

The Great Wall of China

Imagine if you were getting robbed in your own neighborhood, while you're walking down the street, so a wall was built to keep out the robbers, however there were many gaps in the wall so the robbers could still get in. This is exactly what it was like for people living in China when the Great Wall of China was built. The benefits were greatly outweighed by the costs for the Great Wall of China.

The design of the wall was one reason why the Great wall of China was not worth the cost of building it. When the wall was built, it was built in many different sections by different leaders (Doc B). There were many gaps in between the walls sections, which was a bad thing because their enemies (mongols) could just go right around the wall(Doc B). The quality of the Great Wall of China was not good (Doc c). It was not sturdy at all and could not hold very much weight (Doc C). The wall was made of un-sturdy materials like sod, rock, and earth materials such as dirt (Doc C). The design of the wall was not made well for fighting. People were fighting on both sides (Doc F), because enemies could just go right around (Doc B), because of all the gaps in the wall (Doc B). The Great Wall of China was not worth the cost because it was just an obstacle that their enemies could just go around (Doc B).

The Great Wall of China was not worth the cost because of all the hardships that were caused. Many deaths were caused while building the wall. The soldiers that were fighting died or risked their lives (Doc A). The wall builders also risked their lives (Doc A). Lots of good people who did not deserve to die, died because of the Great Wall of China (Doc F). The conditions were terrible for people while the wall was being built. People were forced to work seven days a week (Doc E). The people who worked suffered from extreme loneliness and boredom (Doc E). Extreme heat and cold were dealt with by the wall builders and soldiers (Doc E). They were forced to separate from their families (Doc E). Also, families were forced to move north, towards the mongols (Doc B). Food was one of the many reasons why life was so bad for people who were wall builders and soldiers. Since everyone was working on the wall there was no one left to harvest the rice, which is what everyone ate in China (Doc F). The wall builders and soldiers received very little food as they were working (Doc E). They did not just receive food, they had to work for it (Doc E). Hardships were so difficult for wall builders and soldiers that were working on the Great Wall of China.

People who think that the benefits of building the wall outweigh the costs would give some reasons about protection. They would say the wall protects from the mongols (Doc A and D). They would also say that it protects cities and farmland (Doc B). Also that building the wall gave China an expansion to the north and that it was a good thing (Doc E). One last thing they would say is that the wall protects traders and that the trade makes

China wealthier (Doc A). However, none of those things are correct. The wall does not protect from the mongols because there are gaps in the wall and the mongols could just go around them (Doc B). Cities and farmland are also not protected by the wall because things or people can just go right in (Doc B). When they expanded to the north, they disrupted the tribute that was keeping the peace they had between the mongols and them (Doc C). When they say that the wall protects the traders, and that trade makes China wealthier, they are wrong because the imported items benefit only the wealthy, so really only the wealthy are getting wealthier (Doc D).

In conclusion, if you were getting robbed in your own neighborhood, and the town put up a wall to stop the robbers, but they were still getting in and robbing you, you would be mad and upset, and you would question why they even built the wall in the first place. The Great Wall of China was not worth the cost because of the design of the wall and the hardships that were caused.