

新疆

有一天我找中国资料书的时候，我学到中国有五个自治区，新疆是其中一个。我开始对新疆有兴趣，因为让我想起了我的故乡科罗拉多。所以我想跟大家说的题目就是新疆。文章的内容分为三个部分：我要谈谈新疆的人口，地理以及新疆的农业和食物。

新疆的人口很多，有两千一百万，有些是少数民族。新疆的少数民族主要是维吾尔族，也是回教徒，所以他们最喜欢吃羊肉和牛肉。维吾尔的人口比汉族的人口少，跟汉族是不同的族群，所以维吾尔的文化跟汉族的文化不一样。例如，汉族最喜欢吃猪肉可是新疆没有猪肉。那是因为回教徒不吃猪肉。还有维吾尔人觉得宗教很重要。新疆是一个有争议的地区，因为维吾尔人不认为他们自己的地区属于中国。

新疆的地理跟科罗拉多的地理有一点像，因为新疆和科罗拉多都有山脉和山谷，可是新疆还有沙漠平原。科罗拉多只有草原。新疆的气候很干燥，温度两极化！夏天的天气很热，冬天很冷，四季分明。

大家都知道中国的食物有八大菜系，可是很多人都不知道少数民族的菜系。维吾尔人种植瓜果、浆果和麦子。新疆菜

不但有各种瓜果和蔬菜，而且用的香料很多香味浓重。他们有很多羊。新疆的名菜是手拉面和羊肉串。手拉面的材料有拉面、炒肉和蔬菜。我听说新疆也有中国最好的葡萄。

我学到了很多有关新疆的知识，都是非常有趣的。我希望我以后有机会去新疆参观旅行。

Nathan

Xinjiang: China's Best Kept Secret

One day while looking through an information book about China, I learned that there are five autonomous regions in China, Xinjiang is one of them. I began to be interested in Xinjiang, since it reminded me of my hometown in Colorado. So I want to inform everyone about Xinjiang. The content of this essay has three parts: I want to discuss Xinjiang's population, geography, and Xinjiang's agriculture & food.

Xinjiang has a very large population, around 21 million, some of the population are ethnic minorities. Xinjiang's main ethnic minority is the Uighur people, who are also Muslim, so they most like to eat lamb and beef. The Uighur population is less than that of the Han Chinese population, and the Han Chinese are a different ethnic group, so the Uighur people's culture is not the same as the Han Chinese culture. For example, Han Chinese love to eat pork but there is no pork in Xinjiang. That is because Muslims do not eat pork. Furthermore the Uighur people believe that religion is very important. Xinjiang is a controversial area, because the Uighur people do not think that their own region belongs to China.

Xinjiang's geography and Colorado's geography have some similarities, because Xinjiang and Colorado both have mountain ranges and valleys, but Xinjiang has desert plains. Colorado only has grasslands. Xinjiang's climate is very dry, the temperature has

two extremes! Very hot summers, very cold winters, all four seasons in Xinjiang are very distinct.

We all know that Chinese food has eight major cuisines, but a lot of people do not know the cuisines of ethnic minorities. The Uighur people grow fruits, berries, and wheat. Xinjiang dishes are not only a variety of fruits and vegetables, but also use a lot of spices to give strong flavor. They have a lot of sheep. Xinjiang specialty is hand noodles and lamb skewers. The ingredients for the hand noodles are ramen, stir fry meat, and vegetables. I have also heard that Xinjiang has the best grapes in all of China.

I have learned a lot of knowledge about Xinjiang, all of it is very interesting. I hope that in the future I will have the opportunity to go visit Xinjiang and travel around.

Vocabulary List:

自治区 - zìzhìqū Autonomous region

文章 - wénzhāng Essay

题目 - tí mù Title/subject/topic

地理 - dì lǐ Geography

少数民族 - shǎoshù mínzú Minority people

维吾尔 - Wéiwú'ěr Uighur ethnic people

族群 - zúqún Ethnic group

故乡 - gùxiāng Home / Homeland

谈谈 - tán tán To discuss

以及 - yǐ jí As well as / And

教徒 - jiàotú Disciple / Follower of a religion

汉族 - Hànzú Han ethnic group

争议 - zhēngyì Controversy / Dispute

山脉 - shānmài Mountain Range

山谷 - shāngǔ Valley

沙漠平原 - shāmòpíngyuán Desert plain

浆果 - jiāngguǒ Berry

各种 - gèzhǒng Every Kind / All Kinds

关 - guān To close / To concern / To involve

知识 - zhīshi Intellectual / Knowledge

参观 - cānguān To tour / To visit

干燥 - gānzào Arid / Dry

宗教 - zōngjiào Religion

气候 - qìhòu Climate

属于 - shǔyú To belong to / To be apart of

浓重 - nóngzhòng Thick / Strong / Rich (Flavor)

葡萄 - pútao Grape

香料 - xiāngliào Spice / Flavoring