



Handsworth Wood Girls’ Academy

A – Level History

Summer work



# 2E.1: Mao’s China, 1949-76

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| **Title:** **Overview: It’s all Chinese to me.** |

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| **Key learning points:**   * Introduction to China in 1936: Basic geography |

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| **Preparation for session:**  **Where is China? (include a map)**  **Five things that you have found out about China:**  **1.**  **2.**  **3.**  **4.**  **5.** |

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| **Key dates:**  **1931:**  **1936:**  **1937:**  **1940:**  **1941:**  **1942 – 4:**  **1944:**  **1945:** |

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| **Key words and definitions:**  **Guomindang (GMD):**  **Chinese Communist Party (CCP):**  **United Front:**  **Long March:**  **Soviet:** |

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| **Key facts:**  **To know about China in 1936:**   * 1911, 2,000 year of Dynastic Rule ended in China * Imperial system replaced by a republic; which claimed authority over the whole of China, but lacked any real power * As a consequence of the failure of the republic, China entered the period of Warlords; a time of conflicting groups – repressing herself into a state of regeneration * Two main revolutionary parties emerged: Nationalist Guomindang (GMD), founded by Sun Yat – Sen and led after 1925 by Chiang Kai Shek. The other party being the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) whose leader from the 1920’s was Mao Zedong * At first the parties co-operated in a United Front in order to break the warlords * After this had been achieved in 1927, Chiang turned savagely on the Communists; in which he intended their complete destruction, which he nearly succeeded. * By 1934 the Communists were on the point of extinction being penned in their Jiangxi base surrounding GMD forces. * Communists survived by a desperate break out of Yanan, reached in 1934 – 5: The Long March * In the northern base of Yanan, reached in 1935, Mao began to construct a soviet in defiance of the GMD and the Japanese who had begun to occupy parts of China in 1931. |

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| **Follow up from session:**  **Write 5 facts you know now about China that you didn’t before the session:**  **1.**  **2.**  **3.**  **4**  **5.** |

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| **Title:** **The Communists under Mao**  [http://ts3.mm.bing.net/th?id=JN.7cckq3xK1RW7fmO0qG8wNA&w=97&h=135&c=7&rs=1&qlt=90&o=4&pid=1.1](http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=chairman+mao&view=detailv2&&&id=C15B3344B4FAE4794BC132EFF74789C2183F4673&selectedIndex=0&ccid=%2bRERIxdb&simid=607999685608410812&thid=JN.7cckq3xK1RW7fmO0qG8wNA) |

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| **Key learning points:**   * Mao’s concept of leadership * Mao’s ideology and ideological dominance * CCP opposition to Mao * Mao’s peasant policy * Repressive Land Policies |

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| **Preparation for session:**  What do you understand by the term Communism? |

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| **Key words and definitions:**  **Dialectician:**  **Marxist:**  **White terror:**  **Red Army:**  **Comintern:**  **Leninism:**  **Dialectic:**  **Urban Proletariat:**  **Bourgeois stage:**  **Liberated:**  **Usury:**  **Twenty – eight Bolsheviks:** |

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| **Key People:**  **Mao Zedong 1893: 1976:**  **Edgar Snow 1905 – 72:**  **Li Lisan 1899 – 1867:** |

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| **Key Facts**  **To know about Mao’s concept of Leadership**   * Mao was a peasant from Hunan Province * Patriotic young man angered by China’s failings and much impressed by Sun Yat-Sen’s revolutionary ideas. * Between 1912 – 1919: Mao witnessed scenes of great violence as rival Republicans factions had fought for supremacy in his home province. * He recorded the experiences; claiming they affected him deeply and led him to conclude that to be a leader and to gain success politically or military, total commitment and willingness to use extreme methods was needed; this helps us to explain his saying ‘all power come out of the barrel of a gun’ * All of Mao’s experiences convinced him that unless he was prepared to use brutal, unyielding methods he could achieve little * He was a dialectician which was why he had become a Marxist and a founder member of the CCP in 1921. He held that all change, all progress, resulted from suppression of the weaker by the stronger.   **To know about Mao’s ruthlessness:**   * Moving to Beijing , Mao became attracted to Marxist ideas and developed the conviction that if China was to regain its greatness it would have to undergo a profound social and political revolution * To further this aim, Mao in 1921 became one of the founder members of the CCP * when Chiang’s white terror in 1927 forced the Communists to flee to Jiangxi provinces, Mao began his first endeavour to build a Chinese soviet * Mao revealed the ruthlessness that he regarded as essential to effective leadership and which characterised his whole career. * In 1930 he ordered the torture and execution of some 4000 Red Army troops whom he accused of plotting against him * His written instruction read ‘Do not kill the important leaders too quickly, but squeeze out of them the maximum information’ Mao showed a similar unwillingness to compromise in establishing his leadership over the party during the Long March.   **To know about Mao’s ideology:**   * Once established in Yanan in 1935, Mao over the next decade turned the camp into a Communist soviet; it served as both a protective base and a haven to which Communist sympathisers flocked * It was at the base that Mao developed and formalised his revolutionary ideas; this involved him in an ideological battle to enforce his leadership in the face of opposition within the CCP and from the Comintern. * Mao saw in Marxism-Leninism; A set of principles that he could turn into a practical programme for restoring China to its original greatness. * Mao was never a slave to Marxist theory; he interpreted the ideology to suit his purpose for China. * Also concerned that if he gave too much consideration to the opinions of foreign communists as expressed through the Comitern would damage his claim to personal authority in China. His conviction would damage his claim to personal authority in China. His conviction was that ‘correct leadership should be done by each of the Communist parties in its own country. The Comintern, far away from the actual struggle, can no longer provide proper leadership’.   **To know about the urban versus rural dispute:**   * Mao’s ideas brought him criticism from the pro-Moscow elements in the party who accused him of ignoring Comitern instructions and taking an independent line. A particular point of contention was Mao’s insistence that the distinct conditions in China determined that revolution must first come in the countryside. * He rejected the Comitern’s demand that the CCP direct its efforts into preparing risings in the urban areas. * His central belief was that China’s revolution must be a peasant revolution * This was heresy in the eyes of the Comintern theorists. They asserted that: * Mao was ignoring the laws of the dialectic whose stages followed a predetermined, ordered path and thus could not be bypassed * Peasant revolution was an end in itself; it was merely the precursor of the final proletarian revolution * China lacked an urban proletariat and was, therefore, incapable of achieving a genuinely proletarian revolution * The best that the CCP could accomplish would be to help being about the bourgeois stage of revolution by merging with the Nationalist.   **To know about the features of the dialectic:** | |
| **Winners** | **Losers** |
| **Feudalism** | |
| Landowners  Property owing feudal lords | Serfs  Property less peasants |
| **Early Capitalism** | |
| Bourgeoisie  Merchants and bankers | Landowners  Remains of the feudal class |
| **Industrial Capitalism** | |
| Proletariat  Industrial workers | Bourgeoisie  Owners of industry and wealth |
| **Dictatorship of the proletariat** | |
| Proletariat  Successful revolutionaries | Reactionaries  Remnants of defeated classes |
| **The Classless Society**   * Mao rejected this analysis and stressed that Marxist theory had to be interpreted in the light of the actual conditions of China * The stark reality was that China did not possess an urban proletariat large enough to mount a revolution * Mao dismissed the notion that genuine revolution could be achieved only by the industrial workers and countered it by asserting these convictions: * In China, Urban industrial workers accounted for less than four per cent of the population, whereas the rural peasants made up 88 per cent. Followed that a popular revolution would have to be the work of peasantry * In China, therefore a peasant revolution would be sufficient to fulfil the demands of the dialectic * Mao redefined the term proletarian to mean not so much a social class as an attitude. Those who were genuinely committed to revolution were by that very fact members of the proletariat. Anyone who had suffered oppression at the hands of the class enemies could be counted a member of the proletariat * There was, therefore, no necessity to wait for the growth of an industrial proletariat in China. Genuine revolution would be achieved by the peasants; ‘no power, however strong, can restrain them’. He told his followers that it was their task to unleash the huge potential of the peasantry. ‘The peasants are the sea; we are the fish. We live in the sea’.   **To know about the CCP opposition to Mao:**   * Mao’s particular interpretation of the dialectic put him at variance with the orthodox Communists, such as Li Lisan, as a Moscow-trained Marxist, who continued to follow the Comintern line by insisting that the Chinese Communists concentrate their revolutionary activities in urban areas. * Communists concentrate their revolutionary activities in urban areas. Throughout the 1930s, Mao was involved in a battle to assert his authority within the party * Major opponents were a faction known as the ‘Twenty – eight Bolsheviks’, who followed Li Lisan in criticising Mao for ignoring Comintern instructions and acting independently. * Mao accused of reckless adventurism for assuming that the stages of proletarian revolution could be skipped at will * Mao survived such criticism thanks largely to four key factors: * His election in 1934 of the correct northern route to follow the Long March, in opposition to the pro – Moscow faction who had argued for a different western route, had given him a moral superiority over them * As a result of his own field research, Mao had an unrivalled knowledge of the Chinese peasantry, which meant he dominated any discussion of the party’s peasant policy * His intense self – belief and determination allowed him to silence opponents and browbeat waverers into line * He was indispensable as a military planner   **To know about Mao’s ideological dominance:**   * Defined the revolution not as a class movement but as a national one * Faced with the Japanese occupation of China after 1937, Mao declared the aim of his party to be ‘long term co-operation with all those classes, strata, political groups and individuals who were willing to fight Japan to the end’. He appealed to all Chinese of goodwill to unite against the enemies of the nation * Helped by Yanan’s geographical distance from Soviet influence, Mao was able to dominate the urban – orientated members of the CCP and bring the party to accept his line of thinking. * He was activing very much in the Chinese tradition of taking from a foreign ideology those elements considered to be of practical value for China. * He made Marxism for the Chinese situation, no the Chinese situation fit Marxism. * For some years he had to contend with opposition from within the party over his reshaping of revolutionary Marxism, but by outmanoeuvring and where necessary, removing opponents he was able to establish an unmatched authority and so impose his ideas.   **To know about Mao’s peasant policy:**   * Mao gave practical form to his concept of revolution by sending out the Red Army units from Yanan to occupy neighbouring regions. * The methods was for the troops, having occupied a particular areas to round up the landowners reallocated to the peasants who were invited to co-operate in reorganising the village or region into a soviet * The hope was that such treatment would persuade the local people to become CCP supporters * Mao urged the soldiers who did the liberating to regard themselves as ambassadors carrying the Communist message to the peasants * Until the Yanan period, Chinese armies by tradition had invariably terrorised local populations * The imperial and warlord forces had ravaged and plundered * The Red Army was instructed to behave differently; it was the duty to aid and comfort the people * In order to win further support from the peasants in the liberated areas; the Red Army introduced a number of schemes including: * The creation of local peasant associations, which were invited to work with the CCP in improving their own conditions * A programme for ending usury, which had so often blighted the lives of the peasants * The introduction of literacy and education programmes * The provision of basic medical services * The CCCP land policies played an important role in the parties growth from 40,000 in 1937 to one million by 1945   **To know about the repressive land policies:**   * Mao was certainly prepared to be moderate at all times, but all the moves that the CCP made under him had the essential purpose of strengthening Communist Control * The removal of the landlords in the areas where the Red Army held sway was often a brutal process. * Villages that would not conform to the demands of the CCP’s land programme were subject to harsh penalties such as having all their crops and livestock confiscated and ruinous taxes imposed on them * What the CCP’s occupation of liberated areas actually entailed was described in 1937 by Edgar Snow, who travelled with the Red Army   **To know about the Communist Party under Mao:**  Ruthlessness. ‘all power grows out of the barrel of a gun’  Mao’s concept of leadership   * Nationalist Chinese considerations always held primacy * Marxist China needed a profound social and political revolution * But revolution must be peasant revolution not a proletarian revolution   Mao’s ideology  Mao’s ideological dominance   * Red Army liberation * Communist control of countryside * Repressive land policies | |

**Your task: Predict what Mao’s first set of reforms will be and why**

# 1E: Russia, 1917-91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

**Overview**

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| **‘Workers of the world unite, you have nothing to lose but your chains.’ Marx**   * The industrial revolution had left many workers living and working in terrible conditions * The Bolshevik revolution of November……. seemed to offer a chance to change the world * The Bolsheviks were a political group in Russia who wanted a Marxist style revolution in the name of industrial workers * The Bolshevik seizure of power offered the chance to overthrow the rich and powerful……….. who had exploited them. It was a chance to put the interests of the……………. first. * Yet the Soviet Union only lasted……….. years. The so-called ‘workers’ paradise was over.   How was the Soviet Union established?   * The Bolshevik Party led by Vladimir Lenin, took power in November 1917 by means of an armed seizure in a……………… coup d’etat. * They took power from the Provisional……………….., which had taken control after the collapse of the Tsarist regime in March 1917. The Tsarist government collapsed because of the pressures brought about by the First World War. * Seizing power had been easy for the Bolsheviks, holding onto it was far more difficult. * By 1918, the Bolsheviks faced a civil war against a mixed group known as the………………. * The Bolshevik party took over areas of the economy in order to supply the Red Army. * The Bolsheviks won the Civil War by…………., but they had lost a lot of popularity during the war. * The Bolsheviks faced a dilemma: it declared itself to be a party representing the people, but in reality, it had little popular support. * ………………. was used to gain and then sustain their power.   How did the Soviet Union change in the years 1917-91?   * Once they had established power, the Bolsheviks wanted to modernise the economy, to unleash the potential of Russia’s………………resources for the benefit of the Russian people. * Under Lenin, the government experimented with a mixed economy of private and state-owned sectors, known as the…………………………………………... * This was removed by Stalin’s Five-Year Plans from……. * State control was tightened over all parts of the economy, with the aim of………………. up with the West. * Economic growth was……………………… during the FYPs and played a key role in Russia being able to defeat the Nazi invasion of…………………….. * The…………………………………………. (1941-45) wreaked enormous destruction on the Soviet Union, but state direction ensured that rapid reconstruction and…………………. could take place. * Yet, state control resulted in a rigid, planned economy that lacked…………………………………….. * By 1980, the Soviet economy was grinding to a halt. * Social developments: A period of experimentation under Lenin gave way to a system of extensive control of the people under…………………….. * Terror was a key feature of Soviet life, with extensive use of the…………………… police. * Khrushchev tried to reduce the use of………………. under de-Stalinisation, but it still remained as a significant method by which the state controlled its people and dealt with…………………….. * Other methods of social…………………………………including improving people’s living conditions and providing social security in order to win over the people. * By the late 1970s, these methods were well established. Under…………………. the Soviet Union claimed to have achieved considerable stability.   Why did the Soviet Union collapse?   * When Brezhnev died in…………………, there was stagnation: economic growth was grinding to a halt, society lacked vigour and the government seemed to have no…………………….. * After the quick succession of……………………………. And…………………………., the Communist Party chose Gorbachev as its new leader. * Gorbachev: younger generation and knew that the Communist Party needed to…………………….. * He implemented a series of………………………………………. in an attempt to improve socialism. * Yet many people wanted to get rid of socialism: people started to call for economic liberalism and there was a growth of……………………………………..among the peoples of the Soviet Union. * …………………………………………….emerged as the leading opposition to the Soviet Union in 1991. * In December 1991, the Soviet Union…………………………………………………. * The fall of the Soviet Union was to intensify Russian feelings of insecurity and anxiety over their power and position in the world. These consequences are still having an impact on world politics today. |

**Lesson One**

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| **Title:** Russia at the Turn of the 20th C: What was it like? |

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| **Key learning points:**   * To be able to give facts about what Russia was like before Communism * To be able to explain what was good about Russia at this time and what was bad about Russia at this time (Grades B-A) |

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| **Key People (insert the dates):**  Tsar Alexander I  Tsar Nicholas I  Tsar Alexander II  Tsar Alexander III  Tsar Nicholas II  Description: http://www.isfp.co.uk/images/vladimir_lenin.jpgDescription: http://members.fortunecity.com/mikaelxii/Russia/Government/lvov.jpgDescription: http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/images/nicholas_ii.jpgDescription: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f8/Shilder_AlexanderIII.jpg/270px-Shilder_AlexanderIII.jpgDescription: http://www.activehistory.co.uk/Miscellaneous/menus/A_Level/Late_Modern/Russia_and_the_USSR/tsar_alexander_II.jpgDescription: Tsar Nicholas I[Description: http://t3.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSOEYGr5hVF7p7ul5VUyttb0HGvCWsb6_Lgw_jaYzoVgQvz4f2u](http://www.google.co.uk/imgres?q=tsar+alexander+i+of+russia&um=1&hl=en&safe=active&sa=N&biw=1280&bih=929&tbm=isch&tbnid=R6tTVQHHSiheEM:&imgrefurl=http://www.unofficialroyalty.com/royal-forums/14-russian-royalty/38537-december-1-1825--death-of-tsar-alexander-i&docid=TYqu9ozqmNL2RM&w=332&h=420&ei=QpJkTvX7J8Kt8gOo85GnCg&zoom=1)Prince Lvov  Lenin |

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| **Key words and definitions:**  **Autocracy**:  **Tsar:**  **Total Power:**  **St Petersburg:**  **Rural/ agriculture:**  **Russian Orthodox Church:**  **Serfs (Serfdom):**  **Redemption payments:**  **Mirs (communes):**.  **Famine**:  **Tsar Liberator (Alexander II):**  **Zemstva (zemstvo):**  **Romanov:**  **The People’s Will:**  **Assassination** |

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| **Key facts:**  **Know about what Russia was like in 1881-1906**   * Russia was ruled by Tsars * They were **autocrats**, which meant there was no limit to their power * They were unwilling to consider any political or social change * Russia covers one sixth of the world’s surface * It’s capital in the 1800s was **St.Petersburg** * Much of the land was of limited productive use * The grasslands of the steppe were known as the breadbasket of the empire * Russia was a rural country, agriculture was the mainstay of the economy, grain was main export * The country had lots of coal and iron ore but it’s industrial development was modest * Society: Tsar at the top, The court: leading landowners and members of the Government, a small group of businessmen, a small class of industrial workers, peasants and serfs (80%/ 25 million). * **Serfs** were legally tied to the land owned by the nobles. Landowners could administer justice and the **serfs** could not leave the land without the landowner’s permission. It was only in 1861 that **serfs** were freed from service. * **Serfdom** was the major obstacle to modernising Russia. * **Serfs** only produced enough food to feed themselves (subsistence farming). This led to frequent famines * The official religion was the **Russian Orthodox Church**.   **To know about Alexander II ( ) and the changes that he brought to Russia**   * **Emancipation of the serfs**:   + - In 1861 Alexander II issued a ukase (decree) which abolished **serfdom**     - However, they were not completely free. They had to pay compensation to the landowners, **redemption payments**, for 49 years.     - **Serfs** were forced to live in communes (**mirs**) where land was held collectively. They were administered by elders. This impeded the development of Russia because the movement of people into the towns was restricted. The communes didn’t produce a surplus which led to food shortages. There was a widespread famine in 1891. * Political reforms:   + - 1864 **zemstva** (zemstavo) Local Government were introduced- first form of elected government. Extended to towns and cities in 1870.     - 1870 trial by jury introduced. |

**Your Task**

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| Identify 4 key facts about what Russia was like before Communism |  |
| Explain what was good about Russia at this time and what was bad about Russia at this time |  |