**Directions: Cut out each grouping of bullet points below and appropriately categorize them into the attached graphic organizer.**

* **Shang Dynasty – 1650 – 1027 B.C.** – first ruling family – believed to be descendents of God (Shang –di).
* **Zhou Dynasty** **– 1027 – 256 B.C.** – ruling family which defeated the Shang promoted the concept of **Mandate of Heaven** (divine right to rule came from god – led to development of the dynastic cycle – rise & fall of dynasties

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* **Kings & Nobles** ran the government and the army
* **Artisans & Merchants**
* **Peasants** – farmed the land
* **Slaves**

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* Climate – Hot & Dry
* **Huang He River –** “river of sorrows” – had unpredictable flooding, therefore dikes (flood barriers) and irrigation systems were necessary
* The river contains loess, or fine windblown soil (yellow) – that gives the river its name
* Middle Kingdom = isolation of this civilization (surrounded by jungle, mountains, oceans & desert)
* Chinese believed their culture was the center of the earth

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* **System of writing – 4,000 years old**
* Chinese characters consist of **pictographs and ideographs** (expressed through thought) - written language evolved to include tens of thousands of characters
* **Calligraphy –** fine handwriting, turned recording these characters into an art form

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* **Agriculture (farming)** was the primary occupation
* Artisans made goods – cloth, pottery, jewelry

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| **CIVILIZATION** | **Huang He (Yellow) River Valley (Ancient China)** |
| **GEOGRAPHY** |  |
| **SOCIAL**  **STRUCTURE** |  |
| **ECONOMICS** |  |
| **POLITICAL** |  |
| **MAJOR**  **CONTRIBUTION** |  |