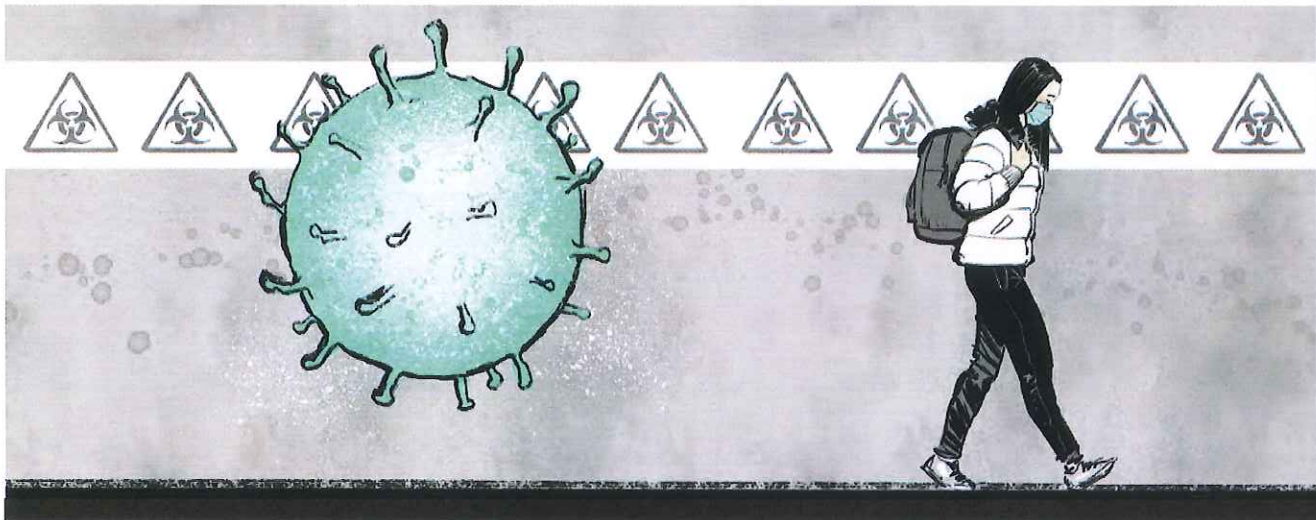




## INTERNATIONAL COVID-19

– ALARMING VIRUS IS MAKING ITS WAY AROUND THE GLOBE



The adventure of a lifetime! No doubt that's what Quebecers Diane and Bernard Menard hoped for when they boarded the *Diamond Princess* cruise ship on January 20. The 3700 passengers and crew were departing from Yokohama, Japan. They were embarking on a 14-day ocean voyage to China, Vietnam, and Taiwan.

The Menards' dream trip would soon turn into a nightmare. On January 25, an 80-year-old passenger was whisked off the boat when it arrived in Hong Kong. At a hospital she was diagnosed with COVID-19. It's a potentially dangerous – and highly contagious – strain of a family of diseases called coronaviruses.

### A BAD COLD – OR MUCH WORSE?

Coronaviruses cause diseases in birds and mammals. They can also cause common colds in humans. The viruses primarily spread when infected people cough or sneeze. Germs can live on surfaces for up to nine days.

Some exposed people never show symptoms. Others develop fever, cough, and shortness of breath in two to 14 days. Often, COVID-19 is no worse than a bad cold. But for those with heart and lung issues or weak immune systems, it can turn into pneumonia or bronchitis and prove fatal. Elderly people are especially vulnerable.

### QUARANTINED!

Fearing the spread of COVID-19 throughout the ship, the crew sailed the *Diamond Princess*

### A CLASS OF KILLER DISEASES

Science has identified hundreds of coronaviruses, but only seven so far have mutated to infect humans – and just two have resulted in outbreaks. The first was Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which began in China in 2002. It infected nearly 8100 people worldwide and caused 774 deaths. Canada was the hardest-hit country outside of China, with 44 people dying of the illness before it was contained in July 2003.

The second serious outbreak was Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, or MERS. It started in Saudi Arabia in 2012 but didn't escalate until 2014. It was a **virulent** version of the strain. By the time it was controlled in 2015, it had infected 1329 people, killing nearly half of them.

### DEFINITIONS

**VIRULENT:** extremely dangerous and deadly



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back to Japan. Health officials then **quarantined** all passengers. They were confined to their cabins for 14 days.

Still, by mid-February, 454 passengers developed the bug, including 15 Canadians. The Menards, both 75 years old, were among them. The sick received medical treatment. The 131 Canadians on the ship who tested negative returned to Canada on February 21. Once home, they were quarantined on military bases for 14 more days.

## A FAST-MOVING VIRUS

The world first learned of COVID-19 in December, after some pneumonia cases appeared in the Chinese city of Wuhan, home to 11 million people.

Ground zero was likely a seafood market. On that site, some merchants illegally sell marmots, birds, rabbits, bats, snakes, and other creatures. Experts believe that the virus jumped from infected wildlife to humans, then began spreading from person to person.

## THE CHINESE RESPONSE

China took massive measures to try to contain the outbreak. It suspended all travel in many regions. Outdoor activities were banned. Tens of millions

of citizens were quarantined in their homes. In late January, a 1000-bed hospital was built in just six days to treat cases.

News of the outbreak coincided with China's huge Lunar New Year travel season. The holiday was extended to discourage people from passing on the bug through travel.

## A "PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY"

Yet the disease still spread. On January 30, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a "public health emergency of international concern." It called for global action to contain the outbreak. WHO's director, Dr. Tedros Gebreyesus, said countries with weak health systems were most at risk. The reason? They don't have the resources to treat large numbers of sick people.

## UNCERTAIN OUTCOME

By late February, over 79,000 people worldwide had developed COVID-19. More than 2600 had died. The vast majority were in China. However, there were 500 cases elsewhere. Canada had 11 cases but no fatalities.

There was some good news: the number of new cases in China appeared to be dropping. But

## SHOULD YOU WORRY?

There is no vaccine yet to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Still, your chances of catching the virus are very low.

Why? Because Canada has been acting to prevent COVID-19 from taking hold here. Hospitals were alerted to look out for possible cases. And officials brought in airport screening procedures in Vancouver, Montreal, and Toronto. As well, people suspected of having the disease have been quarantined.

There are measures you can take, too. Wash your hands thoroughly, avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, and avoid people with flu symptoms.

new instances were reported in Italy, Iran, and South Korea. Disturbingly, the victims couldn't be linked to China or other confirmed cases.

Dr. Gebreyesus urged countries to keep working to contain the virus. But he said they must also prepare for the possibility that it will become widespread.

"It's in our hands now," he said. "If we do well within the narrowing window of opportunity... we can **avert** any serious crisis." ★

## DEFINITIONS

**AVERT:** to prevent something bad or harmful from happening

**QUARANTINE:** to keep a person or animal away from others to stop a disease from spreading



INTERNATIONAL  
**COVID-19**

– ALARMING VIRUS IS MAKING ITS WAY AROUND THE GLOBE

**ON THE LINES**

Answer the following in complete sentences:

1. Explain what a **coronavirus** is.

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2. How many coronaviruses have been identified? How many of these have impacted humans?

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3. Explain how a coronavirus usually spreads from person to person.

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4. Which new coronavirus appeared in China in early December? Where was it first discovered?

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5. Explain how this virus affects humans.

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6. Describe the measures that China adopted to try and control the outbreak.

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7. What did the World Health Organization declare on January 30?

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8. How many people had been infected by COVID-19 by late February? How many people had died?

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INTERNATIONAL  
**COVID-19**







– ALARMING VIRUS IS MAKING ITS WAY AROUND THE GLOBE

**Directions:** Respond to the infographic below. What information conveyed in the infographic is new to you? What is interesting to you? What seems to be especially significant? Why? Overall, how does the information in this infographic enhance your understanding of the coronavirus outbreak? Explain.

## Key facts about the coronavirus

The new coronavirus first identified in the Chinese city of Wuhan belongs to a family of viruses that includes the common cold and more serious illnesses such as SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome). The disease caused by the new virus has been named Covid-19\*

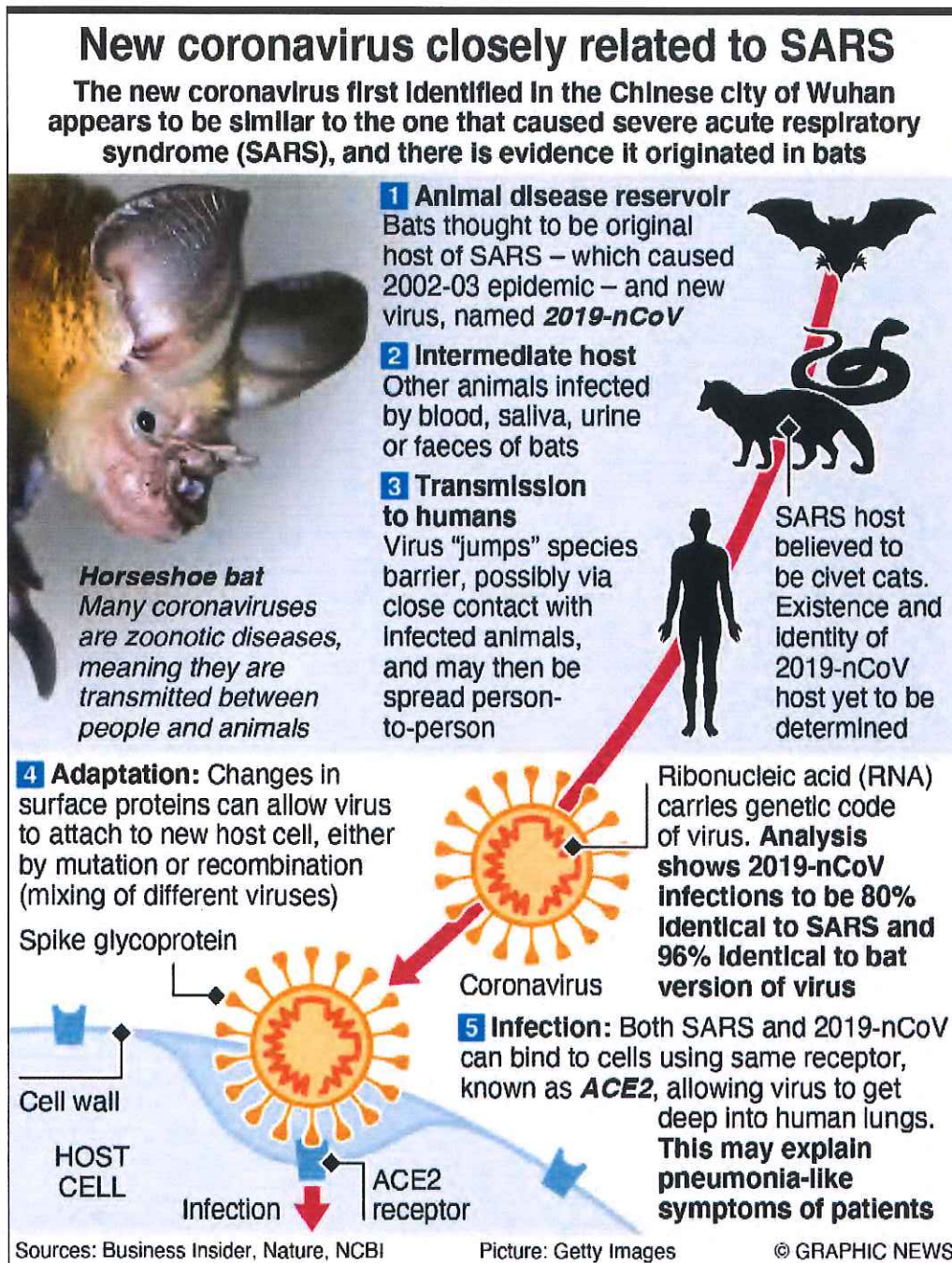


	<p><b>Symptoms</b> Include fever, cough and breathing difficulties. About 82 percent of cases are mild, similar to common cold. Some 15 percent of cases are severe and three percent are critical, according to Chinese data shared with WHO</p>		<p><b>Prevention</b> WHO recommends that people wash hands frequently, cover their mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing, and avoid close contact with those who are sick. WHO hopes to have vaccine in 18 months</p>
	<p><b>Transmission</b> Through droplets when infected person coughs or sneezes, or via contaminated surfaces such as door handles. Incubation period believed to be up to 14 days. People may be able to infect others before symptoms appear</p>		<p><b>Global spread</b> About 99 percent of infections are in mainland China, and almost 96 percent of deaths have been in Hubei province and its capital Wuhan, where virus emerged in late 2019. At least 25 other countries have confirmed cases</p>
	<p><b>People at risk</b> About two percent of people infected with virus have died. Disease can pose particular risk to elderly people and those with pre-existing medical conditions. People over 80 years of age have highest death rates</p>		<p><b>Source of virus</b> Believed to be food market in Wuhan that was illegally selling wild animals. Scientists think it may have originated in bats and passed to humans via intermediate species – possibly pangolins – although finding is not confirmed</p>

\*Name is shortened version of coronavirus disease 2019  
Source: Reuters      Pictures: AP, CDC, Flickr / Tina Franklin, Getty Images      © GRAPHIC NEWS



**Directions:** Respond to the infographic below. What information conveyed in the infographic is new to you? What is interesting to you? What seems to be especially significant? Why? Overall, how does the information in this infographic enhance your understanding of the coronavirus outbreak? Explain.





# MAP ASSIGNMENT

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article *COVID-19*.

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Obtain the required resources and read all the instructions before starting.
2. Colour your map after all labelling is completed.
3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.
4. Work carefully and neatly.

**Resources Required:** pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser and an atlas.

**Part A** Locate and label the capital of China and underline this city name.

**Part B** Locate Hubei province in China and shade it purple.

**Part C** Locate and label the capital city of Hubei province.

**Part D** Locate the following Chinese provinces and shade each dark red:

Henan	Zhejiang	Guangdong
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**Part E** Locate the following Chinese provinces and shade each light red:

Shaanxi	Shanxi	Hebei
Beijing (self-governing city)	Tianjin (self-governing city)	Liaoning
Shanghai (self-governing city)	Heilongjiang	Shandong
Jiangsu	Anhui	Jiangxi
Fujian	Guangxi (autonomous region)	Hunan
Guizhou	Yunnan	Sichuan
Hainan		

**Part F** Locate the following Chinese provinces and shade each pink:

Xinjiang	Qinghai	Gansu
Ningxia (autonomous region)	Jilin	Inner Mongolia (autonomous region)

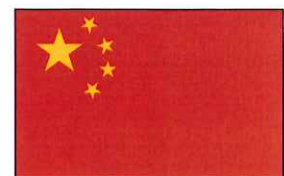
**Part G** Locate Tibet (Xizang) Autonomous Region and shade it light pink.

**Part H** Locate and label the following and shade all salt water dark blue:

Pacific Ocean	Yellow Sea
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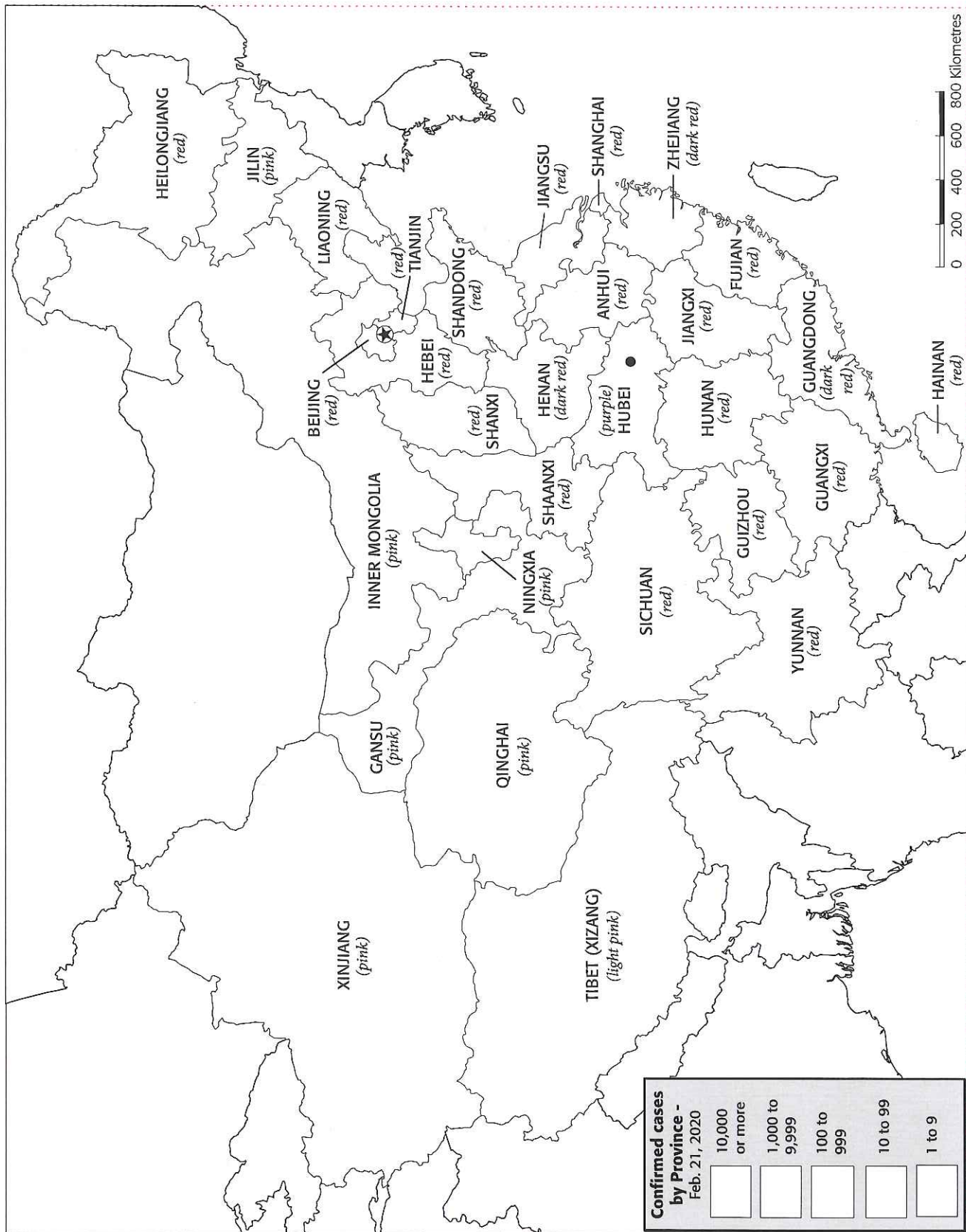
**Part I** Shade all remaining territory grey.

**Part J** Complete your map with a frame, title, and compass. ★



China

\*Note: Taiwan is an island that has for all practical purposes been independent since 1950. However, China regards the island as a rebel region that is part of the People's Republic of China and must be reunited with the mainland.



HEILONGJIANG  
(red)

JILIN  
(pink)

LIAONING  
(red)

BEIJING  
(red)

INNER MONGOLIA  
(pink)

GANSU  
(pink)

XINJIANG  
(pink)

QINGHAI  
(pink)

TIBET (XIZANG)  
(light pink)

SHANXI  
(red)

SHANXI  
(red)

NINGXIA  
(pink)

SHAANXI  
(red)

HEBEI  
(red)

HENAN  
(dark red)

HUBEI  
(purple)

JIANGSU  
(red)

SHANGHAI  
(red)

SICHUAN  
(red)

HUNAN  
(red)

JIANGXI  
(red)

ZHEJIANG  
(dark red)

GUIZHOU  
(red)

FUJIAN  
(red)

YUNNAN  
(red)

GUANGXI  
(red)

GUANGDONG  
(dark red)

HAINAN  
(red)



# MAP ASSIGNMENT

Complete this map assignment to better understand the article *COVID-19*.

## INSTRUCTIONS

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3. Print in pencil only first, then go over the printing in black ink.
4. Work carefully and neatly.

**Resources Required:** pencil, black pen, pencil crayons, ruler, eraser and an atlas.

**Part A** Locate and label the following countries in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:

China (green)	Mongolia (purple)	Japan (pink)
Taiwan* (yellow)	Philippines (brown)	India (purple)

**Part B** Locate and label the capital of each country and underline each city name.

**Part C** Locate and label the following countries in CAPITAL letters and shade each as indicated:

Russia (orange)	Kazakhstan (red)	Nepal (orange)
Bhutan (yellow)	Bangladesh (pink)	Myanmar (orange)
Thailand (pink)	Laos (purple)	Cambodia (yellow)
Vietnam (red)	North Korea (red)	South Korea (orange)

**Part D** Locate and label the Chinese province of Hubei and shade it dark green.

**Part E** Locate and label the capital of this province.

**Part F** Locate and label the following cities:

Shanghai	Guangzhou	Tianjin
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**Part G** Locate and label the following rivers and shade them light blue:

Pearl River	Yangtze River (Chang Jiang River)
Huang He River (Yellow River)	

**Part H** Locate and label the following and shade all ocean water dark blue:

Pacific Ocean	Sea of Japan
South China Sea	Bay of Bengal

**Part I** Shade all remaining territories grey.

**Part J** Complete your map with a frame, title, and compass. ★

\*Note: Taiwan is an island that has for all practical purposes been independent since 1950. However, China regards the island as a rebel region that is part of the People's Republic of China and must be reunited with the mainland.



China



