on our Chinese adventure."

Jin waved. In return, the students all waved to Jin.

"I have something for you," Jin told them. Then he gave each student a special nametag written in Chinese calligraphy.

