

Chapter 11

Censorship

Global communications brings cultures into closer contact than they might desire. In some instances, a government might not want its people to know what it is doing or to be influenced by ideas that it cannot control.

In this chapter, you will learn about the history of communication technology and censorship and how new technologies are used by government censors and by people who want freedom of access.

Why Do I Need to Know This?

To make good decisions about your life and the course of our country, you need good information. Because there is news and information available from thousands of sources around the world every day, there is too much to absorb. You must decide how the information is filtered and by whom because what you see and hear is the raw material for what you think. If your sources are biased or they simply exclude information, your world view will be incomplete or incorrect and will not provide a sound basis for making decisions.

1 News Reporting and the Cold War

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the role of newspapers and the telegraph in informing people about the Crimean war. [11.1.1]
2. Identify a reform that was the result of newspaper reporting in the Crimean war and the person who is known for it. [11.1.2]
3. Identify why radio EM waves can travel long distances. [11.1.3]
4. Identify the role of radio in the cold war and the name of the Western news service. [11.1.4]

Crimean War, Newspapers, and the Telegraph

When the telegraph was invented, it became possible to communicate directly from the battlefield back to the people in the home country and newspapers could send representatives whose reports were printed the day after the event. At the time, the British were at war with the Russians on the Crimean Peninsula in the Black Sea, as shown in Figure 11.1.

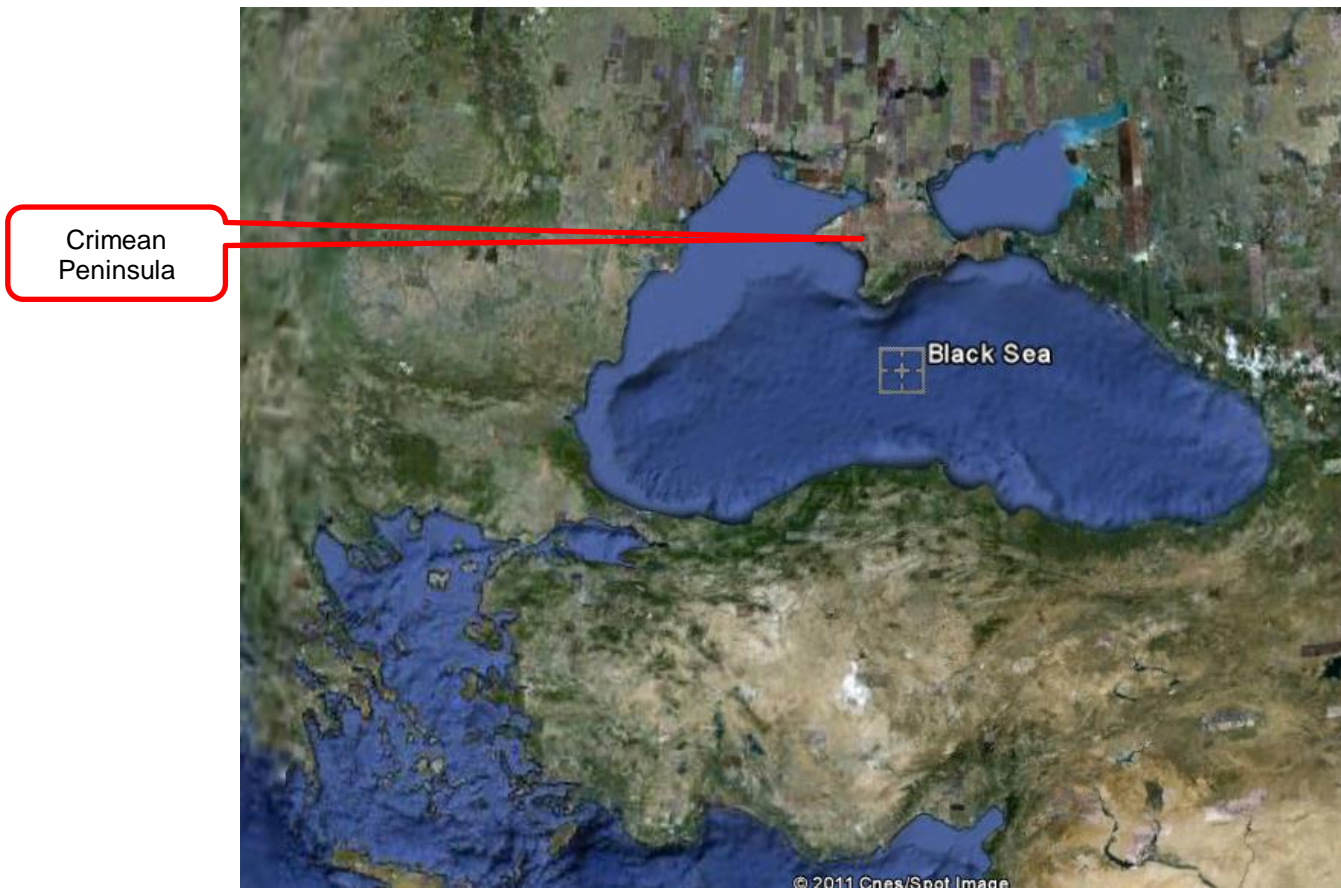


Figure 11.1. Crimean Peninsula

One of the most famous newspaper stories of the day was about a mistake in orders and how bravely the troops responded. A brigade of cavalry that did not have cannon—a light brigade—was ordered to attack a heavily defended position up a valley instead of the intended target on the heights at the side. Cavalry were elite soldiers who wore colorful uniforms, as shown in Figure 11.2. They were romantic figures and warfare was depicted as a glorious event in the press, song, and literature.



Figure 11.2. Cavalry officer and troops

Even though the troops knew the order was an error, they charged up the valley. Of the original group of 673 men, 247 were killed or injured and 475 horses were killed. The bravery of the troops in spite of the error was lauded in the press reports in Great Britain and Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote the famous poem, *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, the first part of which is: (British Battles 2010)

Half a league, half a league,

Half a league onward,

All in the valley of Death

Rode the six hundred.

'Forward the Light Brigade!

Charge for the guns!' he said:

Into the valley of Death

Rode the six hundred.

'Forward, the Light Brigade!'

Was there a man dismayed?

Not though the soldier knew

Some one had blundered:

Theirs not to make reply,

Theirs not to reason why,

Theirs but to do and die:...

Another factor was reported that shocked the British public. Little was done for the brave soldiers who were wounded. There were no women nurses in the British army and hospital conditions were very bad. One report stated; (Bloy 2010)

There were no vessels for water or utensils of any kind; no soap, towels, or clothes, no hospital clothes; the men lying in their uniforms, stiff with gore and covered with filth to a degree and of a kind no one could write about; their persons covered with vermin . . .

At that time, nursing was not an honorable profession but a wealthy woman named Florence Nightingale was working to change that image in England. Because of the public outcry that their wounded men were being neglected, the British Secretary of War asked Florence Nightingale to apply her efforts in the Crimea. She accepted the challenge and brought women with her to the field hospital where the care dramatically improved. Florence Nightingale became an important figure in the history of medical care for soldiers and women's role in nursing.

The newspaper stories that led to the improvement in medical care, and that exposed errors in command decisions relied on direct reports from the battlefield by telegraph which would not have been included in official reports.

The Iron Curtain

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) was founded on the ideal of communism in 1917 which held that the workers were the most important class of people and that everyone should share the work and the rewards of that work equally. After WWII, the USSR controlled the eastern countries in Europe.

In practice, the system did not provide as good a standard of living as that enjoyed by the countries of Western Europe. People in communist countries had to stand in line to buy most things such as bread (Yakimenko 2009), as shown in Figure 11.3.

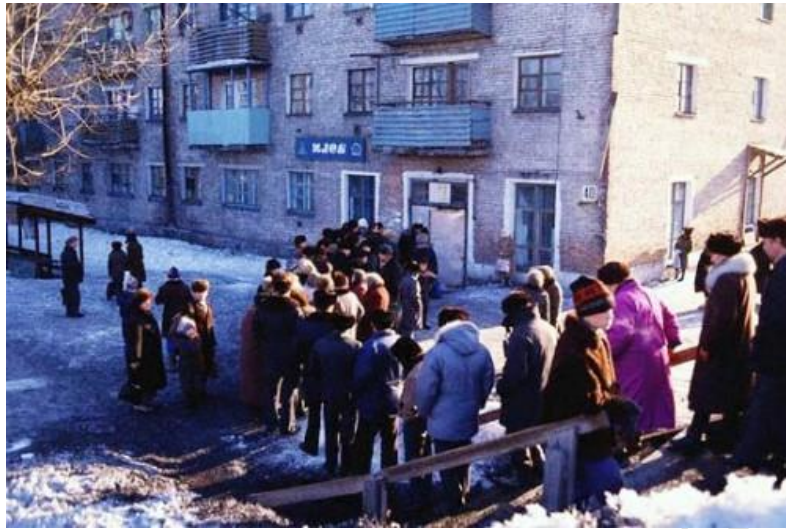


Figure 11.3. Line to buy bread in USSR

About 15 million people fled the communist countries and immigrated to Western Europe. To stop the flight of so many people, the communist governments of the USSR and Eastern Europe erected a guarded fence across Europe, as shown in Figure 11.4, that Winston Churchill called the **iron curtain**.



Figure 11.4 Barrier between territory controlled by USSR and Western Europe

The capital city of Germany was divided by a wall known as the **Berlin wall** that was erected in 1961, shown in Figure 11.5. More than 5,000 people escaped across the wall but about 3,200 were arrested and 160 people were killed.



Figure 11.5 Berlin wall, 1961

To maintain control of the people, the communist governments withheld news and images of life in the West. The process of examining and deleting or blocking unwanted information is called **copyright**. Government controlled newspapers and the broadcast media of television and radio were closely examined and news and images were censored.

The iron curtain could prevent people from crossing the border but it could not stop the EM waves used by radio and television. The EM waves used by television are a few feet long and the antennas used to transmit and receive them must be within sight of each other which limited the zone behind the iron curtain that could see Western television to about twenty miles. Additionally, the Soviets adopted a television transmission standard that was not compatible with West German television.

Radio waves can be much longer than the EM waves used for television. In the upper atmosphere where the solar wind—protons from the sun—strikes the air molecules, a layer of charged ions is created. This layer can reflect the longer radio waves like a mirror, as shown in Figure 11.6. The radio waves can bounce between the earth's surface and this layer of ions several times and travel for thousands of miles.

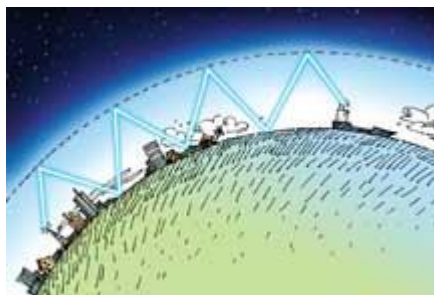


Figure 11.6 Radio waves can travel thousands of miles

The U.S. and Great Britain supported a system of broadcast towers that could send radio programs into the communist countries behind the iron curtain. The system was called Radio Free Europe. It provided uncensored news but it also had a political agenda that is explained in the following excerpt from its policy

manual: (Stanford University 2010)

Radio Free Europe's purpose [is to] contribute to the liberation of the nations imprisoned behind the Iron Curtain by sustaining their morale and stimulating in them a spirit of non-cooperation with the Soviet-dominated regimes by which they are, for the time being, ruled.

Communist control over the people of Eastern Europe ended in 1989 and shortly thereafter the Soviet Union broke apart. An iconic example of the fall of communism in Europe was the destruction of the Berlin wall by the people of East and West Germany, as shown in Figure 11.7.



Figure 11.7 Berlin wall, 1989

Key Takeaways

Newspapers could receive news directly from their own reporters at a battle scene by telegraph. The British newspapers reported mistakes by commanders, the bravery of the soldiers, and the deplorable conditions in the hospitals. [11.1.1]

Nursing care for wounded soldiers was improved by Florence Nightingale who made nursing an honorable profession for women. [11.1.2]

EM waves used for radio can bounce from the ion layer in the upper atmosphere and from the surface of the earth to travel thousands of miles. [11.1.3]

Radio Free Europe transmitted news to the people behind the Iron Curtain to keep them informed of world events and to promote unrest against communist rule. [11.1.4]

2 Korea

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the components and structure of the Korean language. [11.2.1]
2. Identify the significance of the 38th parallel and the DMZ in Korea. [11.2.2]
3. Identify the role of the UN, the USA, and China in the Korean War. [11.2.3]
4. Identify the methods used for censoring television and radio broadcasts in North

Korea. [11.2.4]

5. Identify how South Korea identifies a person who is using the Internet. [11.2.5]
6. Identify the restrictions on political speech on South Korean blogs or websites. [11.2.6]

Korea is a land that is divided and so are its attitudes toward censorship. North Korea has the world's fourth largest army and has tested a nuclear weapon. In this section, we review Korea's history and how censorship is practiced.

Short History of Korea

Korea is a peninsula. Most of its northern border is with China but it also has a small border along the coast with Russia, as shown in Figure 11.8. It is divided into two countries; The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the north and Republic of Korea (ROK) in the south.

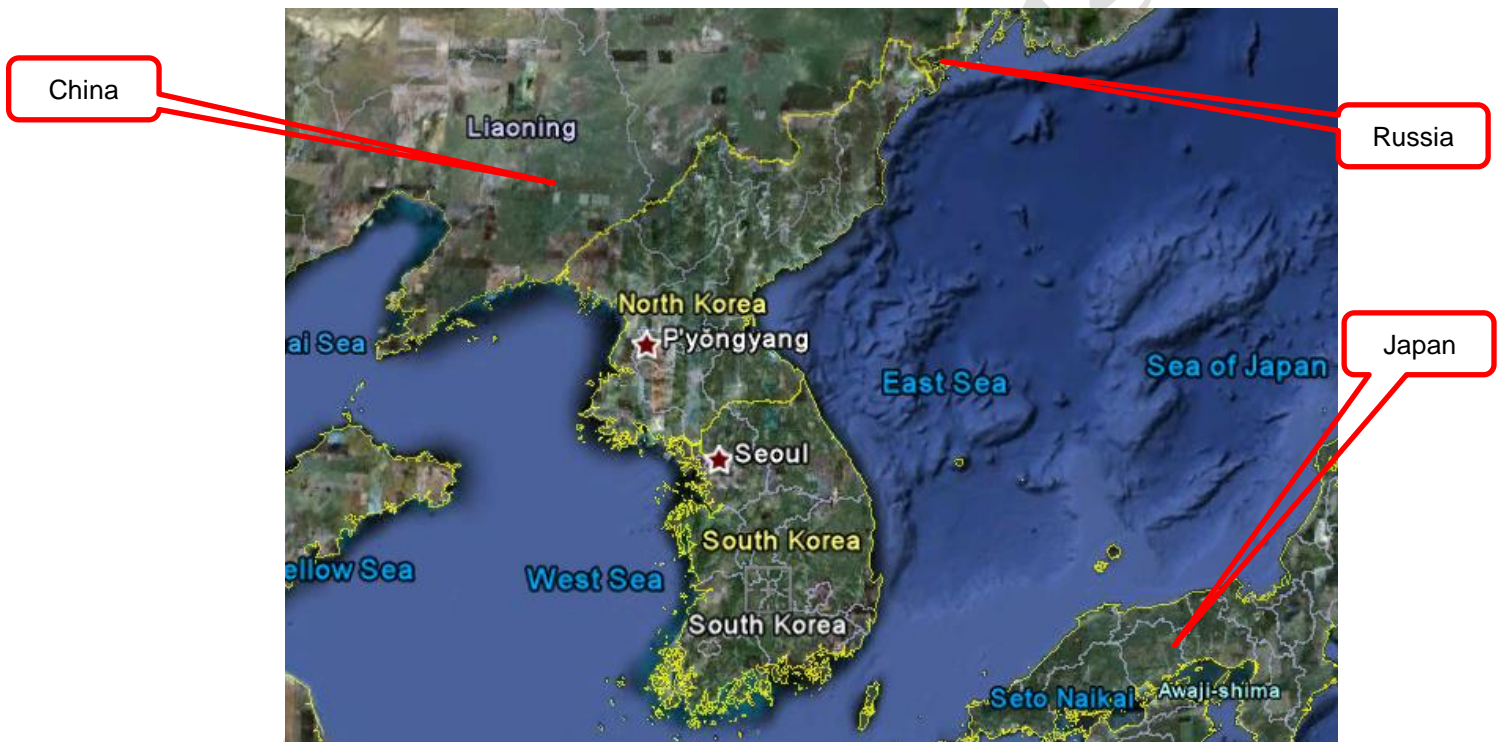


Figure 11.8.Japan, Russia, Korea, and China

Brief History

Korea has been occupied by humans for more than 100,000 years. During its long history, Korea has conquered parts of Manchuria but more often it was controlled by either China or Japan. These interactions have influenced the language of Korea and words from Chinese, Japanese, and English are often mixed in

with native Korean words.

Although the Korean words are different from Chinese, Chinese characters called **hanja** were used as the written language of Korea prior to the mid-1400s and are still used occasionally in South Korea. Because the Chinese characters are difficult to learn, many Koreans were illiterate. In 1446, Sejong the Great decided that Korea needed its own written language that would be easier for the commoner to learn. He commissioned the creation of a writing system that made it easier to write the Korean language which is called **Hangul**. Like English, it has characters called **jamo** that represent individual vowels and consonants. There are nineteen jamo commonly used for consonant sounds and six jamo used for vowels, as shown in Figure 11.9.

Consonants		Vowels	
ㄱ	g	ㅏ	a
ㄴ	n	ㅑ	eo
ㄷ	d	ㅓ	o
ㄹ	l/r	ㅕ	u
ㅁ	m	ㅡ	eu
ㅂ	b	ㅣ	i
ㅅ	s		
ㅇ	-/ng		
ㅈ	j		
ㅊ	ch		
ㅋ	k		
ㅌ	t		
ㅍ	p		
ㅎ	h		
ㄲ	kk		
ㄸ	tt		
ㅃ	pp		
ㅆ	ss		
ㅉ	jj		

Figure 11.9. Consonants and vowels in the Korean language

Unlike most languages, the jamo in Korean are stacked in a block to form a syllable. The sequence is left to right and top to bottom, as shown in Figure 11.10.



Figure 11.10. Arrangement of characters in a syllable

Words in other languages can be easily converted to Korean. For example, the capital city of the Philippines would be divided into three syllables; ma nil la, **마, 닐, 라** where the second syllable has three characters.

Because the Korean language uses an alphabet of characters that represent sounds, it is much more like English than Chinese. A Unicode number can be assigned to each jamo.

Japan conquered Korea in 1910 and attempted to assimilate them as part of the Japanese empire. They banned the Korean language and tried to suppress Korean culture. During WWII, Japan forced more than five million Koreans to work as forced laborers in its factories to free Japanese men to join the army. More than 270,000 Koreans were worked to death or killed by allied bombing. (Rummel 2002) The Japanese also forced tens of thousands of Korean women into sexual slavery for the use of Japanese troops. (Horsley 2005)

At the end of WWII, Japan surrendered and control was transferred to the Soviet Union in the North and the U.S. in the south. The border was near 38 degrees of latitude which is just north of Seoul. Because lines of latitude are parallel to each other, they are often called parallels and this border is usually called the 38th parallel.

The North Koreans adopted communism and the Soviet Union supported them with military equipment and training. The communist party is the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) and their leader was Kim Il-sung. The North Koreans tried to reunify the country by invading the south in 1950. They almost succeeded and drove the U.S. troops back to the city of Pusan in the South. The U.S. provided fresh troops and weapons to defend Pusan including tanks and airplanes to attack the North's supply lines.

UN and U.S. forces under the command of General MacArthur landed a force behind the North Korean lines at Inchon and South Korean troops recaptured Seoul. The Chinese warned that they would join the war if UN forces attacked north of the 38th parallel. The U.S. ignored the warning and crossed the border into the North. They were very successful and drove the North Koreans all the way back to the border with China at the Yalu river.

The Chinese attacked with a force of almost three million men and drove the UN forces back to the 38th parallel where the war turned into a stalemate. The Chinese report that they lost 180,000 men. (China

Daily 2010) The two sides agreed to an **armistice**—cease fire—but never agreed to a peace treaty. Technically, North and South Korea are still at war. The armies of North and South Korea are separated by a strip of land that is about 2.5 miles wide that is called the **demilitarized zone (DMZ)**.



Figure 11.11.Division of North and South Korea

Censorship in North Korea

Kim Il-sung was the leader of North Korea from its creation after WWII until his death in 1994. Kim installed his son, Kim Jong-il as the country's leader before his death. North Korea's government is modeled after the most repressive of the old Eastern European communist governments of Rumania and East Germany and exerts the tightest control possible on the dissemination of information.

The Committee to Protect Journalists rated North Korea as the most censored country in the world. (Committe to Protect Journalists 2006) Televisions and radios are sold that are preset to government channels and the cases are sealed. The seals are regularly checked by local officials.

North Korea is making a dedicated effort to modernize its information technology without granting more freedom to its people. In 1993, Kim Jong Il sent a letter to the National Conference for Telecommunication Employees entitled *Let Us Go Full Speed Ahead with Modernization of Telecommunication*. The country now has 700,000 cell phones with 3G data support. The party regards information technology as one of the three pillars of building a prosperous nation—along with ideology and the army. (Hu'i-suk 2010)

Communications are monitored and technologies are used to track behaviors of the population. According to Kim Hung-kwang, director of NK Intellectual Solidarity, IT offers; "novel and much more sophisticated instruments of surveillance and control over population". (Mansourov 2011)

Censorship in South Korea

The Republic of Korea—South Korea—is a much more open society but it does censor political comments on the Internet. South Korea uses a **real name system** that requires participants in online activities to provide their national identification number. More than 700,000 South Korean children have smartphones such as the Apple iPhone or an Android phone from Samsung that many of them use for gaming. The government bans Grand Theft Auto III and requires a lengthy review process for new games. Rather than submit to the approval process, Apple and Google are not selling any games to South Korean customers. (The Economist 2011)

According to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, South Korea is one of the few democracies that exercises substantial control of online communications. (Jillian York 2011) They have a board that reviews content for sex, gambling, and political statements.

Key Takeaways

Korean uses characters called jamo for sounds. There are nineteen commonly used jamo for consonants and six for vowels. The characters are grouped to form syllables with a space between them. ([11.2.1])

North and South Korea are separated by a strip of land about two miles wide that is not occupied by either side called the demilitarized zone (DMZ). It runs across Korea near 38 degrees of latitude which is also called the 38th parallel. [11.2.2]

After WWII, the Soviets controlled the North and the U.S. controlled the South. The North attacked. The UN voted to send troops to fight back. The US and UN troops drove the North Koreans all the way to the border with China. China entered the war and drove the UN troops back to the middle of the peninsula where the boarder is today. [11.2.3]

North Korea runs the only television and radio stations. TV and radio sets are sold that are preset to the government stations and the sets cannot be opened or changed without breaking the law. [11.2.4]

South Korea requires people to sign in with their national identity number [11.2.5]

South Korea does not allow political statements on the Internet. [11.2.6]

3 China – A Condensed History

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the historic name for China and its meaning. [11.3.1]
2. Identify the official language of China and the relationship between the characters

- used in the written language and how the language is spoken. [11.3.2]
3. Identify how to pronounce Chinese words that are written in English that begin with Z, Zh, X, or Q. [11.3.3]
 4. Identify accomplishments or events from the Qin, Han, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties. [11.3.4]
 5. Identify the issues and participants in the Boxer Rebellion. [11.3.5]
 6. Identify the historic and present-day relationship between the Kuomintang (KMT) and the Communist Party of China (CPC). [11.3.6]
 7. Identify the characteristics of the *Great Leap Forward* and the *Cultural Revolution* and who was the nation's leader. [11.3.7]
 8. Identify the first Chinese astronaut to ride a rocket into space and the significance of the rocket's name. [11.3.8]
 9. Identify the religions of China. [11.3.9]

China today is ruled by the communist party but its version of communism is shaped by its history and culture. China, like India, is one of the World's oldest civilizations and one of its all-time greatest. The official name of the country is People's Republic of China but its historic name is **Zhongguo** (中国).

Zhongguo is a combination of two words; zhong (中) and guo (国). Zhong means central and guo means city or state. It is sometimes translated as middle kingdom or used as a description of the central ruling state. (Origin of the Name of Zhongguo n.d.) [Link]

Language

There are six major languages in China. The official language of China is **Putonghua** that is based on the dialect of **Mandarin** used in Beijing as stated in Order of the President No. 37. In this official document, Article 15 specifically designates this language as the standard for information processing and information technology. (Law of the People's Republic of China on the Standard Spoken and Written Chinese Language 2001) [Link] The other languages are distributed geographically as shown in Figure 11.12.



Figure 11.12. Languages of China

The Chinese languages use complex characters that that represent ideas, context, and pronunciation clues. The symbols do not necessarily indicate how the word should be spoken so there are differing interpretations when those words or names are translated into English. Madarin uses variation in pitch to add meaning. A method of translating Chinese characters into the Latin alphabet is called **Pinyin**—pronouncing the sound—that uses accent marks to indicate the pitch to use. The characters for the concept might be completely different like the characters for mother 妈 and horse 马 but they both have the sound of *ma* except for the tone used to pronounce the *a*, as illustrated in Figure 11.13. (Mandarin Limited 2011)

Tones	Tone movement	Pinyin	Chinese character	English meaning
First Tone	5 —————→ 5	mā	妈	mother
Second Tone	4 —————→ 4 3 —————→ 3	má	麻	flex
Third Tone	2 —————→ 2 1 —————→ 1	mǎ	马	horse
Fourth Tone	1 —————→ 1	mà	骂	swear

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Fourth Tone	1 ————— 1 4 ————— 4	mà	骂	swear

Figure 11.13. Languages of China

There are thousands of Chinese characters and a typical newspaper might use three thousand of them while a well-educated Chinese could recognize twice that many.

Translation of Chinese words or names into Latin characters is not always direct. Some Chinese sounds are represented in by letters that have different sounds in English than they do in Chinese which makes it more difficult to pronounce them correctly. A chart of the Latin letters used in Chinese names and how they should be pronounced is shown in Figure 11.14. Each letter is pronounced separately. (Zhu 2005)

if you see	say underlined
a	<u>ah</u> , the sound when a doctor wants to see your throat
c	<u>cats</u> , now you know 'can' is really ts-ah-n!
e	<u>her</u> , without the 'r' sound (yes the British accent)
i	<u>he</u> , not 'eye'
o	<u>or</u> , without the 'r' sound (British accent again)
q	<u>chin</u> , e.g. 'quan' is chew-ah-n
u	<u>too</u> , not 'you'
x	<u>show</u>
z	<u>seeds</u>
zh	<u>drew</u>

Figure 11.14. Languages of China

For example, the Qin Dynasty would be pronounced ch-oo-e-n where the letter n is pronounced the same as in English.

Many older Chinese did not get a quality education and very few people in their generation speak English. The new generation is studying English. The British finance minister observed that within twenty years, China will have the most English-speaking people of any country in the world. (English beginning to be spoken here 2006)

History

The written history of China covers thousands of years but archeologists have found evidence of human activity in China from approximately 2.5 million years ago. (Archaeology 2000) [Link] The following abbreviated overview of China's history is intended to give you a sense of China's role in world events and how they affect China's view of the present and the future.

China's history can be divided into periods of time called **dynasties** when the rulers were from the same family.

Early Dynasties

Historical records begin with the **Xia dynasty** (pronounced ds-e-ah) that lasted from 2100 to 1600 BCE. The Xia dynasty was followed by the Shang (sh-ah-ng) dynasty (1600-1046 BCE) and the Zhou (dr-o-oo) Dynasty (1122-256 BCE) with intervening periods of shorter dynasties or fragmented rule that are not named here. In about 512 BCE, **Sun Tzu** (s-oo-n tz-oo) wrote *The Art of War* which is a book about military strategy that is still required reading in military academies in the East and West.

Qin Dynasty

Recent dynasties are better documented and have more influence on western history. China was brought under consolidated rule to form an empire in the **Qin dynasty** (ch-e-n) (221 BCE to 206 BCE). The first part of the **Great Wall** was built and the famous **Terra cotta army** of 7000 life-size soldiers was created to accompany the emperor in the afterlife, as shown in Figure 11.15.



Figure 11.15. Terracotta army from the Qin dynasty

Han Dynasty

The **Han dynasty** ruled for more than 400 years from 206 BCE to 220 CE. During this dynasty, the **Silk Route** was established over land across Asia to facilitate trade with the West. A dictionary of 9000 characters was written. A period of fragmented rule and other dynasties followed until an invasion from the north was successful.

Yuan Dynasty - Mongolians

China was dominated by Mongols from central Asia beginning with the invasion of the first Mongol emperor, Genghis Khan. His empire extended from the Pacific Ocean to the Caspian Sea. His sons expanded the empire until it became the largest empire in world history as shown in Figure 11.16.



Figure 11.16. Mongol empire

The conquest of China and an accompanying plague reduced the population from 120 million to about 60 million. The last Khan to rule the whole empire was Kublai Khan who declared himself to be the first of the **Yuan dynasty** in China (1271-1368). He tried to invade Japan from Korea twice but failed both times. (The Yuan Dynasty 2006) [[Link](#)] The second invasion was larger and involved approximately 900 ships (see Figure 11.17).



Figure 11.17. Ship of the Chinese invasion fleet

The invading army included mounted cavalry and an army equipped with explosives thrown from catapults. The Japanese were accustomed to fighting man-to-man and were no match for the invaders. Unexpectedly, the fleet was forced to withdraw on both occasions by typhoons that the Japanese called **kamikaze** or *divine wind* because the storms saved their country. (Delgado 2003) [Link] This term was later used to describe the suicide pilots of WW II who were told they would be the divine wind that would save the Japanese empire from the Americans.

Ming – Han Chinese

Following Kublia's death, the empire fragmented. The Mongols were expelled in 1368 by ethnic Chinese from central China called the **Han** who set up the **Ming dynasty** (1368-1644 CE) which is known for its blue and white porcelain, as shown in Figure 11.18.



Figure 11.18. Ming porcelain

During this dynasty, the capital was moved to Beijing and the great palace complex called the **Forbidden City** was built. It is surrounded by a moat and a wall that is thirty feet high. It is 2.6 million square feet and has a square for the gathering of 100,000 people, as shown in Figure 11.19. The names of the halls and buildings reflect the importance of harmony and balance such as the Hall of Supreme Harmony, the Hall of Preserving Harmony, and the palaces of Heavenly Purity and Earthly Tranquility.

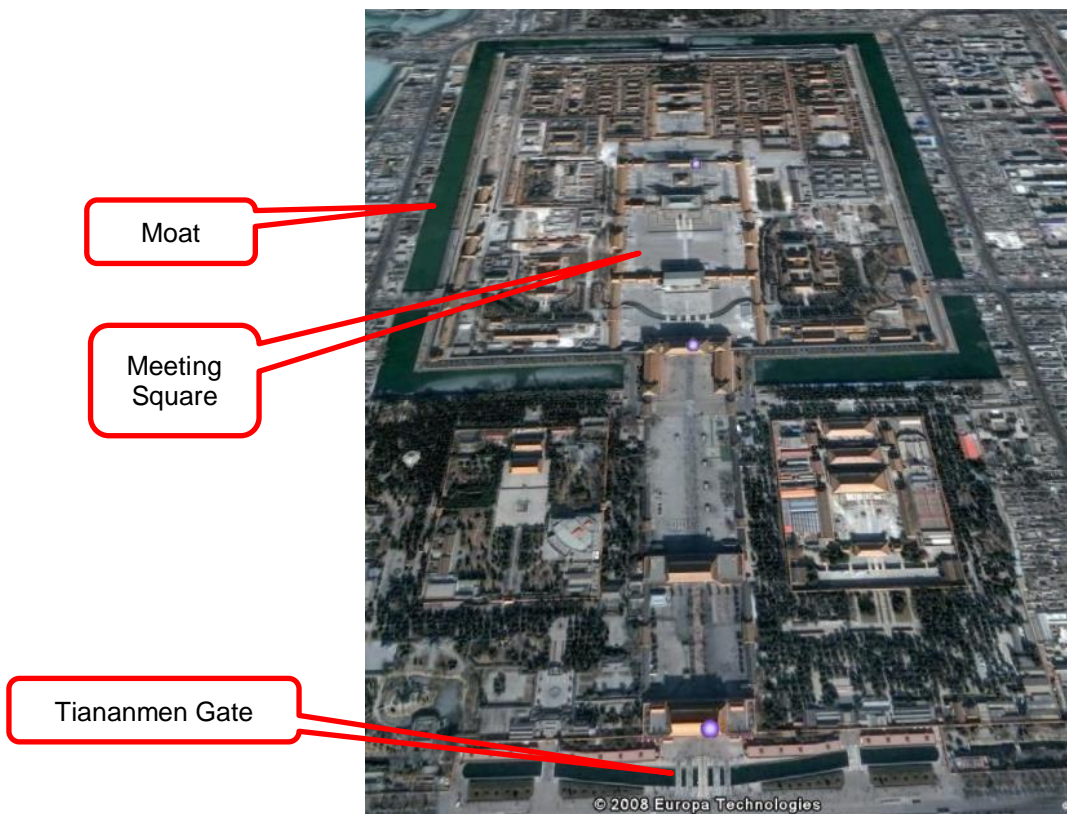


Figure 11.19. Forbidden City—Chinese Emperor's Palace

One of the gates into the Forbidden City shown at the bottom of Figure 11.15 is named the *Gate of Heavenly Peace* which is **Tiananmen** 天安门广场 in Chinese.

During the Ming dynasty, China built a fleet of 62 huge ships that sailed under the command of **Zheng He** (dr-e-ng he) all the way to Africa. (The Ming Dynasty (AD 1368-1644) 1999) These ships were much larger than those used by Europeans during the same period, as shown in Figure 11.20.

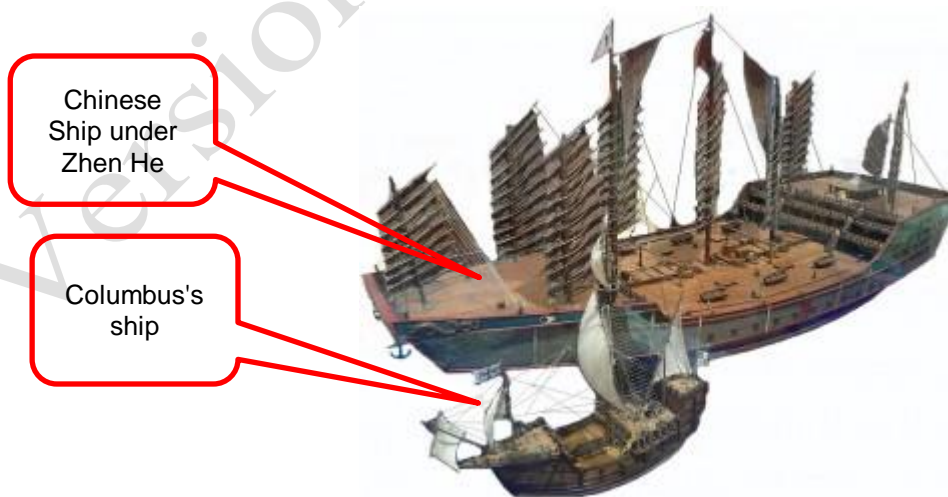


Figure 11.20. Chinese ship compared to Columbus' ship

At the height of the fleet's exploration, the official policy changed to one of isolation and the fleet was disbanded.

Qing – Manchurian Chinese

The Ming dynasty was replaced by Manchurians—an ethnic minority from Northern China—who established the **Qing** (ch-e-ng) **dynasty** that ruled until modern times (1644-1911 CE).

Opium Wars with the British East India Company

During the Qing dynasty, the British **East India Company (EIC)** wanted to expand into China but the Qing rulers limited trade with them to only one city—Canton—a major port in the south of China. The Chinese sold tea and silk to the British and tea became very popular in Great Britain where it remains a popular drink. The British didn't have much to trade that the Chinese wanted so they had to pay for the tea with silver. The EIC wanted to make a profit on both ends of the transaction and they found a very profitable commodity that the Chinese did want—opium—that could be grown in India. The EIC encouraged Indians to plant opium that they sold to China in exchange for tea and silk. When the Chinese objected that millions of their citizens had become addicted and tried to stop the trade, the EIC and the British government used force. Armed ships of the East India Company and the British Navy fought battles with the Chinese and defeated them during actions that are known as the first and second opium wars from 1839-1842 and 1856-1860 respectively.

As a result of defeat in these wars, China signed unfavorable treaties that made major concessions:

- The British could sell anything they wanted including opium
- Several more ports were open to trade
- Other western countries including the French, Americans, and Germans were granted similar rights
- The port of Hong Kong became British property
- Christian missionaries were allowed to enter the country

The Taiping Rebellion

The military defeat and forced trade in an addictive drug was humiliating for a people who saw themselves as the center of civilization. The Han Chinese were unhappy with their Manchurian rulers and their inability to deal with the foreigners. In 1851 a major rebellion by the Han Chinese broke out that lasted for 13 years until 1864 when the Han were defeated. The unsuccessful rebellion killed about 20 million people and further weakened the government. (Taiping Rebellion 2008)

The Boxer Rebellion

The Europeans extended their economic and religious influence until there was a popular uprising against foreigners in northern China near the capital of Beijing. Many of the Chinese fighters were members of the *Society of Right and Harmonious Fists* who used martial arts that were unfamiliar to westerners who called them **boxers**. The conflict was called the **Boxer Rebellion** and lasted from 1899 to 1901. The Qing government did not have the power or public support to deal with the rebellion which threatened foreign nationals and diplomats in Beijing. A combined force from eight nations intervened in China to suppress the rebellion and protect their trade, missionaries, and citizens. Their forces are shown in Figure 11.21.

Forces of the Eight-Nation Alliance			
(1900 Boxer Rebellion)			
Countries	Warships	Marines	Army
Japan	18	540	20,300
Russia	10	750	12,400
United Kingdom	8	2,020	10,000
France	5	390	3,130
United States	2	295	3,125
Germany	5	600	300
Italy	2	80	
Austria	1	75	
Total	51	4,750	49,255

Figure 11.21. Nations that invaded China

Republic of China – Kuomintang

Dissatisfaction with the Qing dynasty and foreign influence was widespread. The Qing dynasty lost control of the country in 1911 and two groups fought for control. One was the **Kuomintang (KMT)** under *Chiang Kai-shek* and the other was the **Communist Party of China (CPC)**. The KMT formed **The Republic of China (ROC)** and the communists formed the **People's Republic of China (PRC)**.

Japanese in WW II

The Japanese took advantage of the internal conflict in China. Prior to WWII, the Japanese controlled the major ports and large parts of eastern and northern China by 1941, as shown in Figure 11.22.



Figure 11.22. Japanese control of China

The KMT and CPC both fought the Japanese until the end of World War II. Following the war, the KMT and CPC resumed their struggle for domination. The KMT almost won but the communists escaped capture by retreating from the Southeast into the mountains in the North, 5,600 miles away. Of the 87,000 troops that began the retreat, less than 10,000 made it. The **Long March** took 368 days. (History Learning Site 2011) The CPC received aid from the Soviet Union and the ideals of communist equality were appealing to the majority of poor Chinese. The CPC under **Mao Zedong** succeeded in defeating the KMT under Chiang and forced the KMT to retreat to the large island of **Taiwan** off the coast of China which is still controlled by the ROC.

People's Republic of China – Communists

The CPC established the People's Republic of China (PRC) which was led by Mao. They insist that they are the only legitimate users of the ancient title of Zhongguo (central power). The PRC sought to restore China's self-respect and pushed development of modern arms. The first test of its army against foreigners was in Korea. In Korea a similar contest between communists in the north and non-communists in the south was going on which resulted in open warfare in 1950. The **United Nations**—a new post-war international peace organization—joined the war on the side of the south. The United States sent large numbers of troops and the combined forces pushed the North Koreans back north. Defeat of the north seemed likely when the UN took 135,000 prisoners and advanced to the Yalu River which is the border between Korea and China. The Chinese feared that this army would continue into China and attacked. The Chinese attack drove the UN troops all the way back to the 38th parallel which is a line of latitude that divides the country in half. U.S.

troops are still stationed in South Korea. This success against foreigners gave Mao great credibility with the Chinese people. He also instituted many reforms based on the political theories of communism.

In 1958, the area in front of the Tiananmen gate was enlarged to its present size to create **Tiananmen Square**. The square contains a 125-foot high monument to the heroes of communism and Mao's mausoleum was added after his death in 1976, as shown in Figure 11.23.



Figure 11.23. Mao's tomb and monument to the People's Heroes

Mao tried to force the industrialization of China too rapidly in a program called the **Great Leap Forward**. Mao announced a goal of producing more steel than Great Britain by 1968. He forced many Chinese to shift from growing food to producing industrial products such as steel. The resulting famine killed somewhere between 14 and 43 million people. The program lasted from 1958 to 1960 before it was abandoned. Any of today's leaders in China who are more than about 60 years old can remember this famine.

The mistakes of The Great Leap Forward weakened Mao's position in the party and economic control was taken away from him. Mao instituted a purge in 1966 of western influences called the **Cultural Revolution** that was directed against upper-class Chinese including anyone with an education. Many educated Chinese were abused and forced to work on farms to reacquaint them with peasant values. Opposition to Mao culminated in an assassination attempt that failed. This period of chaos lasted for ten years until his death in 1976. Any of today's leaders in China who are more than about 40 years old can remember this period of purges and chaos.

In spite of the failures of The Great Leap Forward and The Cultural Revolution, China made great progress technologically. China developed nuclear weapons and tested its first nuclear explosive in 1964. China does not disclose the number of nuclear warheads in its arsenal but it was estimated at approximately 150 in 2006. China has intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine launched missiles.

The Chinese space program is technologically advanced. The Chinese used a rocket named the **Long March 2F** to put a man named **Yang Liwei** in orbit in 2003—only the third country to do so—and hope to put a man on the moon by 2018. (China in Space 2008) [[Link](#)]



Figure 11.24. Yan Liwei, First Chinese astronaut

China has asked to be included in the International Space Station project but its membership has been blocked by the U.S. (China wants a role in space station 2007) [[Link](#)] In January 2007, they demonstrated that they could shoot down U.S. communications, GPS, and spy satellites by hitting one of their own weather satellites with a missile. (Chinese test missile obliterates satellite 2007) [[Link](#)] The 2008 Summer Olympics were held in China and they took advantage of the opportunity to demonstrate how far they had come technologically and economically. In 2010, China passed the U.S. in the total amount of energy consumed to become the largest energy producer in the world.

Religion

There are several religions in China. Some of them are more like philosophies of life and people often practice more than one at a time. The majority of Chinese follow a combination of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and Chinese folk religion.

Buddhism

Buddhism is a way of life that follows the set of teachings espoused by Gautama Buddha where one seeks enlightenment which is understanding of the true nature of reality. Siddhartha Gautama is recognized as the Supreme Buddha of our age. He lived in Nepal from about 563 to 483 BCE.

Taoism

Taoism is a set of philosophies and traditions about a way of life. Tao means *path* or *way*. It emphasizes

compassion, moderation, and humility.

Confucianism

Confucius lived in China from 551-479 BCE during the Han dynasty. "His teachings emphasized governmental morality, correctness of social relationships, justice, and sincerity." (Confucius 2008) [[Link](#)]

Chinese Folk Religion

Chinese folk religion is a combination of ancestor worship and Chinese mythology. It includes veneration of the sun, moon, earth, and heaven.

Christianity

Christianity may have spread to China in the first century CE but it was introduced again and spread by Europeans during the Qing dynasty. Christians were one of the targets of the Boxer Rebellion as an example of Western influence. Estimates of the number of Christians vary widely from the official government estimate of about 14 million to independent estimates that range from 40 to 130 million.

Communism

Communism is a political philosophy that demands dedication to its views. It treats organized religions as competitors for power over people's minds and suppresses their activities. Its adherents had a religious zeal that competed with religion for the hearts of the people. After the fall of the communist party in the Soviet Union in 1989, many thought that China's communist party might tolerate democratic reforms. On June 4, 1989 a demonstration in Tiananmen Square in favor of more freedom was put down by force. The estimated death toll ranges from 200 to 3,000. When the "People's" government killed its own people who wanted more freedom, many Chinese lost faith in communism.

Key Takeaways

The historic name of China is Zhong Guo which means central city or middle kingdom. [11.3.1]

The official language of China is Mandarin which is also called Putonghua. The written Chinese language consists of symbols that stand for objects and ideas. The symbols do not indicate how the words should be pronounced. The dialects of Chinese use the same characters but the spoken languages are different. [11.3.2]

When Chinese words are written in English, use the following pronunciations indicated by the underlined letters: [11.3.3]

- Z = seeds

- Zh = drew
- X = show
- Q = chin

Significant accomplishments or events, by dynasty: [11.3.4]

- Qin: Great Wall, Terracotta army
- Han: Silk route to the West, dictionary of 9000 characters
- Yuan: Large empire from Pacific to Eastern Europe, failed to take Japan
- Ming: Blue and white porcelain, built the Forbidden City palace, voyages of exploration to Middle East and Africa
- Qing: Fought opium wars with British, put down the Taiping rebellion, invaded by Western Powers during Boxer Rebellion, last dynasty

The Chinese rebelled against the foreigners and against Qing dynasty rulers over the importation of opium, forced trade, and acceptance of missionaries. They were invaded by the combined armies of Japan, Russia, UK, France, the US, Germany, Italy, and Austria. [11.3.5]

The Kuomintang (KMT) and the communists fought for control of China after the Qing dynasty fell. The KMT retreated to the island of Taiwan and the Communist Party of China (CPC) controls the mainland of China. [11.3.6]

China was led by Mao Zedong. He tried to force China to modernize during the *Great Leap Forward* which caused mass starvation. He regained power by mobilizing youth to purify the faithful communists during the Cultural Revolution. [11.3.7]

The Chinese space program has the ability to put people in space. The first Chinese astronaut was Yang Liwei who went into space in 2003. [11.3.8]

The religions of China are Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Folk Religion, and Christianity. The official government position is atheism. [11.3.9]

4 Censorship in China

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the date and issues involved in the demonstrations in Tiananmen Square. [11.3.1]
2. Identify the methods of censorship used to limit reporting of the military response to the Tiananmen Square protests. [11.3.2]
3. Identify the function of a computer firewall in most businesses. [11.3.3]
4. Identify how the Communist Chinese use firewalls to censor Internet communication. [11.3.4]

China is providing a model of how to allow millions of its people to use the Internet and still censor its content and their activities. The censorship consists of controlling access to the Internet beyond China's borders and activities within the country.

Tiananmen Square

As the Soviet Union's control of Eastern Europe was collapsing, hopes were high in China among its youth that a new day was also dawning in China. Some of China's leaders favored a similar increase of freedom in China, including the Communist Party General Secretary, Hu Yaobang. Yaobang was purged from the government by more conservative rulers. When he died of a heart attack, 100,000 Chinese gathered in Tiananmen Square to mourn him and ask for a state funeral on April 15, 1989. This gathering turned into a demonstration in favor of increased freedom, as shown in Figure 11.25. Notice a replica of the Statue of Liberty that is prominently displayed.



Figure 11.25. Tiananmen Square

Protesters demanded economic liberalization, democracy, media freedom, and freedom of speech. Foreign journalists took photos and made news reports that documented the protest. The protests lasted for seven weeks but the government would not grant their request to make reforms. The government called in the military and gave them orders to clear the square. The military moved in during the night armed with automatic weapons and tanks. The government censored local news coverage and tried to suppress foreign journalists but the journalists were able to record parts of it. Because of the censorship, estimates of the casualties vary widely from the official estimates of a few hundred killed to more than ten thousand. In the

West, the incident is called the Tiananmen Square massacre. In China, it is called the **June 4th incident**. Military leaders were divided on the use of the military against its own people. This restraint was captured in a dramatic video where a single man stops a column of tanks, as shown in figure 11.26. This video demonstrates the power of images to form lasting impressions of an event.



Figure 11.26. Protester versus tanks

There are two brave men involved in this event. One is the protestor who was unwilling to give in to force and the other is the tank commander who refused to run him over. This treatment of the people by their own government caused many of them to revise their commitment to communism as an ideal.

After the breakup of the Soviet Union, the resulting experiments with democracy in Russia did not produce immediate improvement in people's lives. This lesson was not lost on the Chinese and the pro-democracy forces lost some of their appeal. Instead, Chinese leaders have adopted some of the West's economic practices and have made significant improvements in their economy. Unlike the old Soviet Union which had to hide its failures behind an iron curtain, China is one of the fastest growing economies and invites comparisons with the West. However, the communist party leaders fear foreign influences that could destabilize the country and they exert control of what its people see and hear. They are old enough to remember the chaos of the Cultural Revolution and the killings in Beijing near Tiananmen Square.

The Great Firewall

The challenge that Chinese censors faces today is how to utilize the efficiencies of communication technologies while controlling what their people see and hear, especially on the Internet.

A barrier that is designed to protect people from the spread of fire is called a firewall, such as the barrier between an automobile engine compartment and the passenger compartment shown painted blue in Figure 11.27.



Figure 11.27. Firewall barrier protects passengers from engine fires

The term was adopted by the computer industry to describe a combination of software and physical circuits that protect a network of computers from dangers outside the network. Some systems use two firewalls. They place a computer that interacts directly with the Internet behind one firewall and then that computer communicates with the other computers in the network through a second firewall. This provides an extra layer of protection so that only one computer is compromised if the first firewall is penetrated, as shown in Figure 11.28. Notice this dangerous area in known as the DMZ which is a reference to the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea.

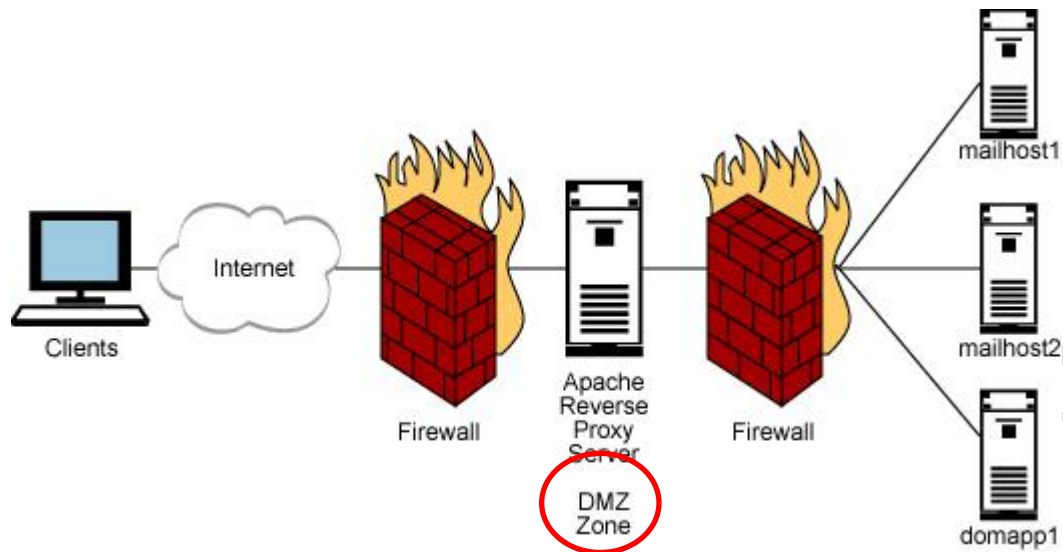


Figure 11.28. Computer firewall protects computers

The Chinese limit the connection between their country's computers and the rest of the world to a few locations that can be controlled and monitored. They use sophisticated firewall programs that scan each message for key words related to politics, religion, or other banned topics. The firewalls are programmed to block access to any sites that are not approved, as shown in Figure 11.29. This barrier to the influence of foreign ideas is known as the **Great Firewall of China**.

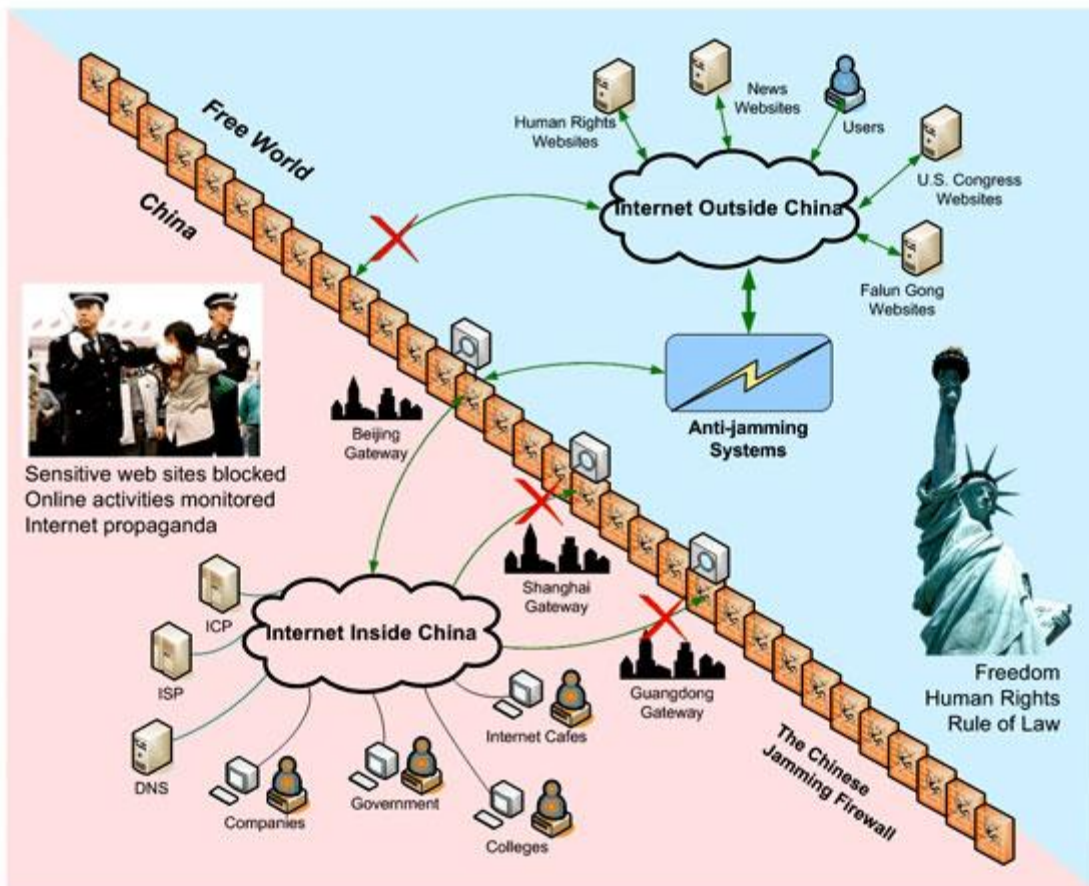


Figure 11.29. Firewalls at connection points filter communication

The computers within the country that handle mail and deliver websites are also heavily monitored.

Key Takeaways

The changes occurring in the Soviet Union gave many young Chinese students hope that they would have similar freedoms. A senior leader who favored reform was removed from office. When he died, students gathered in support of providing him with a state funeral. The government refused. The gathering turned into a rally in favor of more freedom that lasted for seven weeks from April 15 to June 4, 1989. [11.3.1]

The Chinese government banned foreign press and they made their move at night which limited video coverage and pictures. [11.3.2]

A computer firewall is software and/or hardware that filters information that passes through it. Most computer systems use firewalls to protect themselves from intruders. [11.3.3]

Governments can use firewalls to block access to unwanted websites or to examine e-mail for suspicious activity. [11.3.4]

5 Middle East

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the role of Al-Jazeera in reporting news from the Middle East. [11.5.1]
2. Identify the relationship between counterfeit cell phones and censorship. [11.5.2]
3. Identify the technologies used to connect to the Internet. [11.5.3]
4. Identify the four countries in the Middle East and North Africa that have the highest percentage of Internet use and the two with the lowest. [11.5.4]
5. Identify five types of social media and an example of each. [11.5.5]
6. Identify three types of social media used in the Arab Spring. [11.5.6]

Communications technologies have improved greatly since the June 4th incident in China that make it more difficult for governments to control what their people see and hear. The effect of these new technologies was apparent in the Middle East in 2011 in a series of protests that led to the downfall of governments in Tunisia and Egypt.

In this section, we review the role of communication technologies in the protests by people in the Middle East.

Communication Technologies

New developments in communication technologies make it more difficult for governments to control what their people see and hear.

Television

Television signals can be broadcast from satellites in geosynchronous orbits directly to small dish antenna on a rooftop, as shown in Figure 11.30.



Figure 11.30. Satellite TV antenna

This technology makes it much more difficult for a government to control a central source of

television news. In 1996, a satellite news channel named Al-Jazeera (The Island) was launched by the government of Qatar that provided news in Arabic. It became well-known after the 9/11 attacks when it broadcast videos provided by Osama bin Laden and the Taliban. Al-Jazeera's policy is to provide unbiased news to the people. The former director general of Al-Jazeera, Wadah Khanfar, explained that policy; (Greenslade 2011)

"In our search for a fixed pivotal point around which our editorial mission is centred we find nothing better than the people with their collective mind and their instinctive opposition to oppression, arbitrariness and corruption...

I learned from my experience as a reporter, and then as director of a media institution, an important basic fact: that we should always posit people at the centre of our editorial policy.

I don't say this simply to reiterate a beautiful slogan with which we decorate our literature or market our institutions. I truly believe this to be a moral commitment, a scientific approach and an essential interest."

As a result of this policy, many Arabs trust Al-Jazeera more than news stations run by their own governments or by Westerners such as the BBC. This gives reporters from Al-Jazeera better access to news stories in the region. They often have better video segments of events in Arab countries and other news services pay for their use.

Cell phones with cameras

In 1989 in China, video images of protests were available from a few news agencies that could afford video cameras and they did not have a fast way to get the video out of the country past the government censors. New technologies have changed that and ironically, the Chinese have played an important role.

Manufacturers of cell phones have combined the functions onto computer circuits called **chips**. A set of chips that do all of the necessary functions of a device is a **chip set**, as shown in Figure 11.31.



Figure 11.31. Chips in a cell phone

In 2004, the Taiwanese (non-communist Chinese on Taiwan) electronics firm MediaTek started selling a chipset for cell phones that had the same features as brand-name phones. In 2004, MediaTek sold 3 million chipsets. By 2010, it was selling 500 million chipsets a year. Nearly half of those chipsets went to companies in communist China called **shanzhai** where cellphones were made cheaply by not paying royalties to the designers of the phones. A counterfeit cell phone with Internet access and a built-in camera could be manufactured for as little as \$20 and sold for as little as \$50. (Lindsay 2011)

Cheap cell phones with cameras and Internet connections became readily available throughout the Middle East, Africa, and other developing countries where they often appear in protest rallies, as shown in Figure 11.32.



Figure 11.32. Cell phone with camera

Internet connection

Connection to the Internet can be accomplished using several different technologies:

- Copper telephone lines—traditional telephone lines can be used if the parties are only a few miles from the main access point
- Coaxial Cable—wires that consist of a central copper wire surrounded by insulation and a metal mesh that are also used for television signals
- EM waves from transmission towers—covers a few miles
- EM waves from cell towers—uses the same equipment as the cell phone service
- EM waves from satellites

Governments can control centralized connections but the existence of direct two-way communications with satellites makes it possible for some users to connect in spite of government efforts. Internet connection has increased dramatically in the Middle East and the Muslim nations of North Africa in the last decade as shown in Figure 11.33.

Internet Usage and Population Statistics

<u>MIDDLE EAST</u>	Population (2011 Est.)	Users, in Dec/2000	Internet Usage, Latest Data	% Population (Penetration)
Israel	7,473,052	1,270,000	5,263,146	70.4 %
United Arab Emirates	5,148,664	735,000	3,555,100	69.0 %
Qatar	848,016	30,000	563,800	66.5 %
Palestine (West Bk.)	2,568,555	35,000	1,379,000	53.7 %
Bahrain	1,214,705	40,000	649,300	53.5 %

Oman	3,027,959	90,000	1,465,000	48.4 %
Iran	77,891,220	250,000	36,500,000	46.9 %
Saudi Arabia	26,131,703	200,000	11,400,000	43.6 %
Kuwait	2,595,628	150,000	1,100,000	42.4 %
Morocco	31,968,361	100,000	13,213,000	41.3 %
Tunisia	10,629,186	100,000	3,600,000	33.9 %
Lebanon	4,143,101	300,000	1,201,820	29.0 %
Jordan	6,508,271	127,300	1,741,900	26.8 %
Egypt	82,079,636	450,000	20,136,000	24.5 %
Syria	22,517,750	30,000	4,469,000	19.8 %
Algeria	34,994,937	50,000	4,700,000	13.4 %
Yemen	24,133,492	15,000	2,349,000	09.7 %
Libya	6,597,960	10,000	353,900	05.4 %
Iraq	30,399,572	12,500	860,400	02.8 %
Gaza Strip	1,657,155	n/a	0n/a	n/a

Figure 11.33. Internet use in the Middle East and North Africa

Social Media

Widespread use of cheap cell phones that are capable of taking pictures and connecting to the Internet created a network of communication between individuals that is known collectively as **social media**. There are several types of social media: (Nations 2011)

- **Social networking**—interacting with friends, joining groups and having discussions, e.g. Facebook, twitter
- **Wikis**—adding and editing articles, e.g. Wikipedia
- **Social bookmarking**—tagging websites and viewing websites tagged by others, e.g. Del.icio.us
- **Social news**—voting for articles and commenting on them, e.g. Digg
- **Photo and video sharing**—sharing videos and pictures and commenting on them, e.g. YouTube, Flickr

The Internet provides the means for gathering and disseminating information and social media makes it possible to connect and coordinate the activities of large groups of people spread across a country. In Egypt and Tunisia, demonstrations as shown in Figure 11.34, were coordinated using these technologies.



Figure 11.34.Demonstration in Egypt

Unlike the demonstration in Tiananmen Square, videos and information flowed in spite of government censorship. This time, when journalists from Al-Jazeera were banned, the news organization appealed to the people to provide them with news and images. Protests in favor of less corrupt government and more freedom spread rapidly from Tunisia to other countries in the Middle East. The hope for a peaceful transition to a free society was called the Arab Spring. The former minister of state communications for Egypt said; "The most important outcome of the Arab Spring has been the destruction of the old media regime". A protester explained the role of social media; "We use Facebook to schedule the protests, Twitter to coordinate and YouTube to tell the world" (Boughelaf 2011)

Key Takeaways

Al-Jazeera is a television news channel owned by Qatar that has a policy of providing unbiased news reporting. It is more trusted than government run TV stations in most Arab countries and has better access to news in that area than Western news services. [11.5.1]

Cheap chip sets from Taiwan are used by counterfeiters operating in mainland China to make cheap cell phones that have cameras and Internet connectivity. The presence of thousands of cameras in cell phones at a protest or other event makes it much more difficult to censor images. [11.5.2]

Internet connections can be made over copper phone lines, coaxial cable, or EM waves from transmission towers, cell towers, or satellites. [11.5.3]

The four countries in the Middle East and North Africa with the highest percentage of Internet

users are Israel (70%), UAE (69%), Qatar (67%), and Palestine (54%). The lowest two are Iraq (2.8%) and Libya (5.4%) [11.5.4]

Five types of social media and examples are: [11.5.5]

- Social networking—interacting with friends; Facebook, twitter
- Wikis—adding and editing articles; Wikipedia
- Social bookmarking—tagging websites; Del.icio.us
- Social news—voting for articles and commenting on them; Digg
- Photo and video sharing—sharing images and commenting on them; YouTube, Flickr

Protestors in Egypt and other Arab countries involved in the Arab Spring used Facebook to schedule protests, Twitter to coordinate them, and YouTube to show them to the world. [11.5.6]

6 Censorship in the United States

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the freedoms of speech that are guaranteed in the first article of the constitution and the first amendment to the constitution. [11.6.1]
2. Identify the types of restrictions that the FCC can impose on radio and television broadcasts and why they do not apply to cable television. [11.6.2]
3. Identify the role of sponsors in censorship. [11.6.3]
4. Identify efforts by the U.S. government to suppress reports of its activities in Iraq and Afghanistan by Al Jazeera. [11.6.4]
5. Identify how streaming video technology provides video and television over the Internet. [11.6.5]
6. Identify the content and time period covered by the Pentagon Papers and why they were significant. [11.6.6]
7. Identify the technology used to copy the Pentagon Papers and compare it to today's technologies for copying documents. [11.6.7]
8. Identify the reason that Daniel Ellsberg was not convicted. [11.6.8]
9. Identify the activities of WikiLeaks and the government's reaction to release of secret documents. [11.6.9]

Freedom of speech and the press are founding principles of the United States of America but these freedoms should not be taken for granted. Governments made of normal people will always want to hide their mistakes or keep information hidden from the public that does not agree with its agenda.

Bill of Rights

The first amendment to the U.S. constitution assures freedom of speech and peaceful assembly:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to

assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. (*U.S. National Archives & Records Administration n.d.*)

This freedom is not without limits. The courts have ruled that speech may be limited on the basis of the *harm principle* such as hate speech or yelling "fire" in a crowded room or the *offense principle* in cases involving pornography.

Broadcast Television

From the 1950s until recently, most Americans watched television that was broadcast from tall towers and received on much smaller antennas. It has been censored in several ways.

Government censorship

Television and radio stations broadcast their signals on a particular size of EM wave. To prevent overlap of stations, the EM wave sizes are allocated by the government and television stations must obtain a license. If the station violates government rules it can lose its license and its permission to broadcast. The licenses are controlled by the **Federal Communications Commission (FCC)**. The FCC supports the freedom to express political opinions and their official policy is; "the public interest is best served by permitting free expression of views" with the exception of those that involve a "clear and present danger of serious substantive evil". (Federal Communications Commission n.d.)

The U.S. courts have determined that "indecent material" may be restricted and the FCC censors content between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. when children are likely to be watching. The courts have ruled that "obscene material" may be banned. Interpretation of these terms has evolved. In 1952, censors would not allow use of the word "pregnant" regarding Lucille Ball. In 1956, Elvis Presley hip movement was banned from the Ed Sullivan Show and in the 1960s women could not show belly buttons. More recently, in 2004, during a live concert at Super Bowl XXXVIII, Janet Jackson's breast was shown for less than a second during the halftime show with the nipple covered by a star-shaped ornament, as shown in Figure 11.35.



Figure 11.35. Janet Jackson at Super Bowl XXXVIII

In reaction to the public outcry over the incident, the FCC fined the network and its member stations \$550,000. The network appealed the fine and it was overturned by the Federal Appeals court in 2011. (Fox Sports 2011)

The FCC does not consider the depiction of murder to be as obscene or indecent as a woman's nipple. The average child in the U.S. sees about 8,000 murders depicted on television by the time he or she finishes elementary school. (The Sourcebook for Teaching Science 2007)

Censorship by Sponsors

Most broadcast television companies make money by displaying advertising from other companies called sponsors. If a sponsor is concerned that the content of a show will hurt sales of products, it can threaten to pull their advertising which can induce the producers of the shows to censor content. For example, in 1959, a dramatic series named Playhouse 90 had an episode on the Nazi war crimes trials in which an actor used the term "gas ovens" to characterize the extermination chambers in which Nazis used poison gas to kill prisoners. One of the sponsors of the show was the American Gas Association. The sponsor argued that the phrase was inaccurate and detrimental to their product because they were not "ovens" and the gas used was not natural gas (methane). The producers did not change the dialog which was from trial transcripts but when the phrase was spoken by the actor, the sound was turned off.

The influence of sponsors is often more important than the FCC. Approximately 500,000 people complained about the inappropriate display of Janet Jackson's breast during the Super Bowl and the NFL is reported to have refunded \$10 million dollars to AOL, the sponsor of the halftime show. (Events-in-Music 2010)

Cable Television

Television programming can be provided over special wires called cables that are designed to carry several different channels at once. The cable consists of a central wire, surrounded by an insulator, which is surrounded by a wire mesh. The centerline of each of these layers is along the same axis and this type of cable is called a **co-axial cable**. This programming is usually called **cable television**.

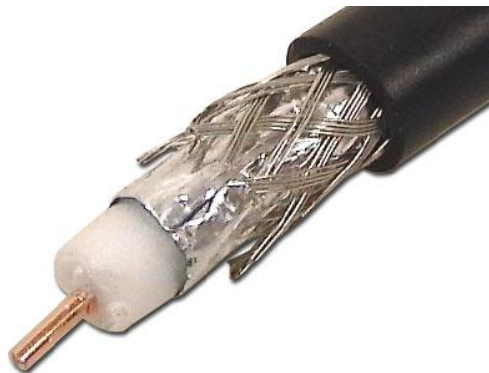


Figure 11.36. Coaxial cable

Homeowners pay a subscription fee for this service and usually choose which programs to buy. The FCC is charged with protecting the public from the airing of indecent programming "by means of radio communication". Because cable television does not broadcast EM waves, the FCC has chosen not to censor cable television but they require that the viewers be warned concerning the content of the show.

Content providers sell programming to the cable networks and the cable networks decide which shows to make available to their viewers. Viewers are usually served by only one or two cable networks so if a network chooses not to make a show available it can be a form of censorship. An example of this practice is the limited availability of the Al-Jazeera news program.

Al Jazeera has an English language division that is available world-wide. Many of its English-speaking viewers value it because it often has better coverage of events in the Arab world than is available from other western news providers. Al Jazeera provided reports and videos from inside Iraq and Afghanistan during the U.S. invasions that contradicted official U.S. government versions of events, especially about the killing of unarmed civilians. Although the U.S. government claimed that it was attempting to bring freedom to the region, it tried to suppress Al Jazeera. Al Jazeera reports that their offices in Afghanistan were bombed in 2001 and a hotel from which Al Jazeera was operating in Iraq was shelled in 2003. (Scahill 2011) Al Jazeera's correspondent in Falluja, Ahmed Mansour, reported live on the air in 2004; (Scahill 2011)

Last night we were targeted by some tanks, twice...but we escaped. The US wants us out of Falluja, but we will stay.

On April 9 Washington demanded that Al Jazeera leave the city as a condition for a cease-fire. The network refused. Mansour wrote that the next day;

American fighter jets fired around our new location, and they bombed the house where we had spent the night before, causing the death of the house owner Mr. Hussein Samir. Due to the serious threats we had to stop broadcasting for few days because every time we tried to broadcast the fighter jets spotted us we became under their fire.

A few days later, according to a report in Britain's *Daily Mirror*, President Bush suggested to Tony Blair that the headquarters of Al Jazeera in Qatar be bombed. During those times, Al Jazeera was only available in Arabic. In 2006, they hired veteran reporters from CNN and the BBC and began reporting in English.

Canadians petitioned their government to provide **Al Jazeera English (AJE)** and the channel became available to Canadians on May 4, 2010. (CBC News 2010) Because of the government's criticism, few cable providers in the U.S. offer the channel. Recently, the U.S. government's attitude has changed. Because of Al Jazeera's coverage of the Arab Spring and the revolts in Libya and Syria, the U.S. government is now more

supportive of AJE.

Streaming video and Television

High speed Internet connections are becoming more common in the U.S. and they are increasingly used to show videos. Older video technologies required that the video file be downloaded and then played. This method took time and replay of the video was often delayed. A newer method recognizes that display of live video without delay is more important than video quality. It can reduce the quality when necessary to keep up with the action in the video. This new method is called **streaming**. If a television show is not carried by cable networks, it might be available as a live stream on the Internet, as shown in Figure 11.37.

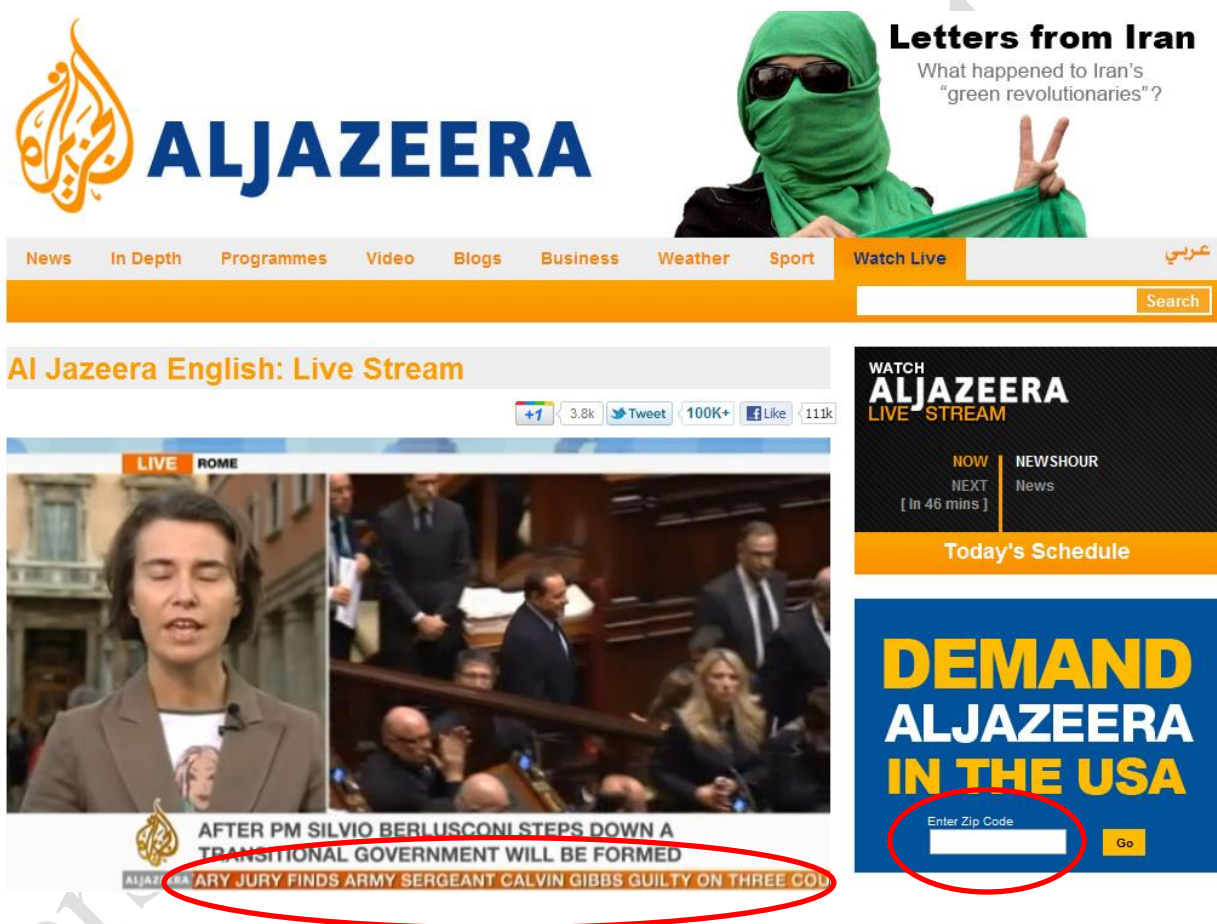


Figure 11.37. Al Jazeera live on the Internet

Notice that the website is collecting viewer requests to provide Al Jazeera on cable television. There is also a banner announcing the result of a trial of army sergeant Calvin Gibbs who was convicted on fifteen counts of murdering Afghan civilians and taking body parts as trophies. The Al Jazeera coverage of the story includes a picture of one of Gibb's team members posing with a dead boy as if he were a trophy while western news services do not.

Government Secrets

It is difficult to determine when a document that is marked secret is a legitimate secret or simply a cover up of an error, criminal activity, or lie. Two examples provide insight to this issue.

The Pentagon Papers

During the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War (1950-1975) the government's public version of events in the war was very different from reality. The Secretary of Defense wanted to have an accurate history of events and he ordered an internal study officially titled *United States – Vietnam Relations, 1945-1967; A Study Prepared by the Department of Defense* that was later known as the **Pentagon Papers**. The report consists of about 3,000 pages of analysis and 4,000 pages of official documents. Fifteen official copies of the report were printed.

By 1969, the photocopier, as shown in Figure 11.38, was a standard piece of office equipment for large offices. The presence of photocopiers made it possible to steal the content of a document by making copies of it while leaving its owners with all of their original copies.



Figure 11.37. Al Jazeera live on the Internet

A government employee, Daniel Ellsberg, decided to make a copy of the report using a photocopy machine at an advertising agency. (Daly 2010)

With the idea of divulging the study's contents, he began secretly photocopying in October 1969. It was a daunting task. With help from a friend, Ellsberg developed a system. He put as many pages as he could carry in his briefcase at Rand's office in Santa Monica, California. At the end of the day, he would wave to the security guard and leave with the briefcase, then head to another friend's advertising agency, where he had permission to use the Xerox machine all night. The technology of 1969-era photocopying required Ellsberg to lay each page face-down on the glass plate, push a button, wait, remove the original, replace it with another, push the button again, and so on. Each night he would wrap up, catch some sleep, and return that night's batch to Rand.

Ellsberg provided some of the pages to the New York Times and the Washington Post which published excerpts. A Washington Post editorial described the content. (The Washington Post 1971)

The story that unfolds is not new in its essence—the calculated misleading of the public, the purposeful manipulation of public opinion, the stunning discrepancies between public pronouncements and private plans—we had bits and pieces of all that before. But not in such incredibly damning form, not with such irrefutable documentation.

The government ordered the newspapers to cease publication. The newspapers appealed to the Supreme Court citing their first amendment rights. On June 29, US Senator Mike Gravel entered 4,000 pages of the documents into the congressional record. Article I, section 6, the US Constitution protects the free speech of Senators and Representatives. (Constitution of the United States: A Transcription n.d.)

The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

Book publishers did not want to risk the wrath of the government by publishing the papers but one publishing company did. It was Beacon Press, the publishing arm of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations. (Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations 2011)

Failing to block distribution of the report, the Nixon administration sought to discredit Ellsberg. They broke into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist seeking embarrassing information about him. Another break-in by Nixon's operatives three months later at the Democratic National Headquarters at a building known as the **Watergate** was uncovered and led to the resignation of President Nixon.

Ellsberg was prosecuted by the government under the Espionage Act of 1917 (Cornell Law School n.d.) Although Ellsberg was guilty of disclosing classified materials he was not convicted. By the time the case came to trial, the Nixon operatives had been convicted of the Watergate break-ins and their illegal burglary of Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office was also revealed during their trial. The FBI had wiretapped Ellsberg without a warrant but claimed that they lost the tapes when asked to produce them. Due to the misconduct of the government, the judge declared a mistrial and dismissed the charges against Ellsberg.

The Pentagon Papers disclosed a pattern of lying to the public and hiding information from congress that spanned four presidencies—two republican and two democrat. After the release of the Pentagon Papers and the revelations of the Nixon administration's burglaries, many Americans lost their trust in the government's honesty.

WikiLeaks

In 1969, a 7,000 page report filled 47 boxes and took days to copy on a photocopier. Computer technologies and digital memory devices make it much easier to copy documents today. The Pentagon Papers are now

available as computer files that take 1.4 gigabytes of memory. (National Archives n.d.) To copy the report today would take a few minutes and it could be transported past security in someone's pocket on a flash drive or sent as an e-mail attachment.

The Internet has made it possible for people who have access to secret government documents to share them world-wide. A site that is dedicated to this purpose is WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks describes itself on its home page: (WikiLeaks n.d.)

WikiLeaks is a not-for-profit media organisation. Our goal is to bring important news and information to the public. We provide an innovative, secure and anonymous way for sources to leak information to our journalists (our electronic drop box). One of our most important activities is to publish original source material alongside our news stories so readers and historians alike can see evidence of the truth. We are a young organisation that has grown very quickly, relying on a network of dedicated volunteers around the globe. Since 2007, when the organisation was officially launched, WikiLeaks has worked to report on and publish important information. We also develop and adapt technologies to support these activities.

WikiLeaks has sustained and triumphed against legal and political attacks designed to silence our publishing organisation, our journalists and our anonymous sources. The broader principles on which our work is based are the defence of freedom of speech and media publishing, the improvement of our common historical record and the support of the rights of all people to create new history. We derive these principles from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In particular, Article 19 inspires the work of our journalists and other volunteers. It states that everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. We agree, and we seek to uphold this and the other Articles of the Declaration.

Examples of the types of documents that it has provided are:

- Guantanamo Files—779 classified prisoner dossiers
- British National Party membership and contacts list—right wing British party
- U.S. Embassy Diplomatic Cables—250,000 messages regarding U.S. foreign activities
- Iraq war logs—391,832 reports as told by U.S. soldiers
- Afghanistan war logs—documents related to the war in Afghanistan
- Attack on Reuters news staff—video from a helicopter gunship showing the killing of news reporters and civilians

Release of the Guantanamo files revealed another attack on Al Jazeera. An Al Jazeera journalist was arrested and held for six years at Guantanamo. (Cobain 2011)

An al-Jazeera journalist was held at Guantánamo for six years partly in order to be interrogated about the Arabic news network, the files disclose. Sami al-Hajj, a Sudanese cameraman, was detained in Pakistan after working for the network in Afghanistan after 9/11, and flown to the prison camp where he was allegedly beaten and sexually assaulted.

His file makes clear that one of the reasons he was sent to Guantánamo was "to provide information on ... the al-Jazeera news network's training programme, telecommunications equipment, and

newsgathering operations in Chechnya, Kosovo and Afghanistan, including the network's acquisition of a video of UBL [Osama bin Laden] and a subsequent interview with UBL".

The file shows that the camp authorities were convinced that al-Hajj was an al-Qaida courier who had provided funds for a charity in Chechnya suspected of having links with Bin Laden.

However, the contents of the file also appear to support complaints made by al-Hajj to his lawyer, Clive Stafford Smith, that during his first 100-plus interrogations he was never once questioned about the allegations he faced, and that he eventually demanded that he be questioned about what he was supposed to have done wrong.

Stafford Smith believes the US military authorities were attempting to force al-Hajj to become an informer against his employers.

People who shared information with the government assuming that their identity would be protected can be placed at risk by releasing secret documents. Editing parts of written documents to make them unreadable is called **redaction**. WikiLeaks published versions of the U.S. embassy diplomatic files in which sensitive information that might identify informants was scrambled using a secret code. The code was provided to the Guardian—a British newspaper. Because of a misunderstanding about the technology, one of the Guardian's reporters published the password to the secret code in a book, making them readable by everyone. This incident hurt the credibility of WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks was able to withstand attacks and threats by governments but it proved to be vulnerable to attacks by banks. After the release of the details of the embassy cables, financial institutions refused to process payments to WikiLeaks and it ran out of money and closed operations. (Wikileaks n.d.)

The source of the secret embassy documents was Bradley Manning, a U.S. Army soldier who was arrested in May 2010. He is awaiting trial and his treatment has caused an additional embarrassment to the government. Even though he has not been convicted of a crime, he was held in solitary confinement for 23 hours a day, checked every five minutes under a "prevention of injury order" and stripped naked at night except for a smock. The treatment prompted 250 legal experts, including one of President Obama's law professors, to sign a letter of protest. (Pilkington 2011)

Manning was held in solitary confinement for the first eight months. Manning's treatment is being investigated by the United Nations. A UN expert reports; (The Talk Radio News Service 2011)

...solitary confinement is permissible in some instances, such as for protective reasons or other short term specific purposes, but is otherwise a inhuman punishment. ... instances of pre-trial solitary confinement were especially of concern.

Its used mostly as a way to extort confessions or information leading to the prosecution of others. If this is used to coerce the will of a person in detention it can amount, depending on the severity, to either cruel and degrading treatment or to torture itself.

Ellsberg's Advice

On the 40th anniversary of the Pentagon Papers, Daniel Ellsberg offers the following advice to people like himself who have access to documents that demonstrate that the government is lying to its people;

Don't make my mistake. Don't do what I did. Don't wait until a new war has started in Iran, until more bombs have fallen in Afghanistan, in Pakistan, Libya, Iraq or Yemen. Don't wait until thousands more have died, before you go to the press and to Congress to tell the truth with documents that reveal lies or crimes or internal projections of costs and dangers. Don't wait 40 years for it to be declassified, or seven years as I did for you or someone else to leak it.

The personal risks are great. But a war's worth of lives might be saved.

Self-censorship

Censorship is often imposed by governments on the public but another form of censorship is widespread in the U.S. People can choose to voluntarily watch news programs that are filtered to remove information that does not agree with their point of view. In some cases, opinions are reported as if they are news. If programs that use these practices are the only source of news, the people who watch them developed an inaccurate, biased view of world events that is as bad as if a totalitarian government controlled the content. It is vitally important to a democracy to base its dialog and decisions on accurate facts. As Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan once said; "Everyone is entitled to his own opinion, but not his own facts."

Key Takeaways

The first article of the constitution protects congressmen and senators from having to answer for what they say. The first amendment prohibits the abridging of the freedom of speech or of the press. [11.6.1]

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) can restrict content of radio and television that has indecent material or ban obscene material. Political speech is allowed unless there is a clear and present danger of serious substantive evil. Because cable television is a subscription service, the FCC has chosen to interpret its mandate narrowly to include broadcast EM waves only. [11.6.2]

If a program is paid for by sponsors, they can influence the program's producers to censor content that might hurt sales. [11.6.3]

The U.S. government has attacked Al Jazeera staff and offices in Iraq and Afghanistan, killing a journalist and imprisoning another. Files released by WikiLeaks showed that a cameraman was held and tortured for six years at Guantanamo. [11.6.4]

Streaming technology makes it possible for video and television programs to be provided over the Internet without censorship by local governments. [11.6.5]

The Pentagon Papers are an internal history of the U.S. actions related to the Vietnam war. They show a pattern of lying to the public and congress that spanned four presidencies from both parties. [11.6.6]

The pentagon papers were copied on a photocopier where each page had to be placed in the

machine by hand. It took days to copy the 7,000 pages. Digital copies can be made in minutes, stored on portable devices like flash drives, and distributed world-wide on the Internet. [11.6.7]

Daniel Ellsberg was not convicted because of misconduct by the government. The government broke into his psychiatrist's office and wiretapped his phones without warrants, and then "lost" the evidence. [11.6.8]

WikiLeaks distributed secret government documents, including embassy documents provided by Bradley Manning. The key to unscrambling the redacted portions of the documents was released by a reporter that revealed names or sources. The government is punishing Manning with harsh imprisonment even before his trial and WikiLeaks is shut down because banks have stopped processing its financial transactions. [11.6.9]

Key Terms

Arab spring

Protests in favor of greater freedom and democracy in the Arab world that began in 2011 in Tunisia

Al Jazeera English (AJE)

News service based in Qatar, English language division

armistice

truce or cease-fire

Berlin wall

guarded barrier separating the Soviet controlled portion of Berlin and the portion controlled by the Western allies

Boxer Rebellion

uprising against western influence in 1899-1901

boxers

western term for Chinese fighters who used martial arts

cable television

programming provided by coaxial cable instead of broadcast EM waves

censorship

removal of unwanted content

chips

integrated computer circuits

chip set

group of chips that accomplish a goal such as providing the functions of a cell phone

coaxial cable

central wire surrounded by a layer of insulation, a wire mesh, and another layer of insulation

Communist Party of China (CPC)

ruling party in China except for Taiwan

Cultural Revolution

period of chaos resulting from an effort by Mao to restore patriotic zeal

demilitarized zone (DMZ)

unoccupied land between North and South Korea

dynasty

rule by a sequence of related family members

East India Company (EIC)

British trading company

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

U.S. government agency that controls broadcast radio and television content

Forbidden City

palace complex in Beijing

Great Firewall of China

system of computer barriers between communist China and the rest of the Internet

Great Leap Forward

program by Mao to industrialize China

Great Wall

wall or earthen barrier across northern regions of China

Han

ethnic group mainly in southern China

Han dynasty

rule by the Han from 206 BCE to 220 CE

Hangul

Korean written language

hanja

Chinese characters used in Korean writing

iron curtain

guarded border across Europe during the Cold War

jamo

characters in the Korean language

June 4th incident

Chinese term for the Tiananmen Square massacre

kamikaze

means divine wind—name for typhoons that saved Japan from the Mongols and for suicide pilots in WWII

Kuomintang (KMT)

non-communist Chinese political party that formerly ruled most of China but is now in Taiwan

Long March

historic retreat of 9000 kilometers by the CPC from the KMT led by Mao

Long March 2F

name of the rocket used to launch the first Chinese man into space

Mandarin

official dialect of China

Mao Zedong

revolutionary leader of communist China

Ming dynasty

restored rule by the Han after the Mongols were driven out

People's Republic of China

official name of the communist government of China

Pentagon Papers

internal history of the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War

pinyin

method of pronouncing Chinese characters in Mandarin

photo and video sharing

posting images that can be viewed by friends or anyone

Putonghua

official language of China also known as Mandarin

Qin dynasty

consolidated region into an empire 221 BCE to 206 BCE

Qing dynasty

last dynasty in China from 1644 to 1911

real name system

Users of the Internet must use valid government identification

redaction

editing a document to remove sensitive information

Republic of China

name of the Chinese government on Taiwan

shanzhai

manufacturers of counterfeit goods in communist China

silk route

trade route over land from China to Europe and the Black Sea

social bookmarking

tagging and sharing website addresses with comments

social media

network of communication between individuals

social networking

interacting with friends, forming groups

social news

voting and commenting on articles

streaming

transmission of video files via the Internet without pause

Sun Tzu

author of The Art of War

Taiwan

large island near mainland China. Home of the ROC

terra cotta army

life-size pottery statues of 7000 soldiers

Tiananmen Square

large plaza in Beijing outside the Forbidden City

United Nations

organization of nations created after WWII to preserve the peace

Watergate

name of a building complex and also the scandal resulting in Nixon's resignation

WikiLeaks

organization dedicated to making secret documents available on the Internet

Xia dynasty

earliest dynasty 2100-1800 BCE

Yang Liwei

first Chinese launched into space by the Chinese space program

Yuan dynasty

Mongol rule

Zheng He

admiral of exploration fleet in from 1405-1433

Zhongguo

alternative name for China that means central state

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