



ZHANG YIN MYSTERY

THE BIG QUESTION: WHO IS ZHANG YIN AND WHY DOES SHE LIKE RUBBISH?

How the mystery works

There are many ways of differentiating the activity and tweaking it to suit the needs of pupils, these notes outline some possible strategies.

- The cards (see below) should be copied, cut up and given to groups of pupils. Pupils should then be asked to answer the big question (see title) using the information on the cards.
- Pupils sort the cards into two piles – the cards that are useful and not useful in concisely answering the big question
- Pupils prepare a brief written or oral response to the big question using the cards as evidence
- Feedback response to class or teacher
- The teacher could then introduce sub-questions to explore issues further, these questions are listed below and the questions used will depend on the ability of pupils, and the aims and scope of the lesson. Pupils could produce written or oral responses to these questions, perhaps a paragraph or statement for each question. Pupils could be asked to give responses to specific questions or perhaps produce a news style article.
- The activity might culminate in a class debate on, for example, 'are Zhang Yin's businesses good or bad for the planet?', 'Zhang Yin's businesses have nothing to do with us/me' - agree or disagree.

THE BIG QUESTION

WHO IS ZHANG YIN AND WHY DOES SHE LIKE AMERICAN GARBAGE?

FURTHER SUB-QUESTIONS

- Why are Zhang Yin's businesses an example of globalisation in action?
- How do Zhang Yin's businesses show how places may be interdependent?
- Are Zhang Yin's businesses good for the planet and for people?
- Are we in the UK linked to Zhang Yin's recycling in any ways?
- Who, apart from Zhang Yin, benefits from Zhang Yin's businesses?
- What are the positive impacts of Zhang Yin's businesses?
- What are the negative impacts of Zhang Yin's businesses?
- Who feels these impacts and where?



Teachers may wish to use only a selection of cards or give cards out in batches in order to focus on specific issues or concepts. The cards are numbered for ease of reference.

Here are some useful weblinks that formed the basis of this mystery:

<http://www.china.org.cn/english/entertainment/185425.htm>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/6039296.stm>

THE CARDS

<p>1</p> <p>Nine Dragons Paper can't get all the paper it needs from China and so it buys and imports foreign scrap paper.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>In China only 30% of scrap paper is recycled.</p> <p>In the USA 70% of scrap paper is recycled.</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Zhang Yin is a 49 year old Chinese woman</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Zhang Yin has become rich and traded with the USA because China, a communist country is 'opening up' and developing its economy.</p>
<p>5</p> <p>China's paper recycling industry is growing faster than any other in the world</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Coke, Nike and Sony are huge, wealthy multi-national companies with factories and shops in many countries</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Zhang Yin became rich by starting the Nine Dragons paper company</p>	<p>8</p> <p>China imported 12 million tonnes of waste paper in 2005, that's almost half of the world's waste paper available for export.</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Paper recycling is good for the environment. It cuts down on landfill, and saves the resources and energy that would be needed to make new paper.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Many of the goods we buy and need in the UK are made or packaged in China.</p>



<p>11 The CAN company in the USA sends American waste paper to China to be recycled</p>	<p>12 Coke, Nike and Sony sell goods across the globe.</p>
<p>13 Nine Dragons Paper recycles scrap paper from the USA.</p>	<p>14 The American CAN company and the Chinese Nine Dragons company are very closely linked to each other even though they are from different countries.</p>
	<p>15 The economy benefits when factories are opened as they create jobs for people and encourage more investment.</p>
<p>16 The Nine Dragons company has factories in China that make packaging for large companies like Coca Cola, Nike and Sony.</p>	<p>17 Export of waste paper means it must be transported long distances and this has environmental impacts. The paper factories also produce pollution.</p>
<p>18 If China keeps importing waste paper this may make it less likely to increase its own recycling.</p>	<p>19 The ACN company provides 80% of the paper recycled by Nine Dragons Paper.</p>
<p>20 Zhang Yin lived in America in 1990 and started a company called American Chung Nam (ACN)</p>	<p>21 Nine Dragons Paper is China's largest paper recycling business. Zhang Yin is called the 'empress of waste paper'.</p>
<p>22 Zhang Yin is China's richest billionaire and worth \$3.4 billion (£1.8 billion) and the world's richest self-made woman and richer than Oprah and JK Rowling.</p>	<p>23 The ACN company has also built factories in China; this is foreign investment in China and good for the economy.</p>