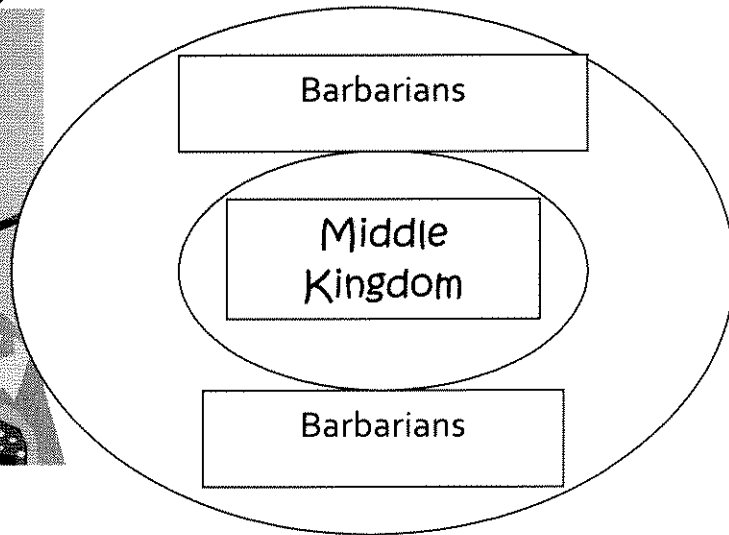


## China: The Center of the World?

The Chinese believed the following:

1. Everyone who was NOT Chinese was a barbarian.
2. China (Middle Kingdom) is the center of the world.



Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_

Ancient China, known as the Middle Kingdom, was the most isolated of civilizations we have read about. There are two main reasons why China remained isolated. One reason was because they were ethnocentric, and the other was because of the geography. China is made up of mountains, deserts, jungles, ocean and rivers. Civilization emerged around the Huang He Valley aka the "Yellow River" and later on to the Yangzi River valley. The "Yellow River" deposits large amounts of yellow silt known as loess. Coincidentally, this is where the name originated from. The Yellow River, much like the Tigris-Euphrates, caused much damage due to overflowing. From these dramatic floods, the river is also known as "River of Sorrows."

1. How did the Chinese view outsiders? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who represents the Middle Kingdom? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How could the Chinese feelings of superiority negatively affect civilization? \_\_\_\_\_