1. Label the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea, and the South China Sea. In what two ways might these seas have influenced China’s history?
2. Draw the boundaries of the territories covered by the Shang, Zhou, Qin, and Han dynasties. Use a different color for each dynasty. Add them to the map key. Why do you think the areas controlled by various dynasties kept expanding?
3. Label the Huang He and the Change Jiang. Why do you think these geographic features wee important in the early history of China?
4. Which dynasty controlled the smallest area of China? Which dynasty controlled the largest area of China?
5. Approximately how many years were there between the time a Chinese dynasty controlled the smallest area and the time a Chinese dynasty controlled the largest area? Why do you think the Han dynasty never expanded into the southwest or the far northeast?
6. Draw and label the Great Wall. The Great Wall was 1,500 miles long, 25 feet high, and 15 to 30 feet wide. Why do you think it was built?
7. Under which dynasty did China control territories that are not part of the modern China? Trun to the map on page 385. What present-day country south of China, and what present-day country northeast of China, were controlled by this dynasty?
8. Why do you think the majority group in China today calls itself the “Han people”? Where do you think minority groups that do not consider themselves Han people might live in China today?
9. What do you now know about China that you didn’t know before?
10. What questions about China did this activity raise? In other words, what questions were left unanswered by this map you studied?
11. After completing this map, where do you think the ideal location to start a civilization would be, and why? Put a star on the map to identify this location.