

Xiaotun Dig

The information below details the evidence that was unearthed during a 9 year dig at Xiaotun. What do you think the evidence tells us about the Shang Dynasty and the way in which people lived?

Have a go at noting down what we can learn from each piece of evidence.

<p>The ruined foundations of a large city were found at the dig.</p>	<p>Inside the tomb, skeletons of dogs and sheep were found. Also, the skeletons of horses were laid next to chariots.</p>	<p>There were side tombs with skeletons laid side by side. Many skeletons were separate from their heads, which were buried in another part of the tomb.</p>
<p>There were huge tombs containing bodies of men and women surrounded by many luxury items.</p>	<p>'Dragon bones' were found; which were later identified as the shoulder bones of cattle and the under-shells of turtles, inscribed with Chinese writing.</p>	<p>The ruins of palaces or ceremonial buildings were found at the dig.</p>
<p>Intricately decorated bronze and jade sculptures were found inside the tombs.</p>	<p>Huge tombs were found. They were shaped like crosses and had many underground chambers.</p>	<p>Many ceramic artefacts were found at the dig.</p>