

# BRICS



This stands for.....?

## 1) PHASE ONE: Warm up



The Great Wall



Dragon Dance  
Luoyang



Giant Panda  
Wuxi Zoo



Laodong Park Sculpture  
Shenyang



Mashraf Performance  
Turpan City



Tea Picking Festival  
Wufeng



Temple of Heaven  
Beijing



Yungang Grottoes  
Datong

## ACTIVITIES

- Students are asked to surf the net for more information about the photos and add some details under them (Students find material related to Chinese culture and tradition).
- Students are asked to find pictures of modern Chinese cities ( eg. Shanghai) and describe them.

## 2) PHASE TWO: Development

Students are shown images and captions ( <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/8465901.stm> )

## ACTIVITIES

- Analysis of new words and concepts with the students ( Underdeveloped Countries, Joint Venture, Incentives, World Trade Organization, Regulation, Economic Slowdown, Leapfrog)
- Students are asked to collect information in a map/chart
- Reading Comprehension

China's economy is huge and expanding rapidly. In the last 30 years, the rate of Chinese economic growth has been almost miraculous, averaging 8 percent growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per annum. The economy has grown more than 10 times during that period, with Chinese GDP reaching 3.42 trillion US dollars in 2007. China already has the biggest economy after the United States and most analysts predict China will become the largest economy in the world this century.

Economic reforms started in China in the 70s and 80s with the initial focus on collectivizing agricultural activities in the country. The leaders of the Chinese economy, at that point in time, were trying to change the center of agriculture from farming to household activities. The reforms also extended to the liberalization of prices, in a gradual manner. The process of fiscal decentralization soon followed.

As part of the reforms, more independence was granted to business enterprises that were owned by the state government. This meant government officials at local levels and managers of various plants had more authority than before.

This led to the creation of a number of various types of privately held enterprises within the services sector, as well as the light manufacturing sectors. The banking system was also diversified, and Chinese stock markets started to develop and grow as economic reforms in China took hold.

China grew at a rapid pace as a result of these reforms and opened its economy to the world for trade and direct foreign investment.

China has adopted a slow but steady method in implementing economic reforms. It has also sold the equity of some of its major Chinese state banks to overseas companies and bond markets. In recent years, China's role in international trade has also increased.

( [http://www.economywatch.com/world\\_economy/china/?page=full](http://www.economywatch.com/world_economy/china/?page=full) )

Answer the questions

- 1) Why, according to analysts, will China become the largest economy?
- 2) Which reforms were introduced?
- 3) What did these reforms produce?

### 3) PHASE THREE: Production

- a) Students are asked to make a research on the Chinese area in Milan and the commercial activities there and then report it to the class.