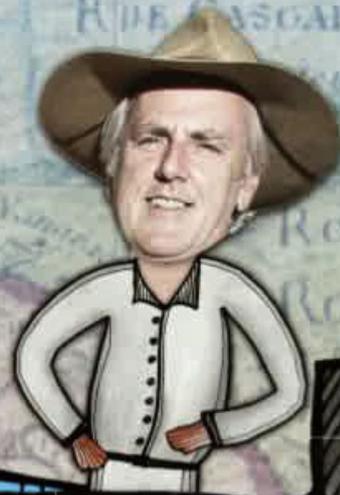


# TWO MEN IN CHINA



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A **STUDY GUIDE** BY ANNE CHESHER



AUSTRALIAN TEACHERS OF MEDIA

<http://www.metromagazine.com.au>

ISBN 978-1-74295-413-4

<http://www.theeducationshop.com.au>

## CURRICULUM

*Two Men In China* has curriculum application across several key learning areas such as Geography, Environment, Humanities, Commerce, Economics, Asia Studies, Political and Cultural Studies. Topics covered in the series are relevant to both junior (Years 7-10) and senior (Years 11-12) secondary teachers and students. These include: Australia's relationship with China, trade, mining industry, economic development, sustainability, the environment, population, transport and infrastructure, Chinese politics, history, culture and language.

*Two Men In China* meets the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) priority in presenting issues relating to Asia and Australia's relationship with Asian nations.

*'Asia and Australia's engagement with Asia This priority will ensure that students learn about and recognise the diversity within and between the countries of the Asia region. They will develop knowledge and understanding of Asian societies, cultures, beliefs and environments, and the connections between the peoples of Asia, Australia, and the rest of the world. Asia literacy provides students with the skills to communicate and engage with the peoples of Asia so they can effectively live, work and learn in the region.'*  
[http://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/cross\\_curriculum\\_priorities.html](http://www.acara.edu.au/curriculum/cross_curriculum_priorities.html)



In 2006, John Doyle joined professor Tim Flannery for the documentary series, *Two Men In A Tinnie* which explored the degradation of the Murray Darling river system. *Two Men In A Tinnie* won the 2006 SPAA Award for Best Documentary. In 2008, John and Tim joined forces for a second series, *Two in the Top End*, which was nominated for Most Outstanding Factual Program at the 2009 Logie Awards. In 2012, the pair explored the Great Dividing Range in their third series, *Two on the Great Divide*. Now, in 2014, Tim and John explore Australia's relationship with its largest trading partner, China. They start by following the journey of Australian iron ore from the Pilbara to the heart of China in *Two Men In China*.

*Two Men In China* uncovers the political, social, economic and cultural similarities and differences that underpin Australia's relationship with China – past, present and future. Each 60 minute episode focuses on one Chinese city. The series is designed so that each episode can either be utilised separately or viewed in sequence as an ongoing learning resource.

EPISODE 1: **BEIJING**

EPISODE 2: **SHANGHAI**

EPISODE 3: **CHENGDU**



BEIJING

## SERIES SYNOPSIS

Two Men in China is Tim Flannery and John Doyle's entertaining journey through China to discover the future of the Australia China relationship.

Australia is inextricably tethered to China but how much do we really know about the Chinese dragon sitting on our northern doorstep? And how much do they really know about us? What is the state of the relationship and where does the future lie? It's time for us to understand, and make sense of, China.

Two Men in China sees the indefatigable Tim Flannery and John Doyle – armed with inquisitive minds and enduring sense of humour – explore our powerful neighbour and our major trading partner.

The journey begins with iron ore departing our shores and takes us through a series of surprising twists and turns in the People's Republic to reveal a nation trying to make a sharp turn from "made in China" to "created in China".

Along the way, Tim and John meet an eclectic group of characters as they burrow beneath the surface of China, and the Chinese, while asking what does communism in China mean today. Our intrepid hosts grapple with the traditional workers and the new movers and shakers. They also meet adroit Aussies trying to ride the dragon to success. Along the way there are lessons to learn and warnings to heed when a nation rapidly industrialises and urbanises as it drags its people out of poverty. So what are the consequences of this relationship for both partners and how sustainable is the status quo? We know all about iron ore but there's so little we know about modern China and the China of the future.

The series starts with Australian iron ore in the port of Tianjin and the capital Beijing then takes Tim and John to Shanghai for episode two before finally landing in booming western China city of



SHANGHAI



CHENGDU

Chengdu for the third and final episode.

This series makes sense of one of the most enigmatic countries on Earth. Tim and John investigate how Australia's mineral wealth is helping to drive the Chinese economy, feeding its people and accelerating the urbanisation of the most populous nation. But it's time to ask: shouldn't we be more than just China's quarry? What is the future for our two nations?

This series is the tale of three very distinct Chinese cities and what they mean for the future of China, Australia and the planet. All three are crucial to the awakening of this sleeping dragon - bringing China into the 21st century, lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty and becoming the focus of Australian trade.

## PRODUCTION BACKGROUND

For the Two Men In China series, Tim Flannery and John Doyle and the production crew journeyed through China for almost six weeks. The crew started in Beijing for episode one and then travelled to Shanghai for episode two before ending their odyssey in the west of China in Chengdu. They covered almost 4,000 kilometres traversing China.

The crew included a producer and a cameraman flown in from Australia. They worked together with a China based Australian director, producer, sound recordist, production manager, liaison, interpreter and driver.

Pre-production planning was paramount to the success of series. Visa applications are complicated and lengthy when requesting to film in China as a foreign television production crew. In the end, it took almost two months to secure the visas.

One major challenge to filming in China is overcoming the simple logistics of getting around the major cities. Constant heavy traffic added many hours to filming schedules as the crew tried get from one location to the next. Thankfully rain only disrupted film-ing in Shanghai where the crew lost two days to the bad weather.

The series was recorded mostly on a Sony XDCam800. Second camera was an EX3. The rushes were copied to a drive, which was sent back by courier to Sydney.

All three episodes were edited on AVID at the same time in a Sydney post production facility. Series director, Vivian McGrath, oversaw the offline editing of all three episodes.



director of the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, and has served on the International Board of WWF.

In 2007, Tim co-founded and was appointed Chair of the Copenhagen Climate Council. In 2011, he became Australia's Chief Climate Commissioner. He serves of the Sustainability Advisory Boards of Siemens and Tata Power (India).

He is currently working as part of the Climate Council.

## JOHN DOYLE

Writer, Comedian, Television and Radio Presenter

John Doyle is one of Australia's finest writers for stage and screen. His work spans the theatrical success of *The Pig Iron People* for the Sydney Theatre Company to the small screen acclaim of series such as *Marking Time* and *Changi* for the ABC.

John was honoured by the Australian Writers Guild for comedy on eight occasions and for both his mini-series, *Changi* and *Marking Time*. *Club Buggery* won a Logie Award for Most Outstanding Comedy; *The Dream*, a Logie for Most Popular Comedy; and *Changi*, the Logie for Most

## TIM FLANNERY

Scientist, Explorer, Author, Television Presenter

Former Australian of the Year Tim Flannery has published more than 130 peer-reviewed scientific papers and has named 25 living and 50 fossil mammal species. His 32 books include *The Future Eaters* and *The Weather Makers*, which has been translated into more than 20 languages and won the NSW Premier's Book of the Year award. He has made numerous documentaries and regularly reviews for the *New York Review of Books*.

Tim received a Centenary of Federation Medal and in 2002 delivered the Australia Day address. In 2005, he was named Australian Humanist of the Year, and, in 2007, Australian of the Year. In 2011, Tim was made a Chevalier of the Order of St Charles.

In 1998 and 1999, Tim was a visiting professor at Harvard, and is a founding member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, a





Outstanding Drama. *Marking Time* received a 2004 Logie nomination for Most Outstanding Mini-series/Telemovie, a 2004 AFI Award for Best Screenplay in Television and the 2004 NSW Premier's Literary Award for Script Writing. John also received a 2004 Logie nomination for *The Cream* for Most Popular Sports Program and a 2005 Logie nomination for Most Popular Sports Program for *The Dream In Athens*.

John has also been seen on Foxtel's History Channel as the host of the six part television series, *Building Australia*.

## STEVE BIBB

### Executive Producer

As Executive Producer of Factual for Cordell Jigsaw Zapruder, Steve has created and steered *Great Southern Land* (ABC1), *MegaTruckers* (A&E) and *Hardliners* (FOX8 and A&E). He is also EP of the crime series *WANTED* (Network Ten). Before joining the company in 2010, Steve was Head of Factual Entertainment at Ambience Entertainment where he created and executive produced the sports quiz show, *The Squiz*, for SBS.

Prior to that, Steve founded Landmark Television where he produced for the Seven Network, the Nine Network, Animal Planet and TVNZ among others. Steve is a former producer, director and writer with the Nine Network where his credits include a Logie-nominated documentary trilogy on a Melbourne woman's battle with anorexia.

## Production Note

The aim of the *Two Men in China* series is to explore Australia's relationship with China – the nation's largest trading partner. No country is more important to the economic future of Australia than our powerful northern neighbour. But for a country so important, why **is it** so few Australians **truly** understand China? As the resources boom starts to flatten out, it seems logical and timely to send Tim Flannery and John Doyle north to learn more about China and the Chinese and to discover the future opportunities.

We wanted to find out the state of the relationship and where the future lies. We wanted to ask: "Should we be more than just China's quarry?" **More than 350 million tonnes of Australian iron ore was shipped to China in 2013. That's approximately \$40 billion worth of exports.**

*Two Men in China* makes sense of one of the most enigmatic countries on Earth. We wanted to get beneath the surface of China while asking what does communism in China mean today.

We wanted to meet Chinese people and Aussies trying to ride the dragon to success.

But China's explosive growth and modernisation comes at a devastating cost ... pollution.

The series starts in and around Beijing then takes Tim and John to Shanghai before finally landing in Chengdu. China's urbanisation will continue to bring millions to the country's growing cities. This will provide significant opportunities for Australian businesses. Time to find out what it all means in *Two Men in China*.

Steve Bibb (2013)



# EPISODE DESCRIPTIONS

## Episode 1 - BEIJING

**Overview** – Tim and John’s engaging China odyssey begins in Beijing with Australian iron ore. They venture through the capital meeting Australians and locals to explore the relationship.

### Synopsis

Tim Flannery and John Doyle start in Beijing, the imposing Chinese capital and the communist government’s seat of power. Modern China’s been open for business for about 30 years. Australia forged links in the early 1970s. But has Australia made the most of its early opportunity and what about the future?

If there’s one thing that symbolises the link between Australia and China it’s raw materials and in particular, iron ore. Australia exports staggering amounts of iron ore to China. In return, China sends it back as finished goods. China’s rapid urbanisation, fed by so much of our raw materials, drives Australia’s economy.

So what are the consequences of this relationship for both partners and how sustainable is the status quo? We know all about iron ore but there’s so little we know about modern China and the China of the future.

Tim and John start with an iron ore carrier arriving in the port of Tianjin. It’s docking after a two week, 7,000 kilometre voyage from Port Hedland in Western Australia. Tianjin is one of the world’s largest ports and the maritime gateway to Beijing. **More than 350 million tonnes of Australian iron ore was shipped to China last year. That’s around \$40 billion worth of Australian ore.**

Mountains of Western Australian rock and dirt sit dockside at Tianjin. Tim and John visit a nearby steel mill where iron ore is smelt 24 hours a day, seven days a week and rapidly building modern China.



From here they follow the trail of steel - to construction sites. But they soon discover China’s explosive growth and modernisation comes at a devastating cost. Horrendous traffic and air pollution from vehicles, factories and power stations fuelled by Australian coal strangle the city. But China is fighting back with a series of clever green tech and alternative energy schemes and programs – **along the way,** delivering many lessons for Australia. Tim and John visit a wind farm not far from the Great Wall to discover Australian technology working in tandem with China’s industrial muscle to produce clean energy.

Along the way, they also meet a former Australian ambassador to China, a former mining heavy hitter and an Australian family returning home because of the pollution.

But as China races ahead and the world cashes in, Tim and John hear Australia’s relationship with China is danger of coming adrift. For now we seem content doing little more than floating boatloads of iron ore to China. Tim and John ask: “Should Australia be more than China’s quarry? If so, what?”

From ports to Tiananmen Square and controversial artists and farmers turned inventors, this is Tim and John’s first eye-popping experience of China. They end on the Great Wall with a toast to the future of China and Australia lessons and a look forward to what is to come in Two Men in China.

### Student Tasks

1. Name three places where iron ore is mined in Australia.
2. Explain the Pilbarra region’s location on the Australian continent.
3. Chairman Mao launched the Cultural Revolution in China in 1965. State a policy enforced by Mao and describe how it changed the Chinese nation.
4. Modern China opened its doors to western trade around three decades ago. List 5 ways this new policy is helping to develop China into a modern international powerhouse.
5. Draw a flow chart diagram to illustrate the journey of iron ore from the mine to an Australian home as a white good.





local who's ridden the wave of Shanghai's boom. But Shanghai is a city of haves and have nots. On the other side of the ledge are poor Chinese migrant workers, who make up around 40 per cent of Shanghai's population. Tim and John meet one worker helping to build the fatherland, as he puts it.

Tim and John step into the reality of China's one child policy as cities grow bigger and communities are knocked down. They attend the 10,000 people match-making gathering. A speed-dating event run by the parents not the children. With no pensions or nursing homes, a comfortable old age depends entirely on the fortunes of their one child.

Tim and John also explore how to feed a growing population on the scale of China and the opportunities for Australian producers. They also explore the environmental damage to the river and water systems in Shanghai. As they saw with Beijing's terribly polluted air, there's a tragic environmental price to pay for china's rapid urbanisation. The Huangpu is highly polluted with ancient fish species vanishing. One-fifth of the drinking water in China's urban areas is contaminated.

Three decades of sustained economic growth, concentrated along the booming east coast, has lured millions of people from the impoverished Chinese countryside. But how sustainable is this break-neck urbanisation? What does it all mean for Australia and what are the lessons to learn?

### Student Tasks

1. During the later part of last century Shanghai underwent extensive change from an ancient fishing port to a modern international city. Name five distinctive features of Shanghai today.
2. What does the term 'Shanghai boom' mean?
3. How has Shanghai's sudden modernisation helped poverty-stricken families?
4. Both the Australian nation and the city of Shanghai have the same population. What is this figure? Name and discuss an environmental problem this population density is causing for the citizens of Shanghai.
5. Explain how Australia's natural resources are contributing to the urbanisation of China.

## Episode 2 - SHANGHAI

**Overview** – Next in Tim and John's entertaining China odyssey is the exotic city of Shanghai – home to 23 million. They explore China's rapid urbanisation underpinned by Australia's natural resources. What does it mean for Australia?

### Synopsis

Next stop for Tim Flannery and John Doyle is the city of Shanghai. The ancient fishing village turned international port was once known as the pearl of the orient – a decadent hub of foreign trading and subversive political intrigue. Now it's a glitzy, glamorous city and the poster child for China's rapid urbanisation. It's China's most populous city and home to 23 million people.

China is on track to become the most urbanised nation on the planet. Underpinned in parts by Australia's natural resources, China is dragging staggering numbers of people out of poverty and, along the way, helping to fuel the world's economy. Tim and John want to understand the impact of such sudden and intense urbanisation.

They start on Shanghai's iconic Bund with its financial district towering over the Huangpu river and the remnants of its colonial past to the west. The Huangpu is the last significant tributary of the Yangtze.

We see a forest of skyscrapers and cranes of Shanghai's Pudong district. Tim and John ride a lift to the Shanghai's tallest building – the World Financial Centre to discover how quickly this city is changing. Later they meet multi-millionaire Daniel Zhang. He's vice chairman of a construction company, owner of Ferraris and an exclusive club. He's one



## Episode 3 - CHENGDU

**Overview** – Having left old China, Tim Flannery and John Doyle head west to the mega city of Chengdu. It's the booming Sichuan capital. The race is on to create a mighty middle class. But how to balance urbanisation with tradition?

### Synopsis

Next stop for Tim Flannery and John Doyle is the booming city of Chengdu – the proud and ancient capital of Sichuan province in western China. It's at the frontier of the next wave of China's urbanisation.

The Chinese central government has pumped \$325 billion into Chengdu – a quarter of Australia's entire annual GDP. Fifteen million people call Chengdu home. But that number will double in 30 years.

The Australian government can see the potential and wants a slice of the action. With a local economy going like the clappers, it's no wonder Australia has opened a consulate here. If the streets are paved with gold, what are Australian companies doing to cash in?

They meet Ching Lee. He's from Melbourne but runs the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Chengdu. Apart from staggering pace of construction, Lee claims Chengdu is known for its bars, pretty women and green spaces.

Tim and John visit one green oasis nestled among the concrete towers. At the people's park, Tim gets a traditional ear cleaning and John an unusual massage.

But Chengdu faces a stark challenge. How to balance the race to urbanise with its traditions? It's incredible to think a martial art such as Kung Fu is under threat in China as urbanisation gobbles up green spaces. But that's how quickly the country is changing.

Ninety million people call the Sichuan province home – four times the population of Australia but



many are rural poor. The race is on to tap into this potential to create a wealthy and powerful middle class. Foreign companies are flooding in. Half the Fortune 500 are in Chengdu.

Tim and John met one mover and shaker. Local woman Kathy Gong is the CEO of a construction company and a chess champion. In a clash of modern versus tradition, Tim and John also visit the world's biggest building, a software heartland producing half the world's laptops and desktop microprocessors, a moon bear rescue centre and a panda-breeding facility.

Chengdu is set to become a megacity by 2025, so the opportunities for Australia will only rise. But China's urban sprawl west is relentless. The question is where should it stop? Sichuan is the gateway to the Tibetan plateau so Tim and John visit the Jiuzhaigou national park. It's one of the country's last great wildernesses.

Having left the old word order of China behind in Shanghai, Tim and John experience the future of the China and Australia relationship. That future lies out west in the mega city of Chengdu.

### Student Tasks

1. In which Chinese province is Chengdu located?
2. State five facts about Chengdu.
3. In Chengdu, as in many Chinese cities, a new middle class is the emerging. Describe the typical household wealth of the Chinese middle class modern urban population.
4. Many Australians are now living and working in Chengdu. In which industries are Australians working and what are their roles?
5. If Chengdu is predicted to become a megacity by 2025 in what ways can Australia participate, support and benefit from that economic growth?





## FACTS

### Australian Exploration Expenditure

#### Facts

- In 2012, mineral exploration expenditure in Australia increased by 2% to a total of \$3,655.8 million
- Western Australia also accounted for 56% of total mineral exploration expenditure in Australia during 2012 of around \$2052 million.
- \$1,040.8 million was spent on iron ore exploration in WA, which represented 91% of Australia's total iron ore exploration expenditure.
- Iron ore exploration expenditure in South Australia (SA) was \$79.7 million, the Northern Territory (NT) \$10.4 million and Tasmania (Tas) \$6.8 million.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)  
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/8412.0>

### Iron Ore Mining In Australia

#### Facts

- Iron (Fe) is one of the most abundant rock-forming elements, constituting about 5% of the Earth's crust.
- It is the fourth most abundant element after oxygen, silicon and aluminium, and after aluminium, the most abundant and widely distributed metal.
- Most of the world's important iron ore resources occur in iron-rich sedimentary rocks known as banded iron formations (BIFs) which are almost exclusively of Precambrian age (i.e. greater than 600 million years old). BIFs occur on all continents.
- Humans have been using iron for more than 3,000 years. However, iron ore use became

widespread in the 14th century when smelting furnaces (the forerunner of blast furnaces) began to replace forges.

- Iron ores are rocks usually found in the form of hematite (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) or magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>).
- 98% of world iron ore production is used to make iron in the form of steel.
- Iron ore resources occur in all the Australian States and Territories.
- 93% of identified resources (64 billion tonnes in total) occur in Western Australia, including almost 80% in the Hamersley Province, one of the world's major iron ore provinces.
- In the Hamersley Province in the Pilbara district of Western Australia there are three main types of deposit: iron oxide enrichments within BIFs; iron oxides deposited along ancient, mainly Tertiary age river channels (palaeochannels); and iron oxide deposits formed from the erosion of existing orebodies (detrital iron ore deposits).
- The ores from the major mines in Western Australia's Pilbara region are hauled from working faces to crushing and screening plants using trucks that can carry over 300 tonnes.
- All major Australian iron ore mines are open cut.
- There are two major Pilbara iron ore producers: BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto Ltd.

Source: Geoscience Australia  
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### China Profile – Economy, Trade And Australian Relations

#### Introduction

China is home to more than 1.3 billion people – almost one-fifth of the world's population. While it is around 20 per cent larger than Australia by landmass, much of this is unsuitable for habitation or cultivation.

In the foreseeable future – perhaps in this decade – China will replace the United States as the world's





largest economy in purchasing power terms. Old images of China as the low-wage factory of the world or simply as a voracious consumer of raw materials, are being broken down and replaced with an understanding of China's growing sophistication, prosperity and complexity. So far, much of China's growth has been built on the development of its coastal east, but the Chinese Government is encouraging similar economic transformation in the less-developed central and western provinces. Nearly half of China's vast population still lives in rural areas inland and those provinces will be integral to the success of China's next stage of development.

### Government, Business and People-to-People Links

The history of people-to-people links between Australia and China is long and vibrant. Chinese

immigrants were among the first free settlers in Australia and have long since become integral members of our community, government and economy. Australia is home to over 860,000 Australians of Chinese descent, and Mandarin is the second most spoken language in homes after English.

Australia's growing diplomatic network in China is one of our most extensive. It includes the embassy in Beijing and consulates in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong. Australian state governments also have extensive representation in China's leading commercial centres.

### 40 Years of Diplomatic Relations; 40 Years of Change

Australia and China celebrated 40 years of diplomatic relations in 2012. The signing of a slip of paper in Paris on 21 December 1972 radically altered Australia's relationship with China. The Joint Communique establishing diplomatic relations was a further step cementing China's opening to the world. For Australia, it marked the beginning of our engagement with a country undergoing profound transformation.

The interaction sparked by the Joint Communique has deepened over the past 40 years and shaped the development of both countries. China's burgeoning cities are built with Australia's iron ore and tens of thousands of Chinese are Australian-educated. Our trade with China and investment is going from strength to strength.

Since China started to open its economy to the world in 1978, including accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2001, the



Australia-China commercial relationship has grown rapidly. Forty years ago, Australia sold China wool and tallow and bought light manufactured products, such as textiles. Today Australian commodities are helping to build new cities in China, roads, bridges, dams and ports, to fuel factories and to heat homes and offices in China. We in turn are now buying from China all kinds of household goods, computers, and heavy machinery. China has become Australia's largest export market, largest import source and largest trading partner overall with flows in excess of \$121 billion in 2011.

Industry bodies like the Australian Chamber of Commerce (AustCham) in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou and the Australia China Business Council (ACBC) involve the business community and work closely with both the Australian and Chinese governments to support Australian companies on the ground and to help improve China's business environment. Through the Australia-China Council, the Government also supports greater people-to-people links in education, science, technology and culture, and promotes Australia's economic and trade interests.

Australia and China are seeking to build on the success of the trade relationship through the negotiation of a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). China was Australia's 12th largest destination for investment abroad at the end of 2011, with a total stock of \$17 billion invested there. There will be scope for Australian companies to invest further as China modernises and the economy opens up further. China has the world's largest Internet user population and by 2025 a vastly increased proportion of China-Australia commerce will be conducted online.

## Towards 2025

Out to 2025, Australia and China will continue to develop the political linkages underpinning our relationship, including regular high-level political dialogue. The process of mutual understanding that began in earnest four decades ago – and that has brought both countries significant economic and cultural benefits – will serve as an important enabler for new areas of cooperation. Better understanding at the political level will bring closer cooperation in regional and international forums and on key international challenges in support of Australia's international priorities.

China's urbanisation process will continue to bring millions to the country's growing cities, albeit at a progressively slower rate in the years out to 2025. This will provide significant opportunities for Australian businesses. Areas of growing cooperation include regulatory and legal standards for urban planning and construction, health and welfare services, and complex infrastructure including water management and sanitation.



Opportunities for further collaboration on climate change will increase as both our countries respond to the challenge posed by climate change, through the development of strategies to reduce emissions, including pricing carbon, increasing energy efficiency and building renewable energy capacity

China's new city-dwellers have increased expectations for their standard of living. This, coupled with rising discretionary incomes, will see growing consumption of welfare-enhancing services and goods. Health, financial, legal and logistic services are all areas in which Australia excels and will find new market opportunities for in China. Demand for environmental remediation services and energy efficient and green building technologies will increase as China looks to enhance its sustainable growth. Consumption of agricultural products and agribusiness services will continue to rise as China's new middle class demands a more nutritious diet and higher quality textiles, clothing and footwear.

Source: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/asian-century/china.html>

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Production Company

Cordell Jigsaw Zapruder

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This study guide was produced by **ATOM**. (© ATOM 2014)  
ISBN 978-1-74295-413-4 [editor@atom.org.au](mailto:editor@atom.org.au)

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