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THE SECOND HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

English Version



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Contents

Study Outline:	P.5-6
Detailed Notes:	
I. Establishment of the PRC	P.7-10
II. the First Five Year Plan (1953-57)	P.11-15
III. the Great Leap Forward (1958-60)	P.16-19
IV. the Readjustment (1961-65)	P.20-22
V. Cultural Revolution (1966-76)	P.23-31
VI. Reform and opening up (1978-2000)	P.32-47
Timeline	P.48-50
Trend Analysis:	P.51-52

Data-based Questions:

DBQ#1	‘The political beliefs of the Chinese Communist Party demonstrated fundamental changes after the establishment of the People’s Republic of China in 1949.’ Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. Limit your discussion up to 1978.	P.53-59
DBQ#2	‘Despite its good intentions, the Great Leap Forward was not an effective way to strengthen China.’ Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge.	P.60-67
DBQ#3	Do you agree with the cartoonist’s and Mao Zedong’s views on the People’s Commune as reflected in Sources A and B respectively? Explain your answer with reference to the period concerned.	P.68-75
DBQ#4	‘Despite its good intentions, the Cultural Revolution greatly undermined China’s modernization.’ Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge.	P.76-82

Past Paper Suggested Answer:

DSE-2016-Q3	Does the Reform and Opening up policy lead to a transformation in China	P.83-85
DSE-2014-Q3	Did the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution have good intentions but bring about bad results	P.86-89
DSE-2012-Q3	What short-term and long-term impacts did the Cultural Revolution bring to China	P.90-92
DSE-PP-Q2	Was the Cultural Revolution harmful to China’s modernization	P.93-95

Analysis of Exam Questions by K.W. HO: P.96-97

Sample Essays:

Essay#1	Do you agree that Mao Zedong’s impact on the development of China was more positive than negative?	P.98-102
Essay#2	‘The Cultural Revolution was a loss rather than a gain to China.’ Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.	P.103-106
Essay#3	‘The Cultural Revolution brought China more losses than gains.’ Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.	P.107-111
Essay#4	‘The Reform and Opening Up did more good than harm to China.’ Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the period 1978-2000.....	P.112-115
Essay#5	Compare the features of China’s modernization efforts in the Maoist and Dengist periods.	P.116-120
Essay#6	How far were the methods of economic development adopted in the Maoist period different from those in the Deng Xiaoping era?	P.121-125
Essay#7	Compare the effectiveness to China’s modernization made in the Mao era and the Deng era.	P.126-129
Essay#8	‘The Great Leap Forward (1958-60) and the Reform and Opening Up (1978-2000) had different programmes to achieve similar aims.’ Comment on the validity of this statement.	P.130-132
Essay#9	Which of the following leaders do you think was a greater leader for China? (a) Sun Yat-sen (b) Mao Zedong	P.133-137
Essay#10	Assess the effectiveness of the efforts made by the People’s Republic of China to achieve economic modernization in the period 1949-1965.	P.138-141
Essay#11	Assess the effectiveness of the efforts made by the People’s Republic of China to achieve economic modernization in the period 1978-2000.	P.142-146
Essay#12	In what ways could the year 1949 be regarded as a turning point in modern Chinese history?	P.147-150
Essay#13	To what extent was the year 1978 a turning point in Chinese history? Explain your answer with reference to the period 1949-2000.	P.151-157
Essay#14	Discuss the ways in which the Reform and Opening Up has affected China’s relations with other Asian countries.	P.158-160

Study Outline

Curriculum Framework	
Source from: Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, Senior Secondary Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Final Version) (March 2007)	
Key Points	Explanatory Notes
<p>Socialist modernization in the Maoist period and the evolution of “socialism with Chinese characteristics” in the post-Mao period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The institutional set-up and the transition from New Democracy to socialism ● Attempts at modernization in the Maoist period ● The “Cultural Revolution” and its impact on Chinese modernization ● Reform and opening-up since 1978 	<p>Students will describe the institutional set-up of the country and the relationships between the party, government and military. Students will also describe and assess the major attempts at modernization in the Maoist period, namely the First Five-Year Plan, the “Great Leap Forward” and Readjustment. The “Cultural Revolution” will be evaluated in the light of its impact on China’s modernization. As regards the period after 1978, students will trace the origins and development of “socialism with Chinese characteristics” and the rise of regional economies, and analyse the ways in which these developments have affected China’s modernization and its relations with other Asian countries.</p>
Focuses of Learning	
<p>I. Establishment of the PRC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Political structure of the PRC ➤ Relationships between the party, government and military ➤ New Democracy 	
<p>II. Attempts at modernization in the Maoist period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the First Five Year Plan (1953-57) ➤ the Great Leap Forward (1958-60) ➤ the Readjustment (1961-65) 	

III. Cultural Revolution (1966-76):

- Reasons for the Cultural Revolution
- Characteristics of the Cultural Revolution
- Development of the Cultural Revolution
- Impact of the Cultural Revolution on China's modernization

IV. Reform and opening up (1978-2000):

- Reasons for Reform and opening up
- Implementation of the Reform and Opening Up
- Details of the Reform and Opening Up
- Stages of Development of Reform and Opening Up
- Characteristics of Reform and Opening Up
- Impact of the Reform and Opening Up on Chinese modernization
- Relations between China and other Asian countries after the Reform and Opening Up

Establishment of the PRC

1. Political structure of the PRC

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) defeated the Kuomintang (KMT) in the Chinese Civil War (1946-49). The latter had no choice but to retreat to Taiwan. By then, the war ended in a victory for the communists. In September 1949, the CCP held the first plenary meeting of the Chinese People's Political Consultation Conference (CPPCC). In the meeting, they made decisions on the details of the new government, including the name, capital, national flag and national anthem. On 1st October 1949, the new Central People's Government Council held its first meeting, and also the national founding ceremony in the afternoon of the same day. Mao Zedong, the chairperson of the CCP, announced the birth of the People's Republic of China (PRC) there.

A. Constitution

As drafting a constitution took time, no constitution was drawn up in the beginning. The Common Program was adopted as the state's provisional constitution at that time. It was not until 1954 that the first Constitution of the PRC was adopted at the first session of the first National People's Congress (NPC). It set out the government structure, as well as the rights and duties of the people.

B. National People's Congress (NPC)

It is the highest organ of the government. It has the power to amend the constitution, choose and dismiss state leaders, supervise state organs and make decision on different issues. But it is in fact under the leadership of CCP because the constitution, list of candidates for state leaders and other bills must be presented to the NPC by the CCP Central Committee.

C. President of the PRC

The President of the PRC is the head of the state. He exercises his power as the State President according to decisions of the NPC and its Standing Committee, such as promulgating laws, appointing and dismissing members of the State Council, proclaiming martial law and a state of war, and ratifying or abolishing international treaties. There was no President of the PRC in the period 1949-54. The post was only created after the establishment of the NPC in 1954. The first President of the PRC was Mao Zedong.

D. State Council

The State Council is the highest executive organ of state administration. It is responsible for executing plans which are passed in the NPC and its Standing Committee and reporting its work. For example, the Five Year Plans were executed by it. It is also the head of all executive state agencies, including those responsible for politics, economy, education, culture, hygiene, national defense and foreign affairs.

E. Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)

Before the founding of the NPC in 1954, the CPPCC enjoyed the legislative power. After that, such power was exercised by the NPC instead and it became merely an advisory body.

F. Supreme People's Court

The Supreme People's Court is the highest trial organ of the state. It supervises local people's courts at all levels and special people's courts. It is also the highest court in the state.

G. Supreme People's Procuratorates

The Supreme People's Procuratorate is the highest procuratorial organ in China. It exercises leadership over local people's procuratorates at all levels and special people's procuratorates in implementing their supervision functions and ensures the unity and correct implementation of state laws.

H. Central Military Commission (CMC)

The CMC commands the armed forces of the country, including the People's Liberation Army (PLA), armed police force and the militia. As the CMC Chairman is the one who controls the military, he is the paramount leader of China in reality.

I. Local administration

There are four levels of administrative divisions. Provinces, direct-controlled municipalities, autonomous regions and special administrative regions are at the top level; prefectures, autonomous prefectures and districts are at the second level; counties and autonomous counties are at the third; townships, ethnic townships and towns are at the bottom one. There are people's government and people's congress at each level, which are responsible for management in economic, educational, cultural, hygienic and other aspects.

2. Relationships between the party, government and military

A. Party (the CCP)

The PRC has adopted one-party rule since it was founded. The CCP is the largest party and the only ruling party in China. It enjoys absolute leading status in Chinese politics and controls all organs in the country, including the CPPCC, State Council and CMC. Therefore, the government and the military are subordinate to the party.

B. Government

As China follows the principle of 'governing the country by the party', there is an inseparable relationship between the government and the party. Main posts of the government are all occupied by members of the party, including the State President, the Premier of the State Council and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC). Superficially, the CMC is controlled by the Standing Committee of the NPC. But the Chairman of the CCP in fact controls the military and the government has no control over it.

C. Military

The CCP sticks to the principle that 'the party commands the gun'. As only the one who controls the military is the leader of the state, the party tightly controls the military force of China. The position of the Chairman of the CMC is filled by the Chairman of the CCP (replaced by the General Secretary of the CCP later).

3. New Democracy

A. Definition of New Democracy

New Democracy was proposed by Mao Zedong. It refers to the revolution led by the proletariat, which aims to overthrow bureaucratic capitalism, imperialism and feudalism.

B. Comparison between New and Old Democratic Revolution

	Old Democratic Revolution	New Democratic Revolution
Nature	<u>Bourgeois-democratic revolution</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bourgeois-democratic revolution refers to the revolution led by the bourgeoisie or the proletariat, which aims to overthrow imperialism and feudalism. 	
Ideology	Build a capitalist society	Build a socialist society
Leaders	The bourgeoisie	The proletariat
Guiding principle	The Three People's Principles	Marxism

C. Period of New Democracy

According to Mao Zedong's theory, China was in the period of 'Old Democracy' from the end of the First Opium War (1842) to the May Fourth Movement (1919). After the May Fourth Movement, the idea of proletarian revolution spread in China. The revolution finally succeeded and the PRC was founded in 1949. The period between the two events is called the New Democracy.

	Old Democracy	New Democracy	Transition period	Socialism
Time	From the end of the First Opium War in 1842 to the May Fourth Movement in 1919	From the May Fourth Movement in 1919 to the establishment of the PRC in 1949	From the establishment of the PRC in 1949 to 1956	After 1956
Feature	The revolution led by the bourgeoisie, which aims to overthrow imperialism and feudalism	The revolution led by the proletariat, which aims to overthrow capitalist, imperialism and feudalism	Implementing transitional policy that focused on 'one transformation and three changes', preparing for socialist transformation in China.	Aiming to build a socialist society

Attempts at modernization in the Maoist period –

The First Five Year Plan (1953-57)

1. Reasons for the First Five Year Plan

- A. Political aspect : Socialist construction
- B. Political aspect : Stable political environment
- C. Economic aspect : To promote economic growth
- D. Diplomatic aspect : Inspiration and assistance from the USSR

2. Implementation of the First Five-Year Plan

A. Main objective

The objective of the First Five-Year Plan was to accomplish ‘one transformation and three changes’ 一化三改造.

‘One transformation’	Accomplish <i>socialist industrialization</i> 社會主義工業化
‘Three changes’	Undergo socialist transformation of agriculture, handicraft industry and private industry and business

B. Drafting and implementation

The First Five-Year Plan was drafted by Zhou Enlai and Chen Yun, the Premier and Vice Premier of the State Council respectively. It was implemented during 1953-57.

3. Details of the First Five-Year Plan

	Stage	Policy	Result
Industry	\	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development strategy assigned top priority to heavy industry. Light industries would be developed later, and lastly agriculture. ➤ There were 694 construction projects in total, 156 of which were chosen as the focus of the plan with aid from the USSR. ➤ The budget of investment amounted to 42.7 billion Yuan, 58% of which was invested in industries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Industries new to China, such as aircraft, car, metallurgy, electricity generation and radio, were developed. ➤ The development of heavy industries mentioned in key construction projects was even speedier, like steel, machinery, coal and coke.
Agriculture	First stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Peasants were encouraged to form <i>Mutual Aid Teams</i> 互助組 in 1952. ➤ They helped each other when needed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ More than 40% of peasants joined them in 1952.
	Second stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Elementary Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives</i> 初級農業生產合作社(1953) were formed. ➤ Peasants still kept their land but collective production was adopted and they shared profits according to the amount of land, tools and working hours they had put in. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ About 1.9 million elementary cooperatives had been set up in December 1955. ➤ About 90% of peasant had joined them in March 1956.
	Third stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advanced Agricultural Production Cooperatives 高級農業生產合作社 were formed in 1955. ➤ All land and tools became publicly owned and peasants were paid according to how much work was contributed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 760 thousands advanced cooperatives had been set up at the end of 1956. ➤ 96.3% of peasants had joined them. ➤ The socialist transformation of agriculture, which was projected to be accomplished within 15 years, only took 4 years to complete.

Handicraft	First stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Handicraft Production Teams</i> 手工業生產小組 were formed. ➤ They made unified arrangements for purchases of raw materials and marketing, but individual production of the workers remained and their businesses were still self-financing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 1956, more than 5.09 million handicraft workers had joined such cooperatives ➤ They were 92.2% of the total number of handicraft workers in China. ➤ The socialist transformation of handicraft industry was basically finished as well.
	Second stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Handicraft Supply and Marketing Cooperatives</i> 手工業供銷合作社 were formed. ➤ There was cooperation in purchases of raw materials and marketing. The workers became merely the processors of the cooperatives 	
	Third stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Handicraft Producers' Cooperatives</i> 手工業生產合作社 were formed. ➤ Production was completely controlled by the cooperatives, while the members were paid according to how much work was contributed. 	
Private industry and commerce	\	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The government nationalized railways, banks and large enterprises shortly after the founding of the PRC. ➤ It tightened the control over the supply of raw materials and marketing, so as to put private enterprises under its plan. For example, the <i>unified purchase and marketing system</i> 統購統銷制度 was implemented in 1953, controlling the origin and supply of food. ➤ Starting from 1954, many private enterprises underwent corporate reorganization and incorporation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ By the end of 1956, 99% of private industries and 82.2% private business in the nation were transformed into state-private joint or state-owned enterprises. ➤ The socialist transformation of private industry and business was basically completed.

4. Impact of the First Five-Year Plan on Chinese modernization

A. Positive impact

AI. Political aspect : Construction of road of socialism

Concerning the construction of road of socialism, the Plan came up with a remarkable result. The completion of the Plan managed to exceed its targets for agricultural and handicraft collectivization. By the end of 1956, more than 90% of peasants and handicraft workers joined the *cooperatives* 合作社, showing that collectivization was basically accomplished. In addition, private enterprises were transformed into *state-private joint enterprises* 公私合營企業 or even *state enterprises* 國營企業 one by one. On the whole, the ‘three transformations’ were achieved during this period. In 1956, Mao even announced earlier than planned that China had become a *socialist state* 社會主義國家.

All. Economic aspect : Laying foundation for industrialization

Being the focus of the development plan, industry received many resources in the First Five-Year Plan and progress in industrialization was accelerated. In 1957, the gross value of industrial output increased by 128.6% compared with that of 1952. The total output of heavy industries and that of light industries grew by 210.7% and 83.3% respectively. The figures reflected the explosive growth in industrial production. Moreover, the output of coal, steel and other industries exceeded their production targets. The output of steel in 1957 even increased by 98% (to 1310 million tons) compared with that of 1952. The output of steel was also triple the total output in the first half of the 20th century. Therefore, the plan laid a sound foundation for Chinese industrialization and was an important step forward.

AIII. Technological aspect : development in science and technology

Science and technology in the PRC was very backward and there were not many professionals in the early years. In the First Five-Year Plan, however, the USSR sent around 10 thousands professionals to China and 28 thousands Chinese technicians and skilled workers were sent there for training. Scholars like *Qian Xuesen* 錢學森 and *Li Siguang* 李四光 also returned to China. Science and technology in China thus developed greatly. In 1956, there were already more than 840 research and development organizations and about 400 thousands researchers in China. Though it was just the beginning, the Plan did help science and technology development there.

Appendix:

Economic growth rates in 1953-57

Annual growth rate of industry and agriculture : 11.75%

Annual growth rate of industry : 19%

Annual growth rate of heavy industry : 25.4%

Annual growth rate of light industry : 12.8%

Annual growth rate of agriculture: 4.5%

B. Negative impact

BI. Political aspect : created false optimism

The completion of the First Five-Year Plan managed to exceed its targets at the end of 1956. The result was encouraging for the state leaders. For example, Mao originally thought that the time required for socialist transformation of agriculture would be 15 years, but it turned out to be 4 years only. Consequently, they were misled by the success to be blindly optimistic. The total investment in infrastructure that increased by 70% from 1955 to 1956 illustrated that. Unfortunately, the reforms with reckless haste created huge financial burden to the state. Though there were officials like *Zhou Enlai* 周恩來 and *Chen Yun* 陳雲 opposing the 'rash advance' 反冒進, they received criticism from Mao. The state leaders still clung to such misguided belief and ignored actual situation in the Great Leap Forward Movement, resulting in failure and economic disaster eventually.

BII. Political aspect : socialist transformation with reckless haste

Mao Zedong once predicted that socialist transformation would take more than ten years to complete, but the First Five-Year Plan only spent 4 years to finish the 'three changes'. Socialist construction was done swiftly, but not perfectly. Owing to limited time and lack of experience in *collectivization* 集體化, many problems arose, like the scale of cooperatives was too large that cadres faced problems with their management. Worse still, the 'equalitarianism' 平均主義 bred laziness among members of the cooperatives, leading to a fall in gross output value in the last year of the Plan. The Index of Gross Output Value of Agriculture increased from 103.1 to 107.6 during 1953-55, but soon decreased to 105 in 1956. The reduction in production during the Great Leap Forward could be foreseen in the late period of the First Five-Year Plan.

BIII. Economic aspect : unbalanced economic development

The development strategy of the First Five-Year Plan assigned top priority to heavy industry. Light industries would be developed later, and lastly agriculture. Imbalance between agricultural and industrial development was thus created. The annual growth rate of industrial production was 19%, but that of agricultural production was just 4.5% in the same period. Agricultural growth lagged behind industrial growth as a result of unequal distribution of resources. However, ignoring agricultural development worked against industrial development in the long run as industrial production requires raw materials from the primary sector. In addition, stressing the development of industry at the expense of agriculture resulted in growing disparity between urban and rural regions. Referring to the *Engel's Coefficient* 恩格爾系數 and guideline set by the *UNFAO* 國際糧農組織, people in urban area of China had 'barely enough food and clothing' in 1956, whereas those in rural area still suffered from poverty. Urban-rural disparity became more significant.

Attempts at modernization in the Maoist period –

the Great Leap Forward (1958-60)

1. Reasons for the Great Leap Forward

- A. Political aspect : Socialist construction
- B. Economic aspect : Continuation of the First Five-Year Plan
- C. Diplomatic aspect : diplomatic isolation

2. Implementation of the Great Leap Forward

A. Main objectives and direction

- To continue choosing heavy industries as the key construction projects, promoting industrialization.
- To boost up agricultural production and balance agricultural and industrial development.
- To continue socialist transformation, consolidate and enlarge the shares of common ownership.

B. Drafting and implementation

The Great Leap Forward was a part of the Second Five-Year Plan. The Plan was drafted by Zhou Enlai, the Premier of the State Council. However, Mao Zedong was the one who started the movement.

3. Details of the Great Leap Forward

In 1958, the CCP under Mao's leadership called on the people to hold high the 'Three Red Banners' to build socialism in China. The Three Red Banners were the General Line for Socialist Construction, the Great Leap Forward and the People's Commune. The General Line among the Three Red Banners was the guideline, and the other two put socialist theories into practice.

Policy/aspect	Details
General Line for Socialist Construction 總路線	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The General Line among the Three Red Banners was the guideline. People were urged to 'go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism' 鼓足幹勁，力爭上游，多快好省地建設社會主義。
Great Leap Forward in industry (the nationwide iron and steel production campaign 全民大煉鋼)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aiming to 'overtake Britain and catch up with the US' 超英趕美。 Demanding that the steel output in 1958 should double 翻一番 that in 1957, reaching 10.7 million tons Calling on the whole nation to join the steel production campaign. By the autumn of 1958, about 600,000 backyard steel furnaces 土高爐 were built all over China and were operated by 90 million people.
Great Leap Forward in agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopting the slogan of 'taking grain as the key link' 以糧為綱, calling on all peasants to plough deep and plant close and creating 'satellite farms' 衛星田 Organizing different types of huge campaigns, e.g. the Great Sparrow Campaign
People's Communes 人民公社	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merging Advanced Agricultural Production Cooperatives into People's Communes Their characteristic was 'first, big, and second publicly-owned' 一大二公。 'Big' describes the size of the Communes. Each of them consisted of 5000 households. The communes were 'publicly-owned' as they had a high level of public ownership 公有化。 By October 1958, 99.1% of peasant households joined the communes.

4. Impact of the Great Leap Forward on Chinese modernization

A. Positive impact

AI. Political aspect : Building socialism in China

Regarding Chinese socialist construction, the Great Leap Forward achieved great success. During the movement, cooperatives formed in the First Five-Year Plan were reorganized and merged into People's Communes, transforming them into the administrative organs at the grass roots. People's Commune, with *production brigades* 生產大隊 and *production teams* 生產隊 as its subdivisions, owned all property of the peasants and provided all kind of necessities for them. By October 1958, 99.1% of peasant households joined the communes. Though the 'equalitarianism' 平均主義 realized by the People's Communes led to reduction in production, the Great Leap Forward did raise the level of collectivism and public ownership and contribute to socialist construction.

All. Economic aspect : limited achievement in industry and agriculture

The Great Leap Forward stroke a severe blow to China's economy. However, the mass movement lasting for 2 years and involving 600 million people did bear some fruits. For industry, some plants and facilities were built during the Great Leap Forward, relating to steel, machinery, electricity and chemical industry. Examples are *Nanjing Iron and Steel Plant* 南京鋼鐵廠(1958), *Qingdao No.3 Iron and Steel Plant* 青島第三鋼鐵廠(1958). These infrastructures helped promote Chinese industrialization. Many of them are still in operation now. The movement also promoted agricultural development. Responding to the Great Leap Forward in agriculture, the government called on the masses to take part in water conservation projects. For instance, 4 hundred thousand people were gathered to build the *Beijing Shisanling Reservoir* 北京十三陵水庫 in 1958 for flood prevention and easier irrigation.

B. Negative impact

BI. Political aspect : Sowing the seeds of the Cultural Revolution

Owing to the serious economic lost and social disruption brought by the Great Leap Forward, Mao bore the full responsibility and admitted his mistakes. He 'retreated to the second line' and remained as the Chairman of the CCP and the CMC only, allowing Liu Xiaoqi, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping to take charge of the government. However, when Liu and his supporters put forward the principle of 'readjustment, consolidation, filling out and raising standards' and adopted the policy of 'three freedoms and one fixed quota' 三自一包, Mao was dissatisfied as he thought these were all acts of 'right deviations' and would lead China to regression. Moreover, Liu claimed that 'three-tenths (of the massive famine in the early 1960s) was natural calamity and seven-tenths was man-made' 三分天災、七分人禍. Mao thought Liu was talking about him and his prestige was damaged. Therefore, he was determined to reclaim the power, paving the way to the Cultural Revolution.

BII. Industrial aspect : Wasting resources and disturbing agricultural production

The nationwide iron and steel production campaign involved 90 million people. They were preoccupied with steel production and collected all iron objects in their houses for smelting. By the end of 1958, the total steel output finally exceeded the target and reached 11.08 million tons. However, half of it was below standard and about 1/4 could not be used at all. Though great input was contributed to steel production, the outcome was not satisfactory. Most of the manpower and resources were wasted. Worse still, the people were too busy with steel production to do farm work. Agricultural production thus declined. To sum up, the loss brought by the movement outweighed the gain.

BIII. Agricultural aspect : Fake reports on agricultural output which led to famines

The government put heavy emphasis on production figures and production targets picked up continuously, ignoring the reality. For example, it increased the output target from 390 billion jin to 700 billion jin in 1958, and to 1050 billion jin in 1959. Local cadres had no choice but to fabricate production figures. To everyone's surprise, the official newspaper *The People's Daily* kept reporting those lies. The news articles led to intense competition of output all over the state and many 'satellites' 衛星 were thus sent. However, there was not enough food left for the people in the rural areas after selling the required amount of output to the central government. Also, having the practice of 'everybody eating out of the same big pot' 大鍋飯氣氛, the peasants ate as much as they wanted. Soon, China entered the difficult three-year period (1960-62). 15-30 million people died because of massive famines. The movement thus became the obstacle to Chinese modernization.

BIV. Diplomatic aspect : More serious isolation

China developed hostile relations with the West after the beginning of the *Cold War* 冷戰 and its participation in the *Korean War* 韓戰. In addition, Sino-Soviet relations started worsening at the end of the First Five-Year Plan because of Mao's discontent with the new Soviet leader *Khrushchev* 赫魯曉夫. During the Great Leap Forward, Mao wanted China to be self-reliant and break free from Soviet influence. He thus started the movement and called on the masses to build socialism with strong determination and willpower. However, Khrushchev openly criticized the 'rash advances' of the Great Leap Forward in 1959, making the relations even worse. In 1960, the inevitable Sino-Soviet split occurred. The Soviet Union withdrew over 1,000 experts from China and ended more than 600 construction projects. China became more diplomatically isolated. The isolation coupled with economic hardship made Chinese modernization more difficult to be achieved.

Attempts at modernization in the Maoist period –

The Readjustment (1961-65)

1. Reasons for the Readjustment

A. Political aspect : Failure of the Great Leap Forward

As the Great Leap Forward ended up with a complete failure, Mao, as the leader of the movement, bore full responsibility and ‘retreated to the second line’. Liu Xiaogi, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping handled national affairs instead. They corrected the ‘right’ mistakes, abandoned the General Line for Socialist Construction of ‘achieving greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism’ during the Great Leap Forward and implemented pragmatic readjustment policies.

B. Economic aspect : to revitalize state economy

After the Great Leap Forward, the state economy was poor. For industry, many resources were wasted, and for agriculture, false production reports were common. China had plunged into economic hardship and massive famine occurred. Therefore, Liu and other leaders felt obliged to implement pragmatic economic reform to promote China’s industrial and agricultural development again.

2. Implementation of the Readjustment

A. Drafting and its objectives

Liu suggested the principle of ‘readjustment, consolidation, filling out and raising standards’ in the Ninth Plenum of the Eighth CCPC held in January 1961. As ‘readjustment’ was the focus, the policy was called ‘the Readjustment’.

- *Readjustment* 調整: to try to balance economic development in agriculture and industry, wealth accumulation and consumption, etc.
- *Consolidation* 鞏固: to consolidate present economic foundation
- *Filling out* 充實: to fill out light industries and handicraft industries which used industrial products as raw materials
- *Raising standards* 提高: to raise the standards of enterprise management, productivity, products, etc.

3. Details of the Readjustment

Aspect	Details
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cutting expenditure on infrastructures ● From 38.9 billion yuan in 1960 to 7.1 million yuan in 1962
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the scale of production in heavy industry and increasing investment in handicraft and light industries ● Monitoring the quality of the industrial products and closing a number of loss-making factories and enterprises About 43,000 factories and enterprises were shut down during 1961-62.
Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sending part of the urban residents to rural areas ● During 1961-62, about 30 million workers had moved to rural areas.
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adopting the policy of 'three freedoms and one fixed quota' 三自一包. (i.e. plot free for private use, free markets, enterprises free to take responsibility for their own profits and losses and the fixed output quotas on the basis of individual households)
People's Communes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the size of the communes ● Each of them only consisted of 1620 households instead of 5000.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Developing regular full-time education and key schools again. ● Releasing intellectuals who had been wrongly labelled as rightists

4. Impact of the Readjustment on Chinese modernization

A. Positive impact

AI. Economic aspect : Economic recovery and development

The Readjustment rectified the 'rash advance' in the Great Leap Forward and adopted a pragmatic approach, promoting economic recovery and development gradually. Concerning the government budget, the budget deficit during 1958-61 was 8 billion yuan. After the implementation of the Readjustment, however, the government managed to balance its budget in 1962 and produced 800 million yuan of budget surplus, taking the first step away from financial difficulties. Achievements could also be found in industry and agriculture. From 1963 to 1965, the annual growth rate of industry and agriculture was 15%. The annual growth rate of industry was 18% and that of agriculture was 12%. Moreover, the difference between the gross value of industrial and agricultural output was reduced. Their ratio changed from 3.6 : 1 in 1960 to 1.7 : 1 in 1965. The difference in development between industry and agriculture as well as that between urban and rural areas was reduced. In 1965, prices of consumer goods returned to the level in 1951. These showed that the readjustment policy put China's economic development back on track.

All. Educational aspect : Rising education level

During the Readjustment, Liu rectified the *lopsided emphasis on 'redness' at the expense of 'expertise'* 重紅不重專 ('redness' refers to revolutionary ideas). Intellectuals were encouraged to do researches as the contribution to China's modernization. For example, the government asked the economists to set economic policies aiming for profits and efficiency rather than considering political factors. Also, people who had been wrongly labelled as rightists were released, so that they could be back to work and their talents could be tapped. Moreover, the government promoted education again, developing regular full-time education and 'key' schools. The number of students studying in university increased from 440,000 in 1957 to 670,000 in 1965. Secondary schools also doubled the number of students which finally reached 14 million. Chinese educational development began again after years of turmoil.

All. Technological aspect : Impressive result of scientific researches

As Liu adopted a pragmatic approach when he implemented the Readjustment, the government laid particular stress on scientific researches, thinking that technology would help promote efficiency and China's modernization. Therefore, many researches in the field of agriculture and industry were conducted. Examples were those on high-yield and drought-resistant crops. Apart from that, the government also supported *researches on mineral exploration* 資源勘探, *medical technology* 醫療技術 and *nuclear technology* 核科技. For nuclear weapons, China successfully exploded its first *atomic bomb* 原子彈 in 1964, making its the fifth nuclear-armed state. The test was very important to China as it was a crucial breakthrough in the history of its scientific development.

B. Negative impact

BI. Political aspect : Sowing the seeds of the Cultural Revolution

Liu and his supporters corrected the 'left' mistakes made by Mao and kicked off the Readjustment. They did not continue collectivization but allow individual production. Policies like '*three freedoms and one fixed quota*' 三自一包 were introduced. But Mao thought that such policies '*led China back to the road of capitalism*' 走回頭路, showed signs of '*right deviation*' 向右傾 and was against the principle of '*politics in command, thoughts in the lead*' 政治掛帥, 思想領先. He even thought that such policies would lead to the presence of the petty bourgeoisie who wanted to '*work alone*' 單幹 and '*build up family fortunes*' 發家致富. Mao concluded that Liu and his partners were trying to restore capitalism. Therefore, he started in rural areas the *Socialist Education Movement* 社會主義教育運動 in 1962 and specified that it was a must to purge the '*capitalist roaders*' 走資派 within the party, foreshadowing the beginning of a revolution.

Cultural Revolution (1966-76)

1. Reasons for the Cultural Revolution

- A. Political aspect : To reclaim the power
- B. Economic aspect : To uphold socialism
- C. Social aspect : Gloomy atmosphere pervading the society
- D. Ideological aspect : To build up a cult of personality
- E. Diplomatic aspect : To become leader of international communist movements

2. Characteristics of the Cultural Revolution

A. Political aspect : Anti-capitalist and calling for revolution

The goal of the Cultural Revolution was to smash the 'capitalist roaders' 走資派 and 'revisionism' 修正主義 to prevent the recurrence of capitalist system. Therefore, the people should start revolutions continuously to purge those rightists, sticking to Mao's idea that 'class struggle should be promoted every year, every month, every day'.

B. Political aspect : Irrational, ridiculous and showing no respect for law and order

The purges made in the Cultural Revolution were irrational and ridiculous. No evidence was needed to purge others. Hence, many unreasonable purges were started. In addition, the people joining the purges showed no respect for law and order. Even Liu Xiaqi, the State President at that time, was purged by the masses under such circumstances.

C. Economic aspect : Ignoring production

During the Cultural Revolution, the masses were preoccupied with the purges of 'capitalist roaders' 走資派 and 'revisionists' 修正主義分子. Production was thus stopped, leading to serious economic recession.

D. Social aspect : Idol worship

During the Cultural Revolution, the people regarded Mao as their spiritual leader. *The Quotations from Chairman Mao* 毛語錄 became everyone's must-read. Some of them even believed that 'parents may love me, but not as much as Chairman Mao' 爹親娘親不如毛主席親. These fanatics even struggled against their parents and teachers to show their support to the dearest Chairman, reflecting the fever of idol worship in the country.

E. Educational aspect : Disdaining education and knowledge

Education was regarded as unproductive and worthless. People believed that *'study is useless: the more you study, the more foolish you become'* 「讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢」 and *'the more knowledge, the more reactionary'* 知識愈多愈反動. In addition, teenagers in cities were forced to leave school and work in rural areas owing to the *'Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement'* 上山下鄉, losing the chance to study.

F. Ideological aspect : anti-traditional

One of the objectives of the revolution was to bring China new thoughts and cultures. Movements like the one to *'destroy the "Four Olds" and create the "Four News"'* 破四舊、立四新 was started to oppose the traditional thoughts, cultures, customs, religions and values.

G. Diplomatic aspect : strong anti-foreign sentiment

Anti-foreign sentiment was stirred up during the revolution. The Red Guards attacked foreign legations and assaulted ambassadors inside. Other foreigners in China were closely watched over. Also, Chinese people with foreign contact were persecuted as *'capitalist roaders'* 走資派 or *'traitors'* 漢奸.

3. Development of the Cultural Revolution

Course of the Cultural Revolution		
Time	Event	Details
Winter of 1962	Socialist Education Movement (Four Clean-ups Movement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 'Checking up on accounts, warehouses, property and workpoints' in 11 regions
1963	'Learn from the PLA' Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urging the Chinese to learn revolutionary and self-sacrificing spirit from the PLA
May 1964	Publication of the Quotations from Chairman Mao	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Distributed within the PLA starting from May 1964 ➤ Available all over the country after December 1966
Mid 1964	Rectification Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Ministry of Culture launched the Rectification Movement against literary and art circles, criticizing all fields of literary and art ➤ In November 1965, Mao Zedong instructed Yao Wenyuan to publish an article 'Comments on the New Historical Play <i>The Dismissal of Hai Rui</i>'. By criticizing Wu Han, the writer of the play, Mao wanted to bring down Liu Xiaoqi and his group. The event led to the outbreak of the Cultural Revolution.
May 1966	May 16 Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Central Committee passed a notice drafted by Mao, which was also known as the May 16 Notice. He called on the masses to fight against 'capitalist roaders' and 'revisionists' through the notification.
May 1966	Central Cultural Revolution Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Responsible for leading and organizing the Cultural Revolution
August 1966	Bombard the Headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mao wrote a big-character poster entitled 'Bombard the Headquarters' and claimed that there was a 'bourgeois headquarter' in the party, alluding to Liu. He also urged the masses to 'destroy the Four Olds and create the Four News'. Thus, the people damaged antiques and monuments. They also purged those 'capitalist roaders' in the Party. ➤ Between August and November 1966, Mao greeted about 13 million Red Guards coming from all over China in the 8 rallies held in the Tiananmen Square.

Course of the Cultural Revolution		
Time	Event	Details
January 1967	January Storm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rebels like Wang Hongwen started the 'January Storm' in 1967 and overthrew the ruling group in Shanghai. ➤ Influenced by this event, the Red Guards and other rebels started armed conflicts and purges all over China.
December 1968	Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Many teenagers dropped off from schools owing to the revolution and the fever of Cultural Revolution continued. Hence, Mao urged the 'sent-down youth' to go 'down to the countryside' to study and work together. He intended to cool down the Red Guard movement.
April 1969	9 th National Congress of the CCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 9th National Congress of the CCP, 45% of the full members and alternate members of the 9th Central Committee were military personnel. Also, the military controlled 20 out of 29 Revolutionary Commissions in the country. These showed that the influence of the Fourth Field Army headed by Lin Biao extended significantly. Meanwhile, the influence of Jiang Qing and her group extended also. Few of its important members entered the Central Politburo and opposed Lin's group.
July - August 1969	July 23 Announcement and August 28 Command	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ordering the people to dissolve mass organizations and hand in all weapons
August - September 1970	Second Plenum of the Ninth CCPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Second Plenum of the Ninth CCPC was held in Lushan. Mao advocated the abolishment of the office of State President. Lin was discontented with his decision. ➤ Chen Boda, supporter of Lin, opposed Mao's instruction in the plenum and was punished afterwards. In October of the same year, the party started the 'Anti-Chen Rectification movement' which criticized Lin indirectly.

Course of the Cultural Revolution

Time	Time	Time
September 1971	Lin Biao staging a coup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lin staged a coup in September 1971, trying to assassinate Mao. ➤ It failed and Lin was killed in a plane crash on the way to the Soviet Union. This accident was dubbed the 'Lin Biao Incident'. ➤ After the incident, Mao brought old cadres back to work gradually.
Summer of 1972	Anti-Lin Rectification Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Criticizing Lin Biao and claiming that he was a 'counter-revolutionary double dealer' and 'kept holding the <i>Quotations</i> in his hand and saying "Long Live" in his mouth; acted friendly toward others and stabbed them in the back'.
January - June 1974	Anti-Lin, Anti-Confucius Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 1974, Jiang Qing carried out the 'Anti-Lin, Anti-Confucius Campaign' which criticized the 'Duke of Zhou'. It referred to regents in the Western Zhou period superficially, but Zhou Enlai in fact.
Second half of 1975	Criticize Deng and Repulse Right Deviationist Verdict Reversal Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 1975, Zhou invited Deng to return to the government owing to his illness. Deng attempted to correct the mistakes made in the Cultural Revolution, drawing fire from Mao and the Gang of Four.
April 1976	Tiananmen Incident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Zhou died in January 1976. People coming from all over the country gathered in the Tiananmen Square to mourn his death and denounce the Gang of Four. It finally evolved into the Tiananmen Incident. ➤ The Gang of Four claimed that it was a counter-revolutionary event and attributed it to Deng. He was thus removed from power.
October 1976	The Gang of Four coming under arrest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hua Guofeng and Ye Jianying staged the 'October coup' and arrested the Gang of Four after Mao's death in September 1976, ending the 10-year Cultural Revolution.

4. Impact of the Cultural Revolution on China's modernization

A. Positive impact

AI. Political aspect: Important lesson learnt at heavy cost

The party leaders learnt a lesson at heavy cost in the Cultural Revolution. The prolonged struggles brought China immeasurable destruction. Hence, the CCP no longer adopted '*class struggle*' 階級鬥爭 as the principle of socialist construction after the Cultural Revolution. The state leaders wanted to achieve class unity instead. When Deng Xiaoping emerged in 1977, he stated the principle of '*unity and stability*' 團結穩定. He stressed that political stability was the foundation for national development and social unity was the prerequisite for socialist construction. He also shifted the focus of the state from political struggle to economic construction. He took a pragmatic approach and worked on policies to construct '*socialism with Chinese characteristics*' 有中國特色的社會主義.

All. Agricultural aspect: Development in the countryside and education

Economic activities were stopped almost completely during the Cultural Revolution. However, Mao initiated the '*Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement*' 上山下鄉運動 in 1968, encouraging youth in cities to live and work in rural areas. It is estimated that about 16 million 'sent-down youth' had moved to rural or remote areas to work during the revolution. They helped the construction of infrastructures and farming, promoting development in the countryside. In addition, the knowledgeable 'sent-down youth' set up schools in the rural areas and became the teachers, facilitating the development of basic education. The primary school enrolment rate increased from 57% in 1963 to 96% in 1976. Their contribution to basic education in China was significant.

Alll. Social aspect: Improving women's status

Women's status had been increasing since the introduction of the First and Second Five-Year Plans. Based on the concept of collectivization, everyone should take his own roles and contribute to the society regardless of sex. During the Cultural Revolution, Mao introduced the idea of '*women hold up half the sky*' 婦女能頂半邊天 and it spread all over China. Women took part in purges actively and constituted large part of the Red Guards. Women also presented in much political propaganda, promoting gender equality and women's liberation. Moreover, *Jiang Qing* 江青, one of the leaders of the Cultural Revolution, became the role model for women. Her presence encouraged other women to join political and social movements, promoting feminism in China as well.

B. Negative impact

BI. **Political aspect: Paralyzing party and government institution, leading to lack of capable leaders and the ‘San Xin Weiji’**

The purges made during the Cultural Revolution were irrational. No evidence was needed to purge others. It posed a great challenge to the rule of law. Also, more than 2.3 million cadres were under investigation, which was 19.2% of the 12 million cadres in the country before the revolution. The acute shortage of officials paralyzed party, national and regional government institution, which remained unable to function properly long after the end of the revolution. Moreover, many capable leaders were purged, removed from power or even persecuted. *Liu Xiaoqi* 劉少奇, the former State President, was a representative example. China thus lacked capable leaders. Worse still, many people swore that black is white during the revolution. *Lin Biao* 林彪, the *Gang of Four* 四人幫 and other people praised Mao Zedong thoughts just for self-interests and power. It led to continuous coups and struggled, and thus the ‘*San Xin Weiji*’ 三信危機. They lost belief in Communism (Xinyang weiji), lost trust in the CCP (Xinren weiji), and lost faith in socialist construction (Xinxin weiji). The crisis affected the popularity of the party and was unfavourable to its attempts at socialist modernization afterwards.

BII. **Economic aspect : serious hindrance to economic development**

True, China’s economy still grew between 1967 and 1976. For example, the gross value of industrial and agricultural output and national income increased at the average annual rates of 7.1% and 4.9% respectively. Nevertheless, most of the people were preoccupied with political movements and ignored economic activities during the Cultural Revolution. Also, Mao placed *lopsided emphasis on ‘redness’ at the expense of ‘expertise’* 重紅不重專. Knowledge and technology were neglected. These greatly hindered China’s economic development. It is estimated that the ten years of the revolution cost China 500 billion yuan of national income, which exceeded the total investment in capital construction in the first 30 years of the PRC. The economic loss was the greatest in the early period of the revolution. The gross value of industrial and agricultural output decreased by around 14% from 1967 to 1968. Economies of the US, European and Asian countries boomed in the 1960s and 70s, while China suffered from political struggles and its economic development was harmed. China’s modernization process was thus slowed down.

III. Social aspect : divided society and moral decline

The Cultural Revolution emphasized revolutionary ideas. Mao, the leader of the movement, declared that *'class struggle should be promoted every year, every month, every day'* 階級鬥爭必須年年講，月月講，天天講 and *'it's right to rebel'* 革命無罪、造反有理. However, such struggles led to division of the society. The Red Guards mobilized by Mao purged those *'capitalist roaders'* 走資派 and *'revisionists'* 修正分子, many of whom were teenagers that admired Mao. They believed that *'parents may love me, but not as much as Chairman Mao'* 爹親娘親不如毛主席親. They supported Mao and struggled against their parents and teachers. *Bo Xilai* 薄熙來 who purged his father was a typical example. These resulted in moral decline and caused irreversible damage to the society. Their acts went against the idea of modernization, of which a harmonious and united society is supposed to be built.

IV. Educational aspect : creation of a generation lacking education

Education was regarded as unproductive and worthless. People believed that *'study is useless: the more you study, the more foolish you become'* 讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢 and *'the more knowledge, the more reactionary'* 知識愈多愈反動. Cultural activities were halted and cultural development was hindered. In addition, teenagers in cities were forced to leave school and work in rural areas owing to the *'Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement'* 上山下鄉運動, losing the chance to study. They thus lacked skills and knowledge. Moreover, many intellectuals and professionals were labelled as *'reactionary authorities'* 反動權威 or *'stinking old ninth'* 臭老九, and purged. As a result, education in China stopped. In 1982, more than 200 million people were illiterate or semiliterate. The movement created a generation lacking education, hindering Chinese educational modernization.

IV. Ideological aspect : disruption of traditional values

Cultural Revolution was an anti-traditional movement. Movements like the one to *'destroy the "Four Olds" and create the "Four News"'* 破四舊、立四新 were started. Undoubtedly, it helped overthrow traditional, feudalistic and old-fashioned ideas in China. But many valuable antiques and monuments were damaged at the same time. The traditional values held by the Chinese also faced great challenges. For example, the *Confucianism* 儒家思想 was criticized unreasonably. The civilization and those values that took thousands of years to be accumulated were destroyed in just 10 years. There was a long way to go before a new civilization could be created. Thus, the movement was unfavourable to the establishment of a civilized and modernized society.

BVI. Diplomatic aspect : more serious isolation

People had strong anti-foreign feelings during the Cultural Revolution as Mao incited them to struggle against 'imperialism' 帝國主義, 'revisionism' 修正主義 and 'capitalism' 資本主義, which indirectly refer to Western countries and the Soviet Union. It aroused anti-foreign feeling in China. The Red Guards attacked foreign legations and assaulted ambassadors inside. Other foreigners in China were closely watched over. Also, Chinese people with foreign contact were persecuted as 'capitalist roaders' 走資派 or 'traitors' 漢奸. China's relations with the Western countries nearly broke off. Although Mao tried to improve relations with other countries in the early 1970s, the movement was the peak of anti-foreign feelings and made China more isolated with no doubt. It prevented the inflow of foreign knowledge and technology, thus hindering China's modernization.

Reform and opening up (1978-2000)

1. Reasons for Reform and opening up

- A. Political aspect : To deal with 'San Xin Weiji'
- B. Political aspect : Leadership change
- C. Political aspect : Continuation of the Readjustment
- D. Economic aspect : To promote China's economic development
- E. Economic aspect : Failure of the previous economic system
- F. External factor : The success of capitalist system

2. Implementation of the Reform and Opening Up

A. Main objectives

- To achieve the 'Four Modernizations' 四個現代化 of China. The four areas are agriculture, industry, national defense and technology. The last one was the key to success and education was the foundation of the 'Four Modernizations'.
- China's GNP in 1990 should double that in 1980, so that people would be warmly clothed and well-fed; the GNP in 2000 should again double that in 1990, so that a moderately prosperous society would be attained; the GNP in 2050 should reach a level close to that of certain developed countries.

B. Drafting and implementation

The party held the Third Plenum of the 11th CCPC in December 1978. In the conference, the principle of 'take class struggle as the key link' 以階級鬥爭為綱 was overthrown. The government would then strive for unity and shift the focus of the work to economic development.

3. Details of the Reform and Opening Up

Aspect	Details
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Those collectivized programs were ended and the <i>Household Responsibility System</i> 家庭聯產承包制 was introduced in 1978. Peasants were given contracted use of land owned by the People's Communes before. They had to sign contracts with the government, which set the production quotas the peasants should hand over to the state. Food grew beyond the targets belonged to the peasants and they could eat it or sell the surplus in the open market. ● In 1985, the party replaced the <i>unified purchase and marketing system</i> 統購統銷制度 which was introduced in 1953 (the system of which the government purchased all agricultural products from the peasants and became the only seller in the country) with the abovementioned contract system. ● Greatly assisting agricultural development by other methods, like reopening the Agricultural Bank of China in 1979 to provide loans to the peasants ● Launching large-scale water conservation projects, such as the Three Gorges Project that began in 1994
Enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For TVEs, the party had encouraged the population to develop such enterprises since 1984. The guiding principle was mentioned in the 7th Five-Year Plan in 1985. In 1988, there were already 18.88 million TVEs in China. ● Reforming state-owned enterprises by introducing modern systems starting from 1985, including '<i>industrial responsibility system</i>' 承包經營責任制, '<i>shareholding system</i>' 股份制 and '<i>contract system</i>' 合同制.
Cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Making its very first attempt to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Guangdong and Fujian provinces in 1979. ● The four major SEZs in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen were officially established in 1980. ● 14 more coastal cities were opened up in 1984, including Shanghai, Tianjin, Dalian and Qingdao. ● Opening up more than 30 cities along Yangtze River and its state border gradually starting from 1992, such as Chongqing, Wuhan, Chengdu and Xian.

Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implementing the <i>One-child Policy</i> 一孩政策 in 1980 which strictly controlled Hanzu population growth. Each couple living in urban areas was allowed to have one child only
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For basic education, the party introduced the <i>Compulsory Education Law</i> 義務教育法 in 1986, providing nine-year free and mandatory education to students aged above six. ● For tertiary education, universities in China resumed admission in 1977. ● Also, the party reactivated 60 key universities which were originally closed because of the Cultural Revolution. 28 universities were added to the list of key universities at the same time.
Military and national defense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The party streamlined the army to cut expenditure. In 1985, the size of the PLA was reduced by a million. ● The government made considerable efforts to design and produce high-tech weapons. For example, the research and development of 'Jian-10' 殲-10 began in 1986.

4. Stages of Development of Reform and Opening Up

Basically, there are three stages in the development of the Reform and Opening Up.

- First stage: *Initiation period* 開展期(1978-89)
- Second stage: *Period of Suspension* 治理整頓時期(1989-92)
- Third stage: *Period of Rapid Development* 急速發展期(1992-99)

First Stage (1978-89):

A. First Stage of the Reform and Opening Up: Initiation period

During this stage, the scale of the reform was expanded from rural to urban areas in order to get rid of the economic system in the past, and at the same time, to increase the motivation and productivity in both industry and agriculture. The reform began with agricultural transformation. *The Household Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包制 was introduced in 1978. Collective production was abandoned and peasants were given contracted use of land owned by the People's Communes before. They were allowed to keep the surplus after handing over the required amount to the government. This policy reflected that the government reintroduced private ownership and abandoned collectivization and public ownership in agricultural economy. Other than that, the Communist Party set up 4 *special economic zones* 經濟特區 during 1979-80 to boost export trade and attract foreign investment and skills. The zones were Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen. However, the reform of urban areas was not truly implemented until the adaptation of Decision of the Central Committee of CCP on Economic System Reform 關於經濟體制改革的決定 in late 1984. The decisions included reforming state-owned enterprises, introducing systems like 'industrial responsibility system' 承包經營責任制, 'shareholding system' 股份制 and 'contract system' 合同制, and opening 14 more port cities like Shanghai and Tianjin to encourage foreign investment.

B. Reasons for the development in this period (Same as the reasons for the Reform and Opening Up):

BI. Political aspect : Leadership change

Conservative leaders died or fell from power one by one. Examples are the death of *Mao* 毛澤東 and the downfall of the *Gang of Four* 四人幫 in 1976. The influence of the conservatives who promoted class struggles and strived for genuine socialism became much weaker. The resistance was thus greatly reduced. In addition, *Deng* 鄧小平, a pragmatic leader, came into power and promoted class unity. Learning from foreign experience, he adopted a pragmatic approach to modernize China. As a result, the Reform and Opening Up could run successfully.

Second Stage (1989-92):

A. Second stage of the Reform and Opening Up: Period of Suspension 治理整頓時期

During this period, the Communist Party suspended the reform and slowed down economic development. In the Fifth Plenum of the 13th CCPC in 1989, the Communist Party announced the 'Decision on Further Improving the Economic Environment, Straightening Out the Economic Order, and Deepening the Reforms' 中共中央關於進一步治理整頓和深化改革的決定 to halt the reform by political commands and spend around 3 years to 'improve the economic environment and rectify economic order'. Expenditure on infrastructure was cut. The figures in the following two years (1990 & 1991) were being kept at the level of 1989. In addition, the GDP growth rate in China dropped sharply from 11.3% in 1988 to 4.1% in 1989 and 3.8% in 1990. It became the slowest growth since the introduction of the Reform and Opening Up. At the same time, foreign trade and investment also declined significantly. China's growth rate of imports and exports dropped from 38% in 1988 to 8.6% in 1989 and 3.3% in 1990; the growth rate of foreign direct investment also dropped from 13.1% in 1988 to 6.2% in 1989 and 2.8% in 1990, reflecting the drastic slowdown in the Chinese economy.

B. Reasons for the development in this period:

BI. Political aspect : Impact of the June Fourth Incident 六四事件

While students in Beijing were mourning *Hu Yaobang* 胡耀邦 in 1989, they requested democratic reforms and strict investigation of corruption. However, the student movement ended up with bloody crackdown by the government. After that, *Zhao Ziyang* 趙紫陽, the General Secretary who advocated economic reforms, was forced to step down. The strength of the reformers thus greatly reduced. Despite Deng's insistence on market reforms, the reform was stopped by conservatives led by Chen Yun as they thought that problems like inflation, corruption and political instability in recent years were all caused by Reform and Opening up.

BII. Economic aspect : Serious inflation and financial deficit

Huge investment was contributed and many infrastructures were built to echo the principle of 'deepening and broadening the reform'. However, these caused serious inflation and financial deficit. For inflation, the rates in 1988 and 1989 were 18.5% and 17.8% respectively. While for financial deficit, the deficit increased drastically from 6.28 billion yuan in 1987 to 13.4 billion yuan in 1988 and 15.89 billion yuan in 1989. To ease the severe inflation and deficit problems, the government consolidated the economy and regulated its development, hoping the inflation rate could be reduced to 10% or below in order to balance the budget while maintaining a proper economic growth.

BIII. Economic aspect : Economic sanctions by countries mainly from the West

The *June Fourth Incident* 六四事件 in 1989 provoked dissatisfaction of the West. They jointly imposed economic sanctions against China. For example, the United States cancelled *most-favored-nation treatment* 最惠國待遇 of China and requested delay of bank loan offered by the *World Bank* 世界銀行 towards China. Members of the EC also delayed the official export credit and economic development projects. The sanctions stroke a blow to Chinese economy and foreign investment in China shrank by 75%, blocking the channel for China to accept foreign loans. An estimation of US\$10 billion was shelved and that slowed down its economic development.

BIV. External factor : Unsuccessful experience of the Soviet Union

Gorbachev 戈巴卓夫 started reconstruction of Soviet economy immediately after he became the leader of the USSR in 1985. For agriculture, he granted more autonomy in farming and ways to use their agricultural products. For business sector, he allowed enterprises to set prices and wages, getting rid of socialist mode of production gradually. However, his economic reform failed. The inflation rate reached 19% in 1990, reflecting hyperinflation at that time. In the same year, its GDP had a negative growth of 2%. Worse still, the failure led to dissatisfaction and division of Eastern Europe. It alerted the party and made the party leader slow down the reform progress to avoid repeating its mistakes.

Third Stage (1992-99):

A. Third Stage of the Reform and Opening Up: Period of Rapid Development

During this period, the party reset the direction of '*socialist market economy*' 社會主義市場經濟 and made a lot of efforts to promote economic growth. Chinese economic development entered a stage of rapid development. A report was delivered in the 14th National Progress of the CCP in 1992, namely '*Accelerating the Reform, the Opening to the Outside World and the Drive for Modernization*' 加快改革開放和現代化建設步伐. It specified that the goal of economic reforms is to establish a socialist market economic system and demanded the state to be united and economic reforms to be accelerated. After giving a clear goal, the party took effective measurements to build market economy system continuously. For example, it has released its control over prices of television, food, wood and steel since 1992, creating price mechanism in the domestic market. The party also put in a great deal of effort to *reform state-owned enterprises* 改革國有企業 by granting them autonomy, adopting scientific management methods and establishing modern enterprise systems. Facilitated by the sweeping reforms, Chinese economy grew rapidly at an average rate of around 11% during 1992-99, showing the economic growth was at its peak.

B. Reasons for the development in this period

BI. Political aspect : Deng's Insistence

Despite the opposing and critical attitude of conservatives within the party, Deng insisted on the practicability of the Reform and Opening Up. During his *southern tour* 南巡 in 1992, he strongly commended local governments like Shenzhen and Guangzhou ones for their achievement in implementing market economy. Also, he stressed many times that socialism and market economy are not mutually exclusive. Many local and international media reported his tour, changing people's conservative thought. The three-and-a-half-year 'period of suspension' 治理整頓 ended. After that, "socialist market economy" 社會主義市場經濟 was established, as well as the direction and guiding principle. China then entered a new stage of reform and opening up and implemented the market economy gradually.

BII. Economic aspect : Pressure Brought by the Recession

As the reform was stopped suddenly in 1989, China entered a *period of suspension* 治理整頓. Its economy underwent recession under the leadership of the conservatives. The GDP growth rate declined sharply. It was 11.3% in 1988, and then decreased to 4.1% in 1989 and further to 3.8% in 1990. It was the slowest since implementation of the Reform and Opening Up. The slow economic growth and decrease in infrastructure investment stroke a severe blow to industrial and commercial development and harmed the interests of enterprises and workers directly. They also worked against long-term economic development. Under the pressure brought by the recession, the party leaders had to review the Reform and Opening up policies to avoid discontent among people caused by the prolonged recession.

BIII. External factor : Improve relations with the West

The June Fourth Movement 六四事件 in 1989 gave rise to discontent with China among many countries, especially for those in the West. The joint economic sanction led to dramatic decrease in foreign investment. Loans totaling US\$10 billion were shelved. Also, it created tension in the relations between China and the West and led to China's diplomatic isolation. In order to improve the relations, China re-implemented the Reform and Opening Up. It wanted to get rid of diplomatic isolation which was unfavourable to its.

5. Characteristics of Reform and Opening Up (Focusing on economic features containing “Socialism with Chinese Characteristics”)

Socialism with Chinese characteristics means that some capitalist ideas were adopted while socialism and communism were still upheld, so that economic development was promoted and socialist characteristics were maintained at the same time.

A. Objective : Economic development as the focus

Socialism emphasized class revolution, especially before 1978 when Mao ‘took class struggle as the key link’ 以階級鬥爭為綱 and started class struggles continuously. During the *Cultural Revolution* 文化大革命, people joined revolutions enthusiastically, ignoring production work and economic development. However, after Deng Xiaoping reclaimed his power in 1978, the country shifted its focus from political struggles to economic development. He pointed out that the party must lead and unite its people to build socialism in China with a focus on economic development. In this period, China built socialism by economic activities rather than class struggles. Therefore, objective that focused on economic development was one of the characteristics of the Reform and Opening Up.

B. Form of development : Market economy

Based on *Marxism-Leninism* 馬列主義 and *communism* 共產主義, economy should be highly centralized and planned 高度集中的計劃經濟. However, in 1978-2000, the government loosened its control over prices 放寬物價控制 though it still implemented Five-Year Plans to plan economic development. Planned economy was replaced by market regulation that the market would adjust to changes in demand and supply automatically. For instance, it permitted traders and handicraft workers to work as individuals 個體形式經營. There were also several waves of government officials who gave up their jobs and started business 下海經商. Even stock exchange market 股票交易所 was introduced to Shanghai and Shenzhen. Being a socialist state, China introduced market economy that was part of capitalism. The combination of the two ideologies became the ‘Socialism with Chinese characteristics’.

C. Way of Development: Reform and Opening Up

Socialism promoted collectivized production 集體生產模式, high degree of control over state-owned enterprises but not open trade 開放貿易. However, in 1978-2000, China abandoned collectivism and allowed individual economic development. For agriculture, ‘contract system’ 承包制 was introduced, allowing peasants to decide what to grow and how to grow. Also, it no longer controlled state-owned enterprises tightly but allowed them to operate independently 自主經營 and be self-financing 自負盈虧. Moreover, China focused on trade at that time. The government opened up many regions to attract foreign investment and technology. For example, Shenzhen and Zhuhai became Special Economic Zones (SEZs) 經濟特區 in 1980. Therefore, the way of economic development after 1978 differed from that based on socialist theory, and it created the ‘Socialism with Chinese characteristics’.

D. Control of the development : Centralized

The government made *macro-adjustments* 宏觀調控 by different means while implementing market economy, like implementing new laws and providing instructions. It was to make sure the economic growth rate lied within their expected range and avoid social problems brought by economic growth that was too fast. For example, *Zhu Rongji* 朱鎔基, the Governor of the People's Bank of China, adjusted the exchange rate of RMB in 1994. The USD-RMB exchange rate changed from 1:6 to 1:8 in 1994, ensuring sustainable development of China's foreign trade. Moreover, when foreign speculators attacked Asian financial market in the end of the 20th century, Premier Zhu Rongji and the State Council went hand in hand to stabilize the value of Renminbi and keep foreign speculators away. The government adopted market economy that is the concept from capitalism, but at the same time controlled the market centrally. This was an economic feature of the 'Socialism with Chinese characteristics'.

E. Development Process: Step-by-step and steady development

A big difference between economic policies of Mao and Deng is that the latter pursued steadiness and emphasized the importance of doing things step by step. Deng pointed out that China in the 1970s was still in the primary stage of socialism and would need at least a hundred years to achieve socialist modernization. Therefore, he suggested three steps in achieving China's modernization: Firstly, China's GNP in 1990 should double that in 1980. Secondly, the GNP in 2000 should again double that in 1990. And thirdly, the GNP in 2050 should reach a level close to that of certain developed countries. At that time, steady development and doing things step by step became characteristics of Chinese economy, leading to socialist economic development with Chinese characteristics.

F. Regions developed: Allowing regional differences

Socialism promotes *public ownership* 公有化, equal distribution of resources and properties reverting to the country. However, in 1978-2000, China allowed private ownership, which went against socialism that promotes public ownership. Also, the party let some people get rich as Deng thought that it was impossible for the whole nation to get rich at the same time. Therefore, some people in some regions shall be allowed and encouraged to get rich first. Then, they will lead other people in other regions to common prosperity. As a result, regional differences existed among eastern, central and western parts of China. Coastal cities in Eastern China developed first, like *Guangdong* 廣東 and *Zhejiang* 浙江, so that they could lead the Central China to economic prosperity. The government then proposed '*Western development*' 西部大開發 in 1997 to attract enterprises to develop there. Therefore, economic development after 1978 showed the characteristic of regional differences and helped create socialist economy with Chinese characteristics.

6. Impact of the Reform and Opening Up on Chinese modernization

A. Positive impact

AI. **Political aspect : Stabilizing political environment and introducing liberal and democratic ideas**

The implementation of the Reform and Opening Up put an end to class struggles in China. The country then pursued unity instead and focused on economic development. Hence, the political environment in China became more stable after 1978. It finally got out of the political struggles and turmoil which lasted for several decades. The policy promoted harmony, unity and therefore development of the country. Moreover, the reform allowed the inflow of liberal and democratic ideas. Big cities were opened up gradually and more students studied abroad. More than 60,000 officials and students visited or studied in foreign countries during 1978-88. These facilitated the spread of such ideas in China. The government tried its best to stop it. The *June Fourth Incident* 六四事件 in 1989 of which the protest in the Tiananmen was cracked down violently exemplified the efforts made. However, they were in vain and the inflow of ideas became almost unstoppable owing to its increasingly frequent interactions with other countries. Such ideas promoted democratization and liberalization of China in the long run.

AII. **Agricultural aspect : Improving agricultural technology and production**

The party put forward the *Household Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包制 in 1978. Collectivized programs were ended and peasants could eat or sell the surplus after submitting fixed portion to the government. In addition, the government greatly assisted agricultural development. It opened the *Agricultural Bank of China* 中國農業銀行 in 1979 to provide loans to the peasants. With the effort of decollectivization and encouragement from the government, the motivation and productivity of the peasants were boosted up. The total agricultural output increased by 50% between 1979 and 1984. Also, the agricultural technology and production in China were greatly improved, as the government strongly supported researches on it and introduced foreign farming skills and machinery to China. The food production even reached 500 million tons in 1996. A remarkable change took place in agriculture. The long-lasting shortage of food was eliminated. The demand and supply of food were balanced. There was even surplus in bumper years for agricultural production.

Alll. Commercial aspect : the rapid development of industry, commerce and trade

Before the Reform and Opening Up, *state-owned enterprises* 國企 in China faced low productivity and substantial deficit. After 1978, the party reformed such enterprises and encouraged the development of *Township Village Enterprises (TVEs)* 鄉鎮企業. It allowed the enterprises to be responsible for their economic decisions and self-financing. The *unified purchase and marketing system* 統購統銷制度 was also abolished in 1985. More freedoms were given by the government. In addition, the party gradually opened up coastal cities to attract foreign investment and skills. As a result, industry, commerce and trade of China grew rapidly. Its imports and exports was only US\$20.6 billion at the beginning of 1978. But the figure skyrocketed to US\$474.3 billion in 2000, showing a 23-fold increase. It ranked seven in the world. With the rapid commercial development, the GNP of China was growing at an average annual rate of 9.6% during 1979-99, which was one of the highest among all countries. The GDP per capita also increased from 379 yuan in 1978 to 7,159 yuan in 1999. The economic figures reflected that the economic flourished.

AIV. Social aspect : the One-child Policy slowed down population growth

The party wanted to reduce the pressure on resources and welfare by lowering the birth rate. Therefore, it implemented the *One-child Policy* 一孩政策 in 1980 which allowed each couple living in urban areas to have one child only. Expected result was obtained as approximately 250 million births were prevented during 1979-2000. The problem of overpopulation was alleviated and resources could be reallocated to economic development. The alternative use of resources helped China to achieve higher economic goals.

AV. Aspect of education and science : Rapid enhancement in education and science

Education was regarded as the foundation of the '*Four Modernizations*' 四個現代化. Emphasis was thus placed on educational development. The *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 was introduced in 1986, which required students to receive 9-year mandatory and free education. The party also reactivated key universities and 28 universities were added to the list of key universities. As a result, education in China developed at surprising speed. In 1999, the enrolment rate for children of school age reached 99% and there were 1071 universities in China. The result of development of science was just as remarkable as that of education, and the most impressive achievement was shown in space technology. For example, the Chinese-built Long March rocket sent an American satellite to orbit successfully and thus entered the international market (1990). A new chapter began in the history of Chinese space technology.

AVI. Aspect of military and national defense : growing military strength

In the Reform and Opening Up, the party streamlined the army to cut expenditure. In 1985, the size of the PLA 中國人民解放軍 was reduced by a million so as to reallocate resources for alternative use. Military organization was also adjusted with new units added. The number of *special forces* 特種兵 even surpassed that of infantry for the first time, showing improvement in the quality of the PLA. At the same time, the government made considerable effort to design and produce high-tech weapons. For example, the research and development of 'Jian-10' 殲-10 began in 1986 and its prototype made the first flight in 1998. The reliance on imported weapons was reduced and China's military modernization was fostered. By the end of the 20th century, China had already built a powerful and modernized army. Its military strength led most of the countries in the world.

AVII. Diplomatic aspect : multilateral diplomatic strategy leading to increasingly superior diplomatic status

After the introduction of the Reform and Opening Up in 1978, China made an effort to improve its relations with other countries. For example, normalization of Sino-Soviet relations took place in 1985 and it established diplomatic relations with South Korea in 1992. By the end of the 20th century, China resumed diplomatic relations with most of the neighboring countries and was on the way to multilateral diplomacy. Meanwhile, China played a more important role in international affairs as it became more willing to shoulder its responsibility after building up national strength in the Reform. It involved in issues ranging from regional peace-keeping missions to safeguarding world peace. For example, China mediated between North Korean and other countries like the US, South Korea and Japan during the *North Korean Nuclear Crisis* 朝鮮核危機 in 1992-94, leading to talks held afterwards. This event also showed China's growing influence in the international community.

B. Negative impact

BI. Political aspect : Corruption among cadres

The Reform and Opening Up encouraged cadres' corruption. Some officials and party cadres abused the loopholes of the reform and their power to earn money. The abuse of *dual-track price system* 價格雙軌制 was a typical example. They bought raw materials and merchandise at a low price for officials and state-owned enterprises only, then sold them at a substantially higher price in the market and made a handsome profit. In addition, corruption was very common. It is not rare for a government official or party cadre to make decisions favouring someone in exchange for a reward. *Chen Xitong* 陳希同 who was arrested in 1995 was a famous example. Corruption had a bad impact on the development of China as it lowered the efficiency of government officials. The cadres also violated the rule of law by making unfair decisions.

BII. Agricultural aspect : Continuation of the Three Rural Issues

Agricultural development was rapid in the early years of the Reform and Opening Up as the government made a lot of efforts to reform agriculture and rural areas. However, it was slowed down after the end of 1984 when the government shifted the focus of the reform to urban areas. In addition, rapid development of industry and commerce in cities caused high inflation. Development and income in rural areas failed to keep up with development in cities and increase in prices. The 'Three Rural Issues' 三農問題 were worsened again, which were the low degree of mechanization in agriculture, inadequate infrastructure in rural areas and low incomes of peasants. The development of agriculture suffered a setback. At the end of the 20th century, 200 million out of 900 million peasants in China were unemployed or underemployed, showing how serious the Three Rural Issues were. It reflected that rural economy turned bad when the government shifted the focus of reform to urban areas in the mid-1980s.

BIII. Commercial aspect : serious unemployment

During the reform, the government downsized the workforce of *state-owned enterprises (SOEs)* 國企 to raise their efficiency and cut production costs. Also, more foreign competitors entered the market after it was opened up. Some SOEs failed to withstand the keen competition and moved into huge deficit. With the presence of external and internal factors, it was not rare for SOEs to lay off their staffs. By 1995, SOEs made about 95 million employees redundant and they became laid-off workers ('xiagang' 下崗). The serious unemployment placed a heavy financial burden on the government as the workers relied upon its unemployment insurance. Meanwhile, the workers who were not covered by unemployment insurance had nothing to live on and faced financial difficulties. Some of them even resorted to illegal acts out of desperation, undermining public security.

BIV. Economic and social aspects : widen gap between the rich and the poor together with hyperinflation

The strategy of ‘allowing some people to get rich first’ 讓一部份人先富起來 of the Reform and Opening Up intensified economic inequality. The government had focused on the development of coastal area only since the mid-1980s. It allocated most of the resources to it and inland area was left behind. This resulted in widen gap between the rich and the poor. Many people in western provinces like *Tibet* 西藏 and *Guizhou* 貴州 lived below the poverty threshold and the living standard there was poor. Moreover, the increase in size of infrastructure, enterprise investment and bank loans led to hyperinflation in China. The *inflation rate* 通脹率 increased from 13.2% in 1993 to 21.7% in 1994, being the highest since the introduction of the Reform and Opening Up. It led to soaring production costs and falling living standard, working against enterprises and China’s modernization.

BV. Social aspect : Serious environmental degradation

The reform brought China rapid economic growth at the expense of the environment, putting the next generation in danger. Deforestation became a serious problem as large pieces of land were required. Also, many factories discharged sewage and exhaust gas directly without any treatment, causing water, soil and air pollution. China suffered from dramatic economic loss brought by environment degradation. In 1999, China sustained direct economic loss of 57 million yuan just because of environmental pollution. More importantly, pollution impaired people’s quality of life and harmed the interest of the next generation. The damage was irreversible.

BVI. Social aspect : drawbacks of the One-child Policy

The *One-child Policy* 一孩政策 had its drawbacks despite the fact that it slowed down population growth significantly. The most serious one was the prevalence of the idea of gender inequality and preference for sons. Many mothers chose to have abortion or abandon the babies when they found that they had baby girls. This resulted in an unbalanced sex ratio. Also, the labour force in China was decreasing because of the drop in birth rate, and most of the only children were spoiled by their parents and were unable to look after themselves. China’s competitiveness and quality of labour force thus decreased, harming its long-term development.

7. Relations between China and other Asian countries after the Reform and Opening Up

A. Political aspect

AI. Helping maintain regional peace

After the introduction of the Reform and Opening Up, China put a lot of effort to restore its influence in the international society. It totally opposed hegemonism and made considerable contribution to regional and world peace. For example, China mediated between North Korean and other countries during the *North Korean Nuclear Crisis* 北韓核問題 in the 1990s, acting as a channel of communication. Such efforts led to the *Six-party talks* 六方會談 in the 21st century. China also took part in UN peace-keeping missions. For example, it became a member of the *Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations* 聯合國維持和平行動特委會成員 in 1988 and dispatched 800 military personnel to support peace-keeping mission in *Cambodia* 柬埔寨 between 1992 and 1993. It was even the country dispatching largest number of peacekeepers among the permanent members of the UN, showing its active participation.

II. Territorial disputes with neighbouring countries

While China endeavoured to maintain regional peace, territorial disputes arose between it and the neighbouring countries. For instance, various territorial claims were made by China, Vietnam and the Philippines on the *Nansha islands* 南沙群島, creating endless conflicts over the ownership of them. Also, *border disputes between China and India* 中印邊界 remained unsolved. In the late 1980s, China deployed new troops to Tibet and Xinjiang owing to Indian large-scale military exercises along the common border, leading to growing unrest there. Moreover, China and Japan were drawn into the *Diaoyu Islands* 釣魚台 dispute. It did not only worsen their relations, but also caused armament race between them. It became one of the most acute problems in the 21st century.

B. Economic aspect

BI. **Close trading partner**

The Reform and Opening Up policy promoted trade between China and other Asian countries, making it a close trading partner with them. The total trade of China with other Asian countries increased at an annual rate of 16% in the 1990s and their bilateral trade reached US\$270 billion in 1999. In addition, China cooperated with other countries actively in the fields of economy and trade. For example, it joined the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)* 亞太經合組織 in 1991 and started participating in the *ASEAN Regional Forum* 東盟地區論壇 in 1994. China had more economic interactions with the neighbouring countries. The cooperation sped up economic development of China as well as the whole Asia-Pacific Rim.

BII. **Preserving regional economic stability**

China played a more significant role in preserving regional economic stability owing to its growing economic strength and developing economic relationship with Asian powers. The *Asian Financial Crisis* 亞洲金融風暴 in 1997 was a typical example. China maintained the value of Renminbi and kept foreign speculators away. The stable value of China's currency prevented other Asian countries being affected by its depreciation. It also provided loans and aid totaling US\$4 billion for Asian countries being trapped. The financial assistance was a real lifesaver for them. Eventually, the damage to Asian countries brought by the financial crisis was reduced owing to China's effort. Its support was essential for the economic stability in Asia.

C. Social aspect

CI. **Promoting cultural interaction**

China had more cultural interactions with foreign countries after the reform, including Russia, Japan, Korea and countries from the ASEAN as well as other regions. China reorganized the *Ministry of Culture* 文化部 and established the *Bureau for External Cultural Relations* 對外文化聯絡局 which is in charge of foreign affairs in cultural work and cultural exchanges. It also signed many different cultural cooperation agreements with other states. For example, it signed a cultural agreement with India in 1995, which included interactions of education, culture, art, social science and other aspects. Moreover, China has held the *Asian Arts Festival* 亞洲藝術節 since 1998, promoting art interaction between China and the neighboring countries. Increasing cultural interactions mean frequent interaction between China and foreign countries. It enhanced their communication and mutual understanding.

Timeline	
Year	Event
1949	Establishment of the People's Republic of China
1950	Signing of the <i>Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance</i> between China and the Soviet Union
1950-52	Land Reforms
1951-52	The 'Three-Anti' and 'Five-Anti' Campaigns
1953-57	The First Five-Year Plan
1954	Holding of the First National People's Congress
	Promulgation of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China
	Mao Zedong being the first Chairman of the People's Republic of China
1956	Mao Zedong announced that China had become a socialist state
1958-60	The Great Leap Forward in agricultural and industrial sectors
	Beginning of the People's Communes
1961-65	The Readjustment
1962	The Socialist Education Movement (the Four Cleanups Movement)
1963	The 'Learn from the PLA' Campaign
1964	Publication and distribution of the <i>Quotations from Chairman Mao</i> in the PLA
	The Rectification Movement
1965	Mao Zedong instructed Yao Wenyuan to criticize the theater play <i>The Dismissal of Hai Rui</i>
1966-76	The Cultural Revolution
1966	Issue of the <i>May 16 Notice</i> from the Central Committee marking the beginning of the Cultural Revolution
	Formation of the Central Cultural Revolution Group
	Mao writing a big-character poster entitled <i>Bombard the Headquarters</i>
1967	January Storm
1968	The Up to the Mountains and Down to the Countryside Movement

1969	Holding of the Ninth National Congress of the CPC (the Ninth Congress)
	July 23 Announcement and August 28 Command
1970	Holding of the Second Plenum of the Ninth CCPC
1971	Lin Biao staging a coup
1972	The Anti-Lin Rectification Movement
1974	The Anti-Lin, Anti-Confucius Campaign
1975	The Criticize Deng and Repulse Right Deviationist Verdict Reversal Movement
1976	The Tiananmen Incident
	The Gang of Four being arrested; the end of the Cultural Revolution
1977	Deng Xiaoping resuming his power
	Universities resuming admission
1978	The Reform and Opening Up
	Reactivating 60 key universities which were originally closed because of the Cultural Revolution and adding 28 universities to the list of key universities
	Introduction of the Household Responsibility System
1979	Attempt to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Guangdong and Fujian provinces
	Opening of the Agricultural Bank of China
1980	Implementation of 'One-child Policy'
	Establishment of the four major SEZs in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen
1982	Establishment of the Ministry of Aerospace Industry
1984	Opening up 14 more coastal cities in 1984, including Shanghai, Tianjin, Dalian and Qingdao
1985	Formal replacing the unified purchase and marketing system with the contract system
	Introduction of the guiding principle applied to the development of TVEs in the 7 th Five-Year Plan
	Introducing industrial responsibility system, shareholding system and contract system successively
	the size of the PLA was reduced by a million

1986	Implementation of the Compulsory Education Law, which provided nine-year free and mandatory education to students aged above six
	Beginning of the research and development of 'Jian-10'
1987	Reorganization of the Ministry of Culture and establishment of the Bureau for External Cultural Relations which is in charge of foreign affairs in cultural work and cultural exchanges
1988	Admission to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations
1989	June Fourth Incident
	Participation in the United Nations Transition Assistance Group
1990	Sending military observers to the Middle East
	Chinese-built Long March rocket sending an American satellite to orbit successfully
1991	Admission to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
1992	Deng Xiaoping's Southern Tour
	Opening up more than 30 cities along Yangtze River and its state border gradually
	Launching of the Shenzhou manned spaceflight programme
1992-93	Dispatching 800 military personnel to support peace-keeping mission in Cambodia
1994	Beginning of the construction of the Three Gorges Dam
	Participation in ASEAN Regional Forum
1995	Signing of cultural agreements with India
1997	Hong Kong Handover
1998	Holding of the Asian Arts Festival

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Trend Analysis

	DBQ	Essay
SP	\	Q3. Compare the features of China's modernization efforts in the Maoist and Dengist periods.
		Q7. Select one country or region as example and discuss in what ways was the Second World War a turning point for it in the 20 th century.
PP	Question 2: Cultural Revolution Whether the Cultural Revolution was harmful to China's modernization	Q2. In what ways was the year 1949 a turning point in Chinese history during the 20 th century?
		Q7. Select any one country or region and discuss to what extent this country or region in the early 20 th century was different from what it had been in the late 20 th century.
12	Question 3: Cultural Revolution What short-term and long-term impact did the Cultural Revolution bring to China	Q7. Select one 'power' in the second half of the 20 th century and discuss why it could be regarded as a 'power'.
13	\	\
14	Question 3: China (Maoist period) Whether the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution had good intentions but brought about bad results	\
15	\	Q2. Do you agree that Mao Zedong(or Sun Yat-sen/Chiang Kai-shek/ Deng Xiaoping)'s impact on the development of China was more positive than negative?

16	3 rd question:China (Reform and Opening Up)	Q2. Choose any two modernization efforts of China in the 20 th century and comment on the validity of the statement 'Chinese modernization efforts had different programmes to achieve the same result'.
	Does the Reform and Opening up policy lead to a transformation in China	
17	\	Q2. Compare reform and revolution as means of transforming a country in the 20 th century. Explain your answer using one reform and one revolution of China. Q7. Suppose you were living in China in the 1960s and had a strong desire to migrate to Japan. Discuss the problems faced by China at that time and the attractions of Japan.
18	\	Q2. Which of the following leaders do you think was a greater leader for China? (a) Sun Yat-sen (b) Mao Zedong
19	Q1: China and Hong Kong	\
	Did mainland Chinese and Hong Kong Chinese people share similar views on major events happening in China?	
20	\	Q2. How far were the methods of economic development adopted in the Maoist period different from those in the Deng Xiaoping era?

The Chinese Communist Revolution

Study Sources A and B.

DBQ

#1

SOURCE A

The following extract is adapted from Mao Zedong's speech titled 'New-Democratic Constitutional Government' delivered before the Yen-an Association for the Promotion of Constitutional Government on 20 February 1940.

What is new-democratic constitutional government? It is the joint dictatorship of several revolutionary classes over the traitors and reactionaries. Someone once said, 'when there is food, let everyone share it.' I think this can serve to illustrate New Democracy. Just like everyone should share what food there is, there should be no monopoly of power by a single party, group or class.

Revolution in China has not yet succeeded, and there is no democratic government in our nation except areas such as the border regions. The fact is that China is now under semi-colonial and semi-feudal rule. Even if a good constitution was promulgated, it would inevitably be hindered by the feudal forces and obstructed by the die-hards, and carrying it out smoothly would be impossible. Therefore, the current movement for constitutional government is to strive for a democracy that has not yet been achieved, rather than to affirm a democracy that has already become a fact. This will be a huge struggle and certainly not a light or easy matter.

This movement for constitutional government will never follow the course decided by the die-hards but will run counter to their intentions and take the course determined by the people. The wheel of history cannot be pushed back. We must win democracy and freedom, and we must establish a new-democratic constitutional government. If things do not go this way and the die-hards have their way, the nation will simply fail. In order to prevent the nation from failing, this is the way we must work.

SOURCE B

The following extract is adapted from an editorial titled *On the spirit of democracy of Britain and America* published in the Chinese party newspaper Xinhua Daily on 30 March 1944.

The fundamental freedoms of the people are duly respected. Whether a constitutional government can achieve its goals depends on whether the people enjoy the right to vote for who they want to be in charge of the government, and the ability to oust the government they oppose by peaceful means. In order to achieve the aforementioned goals, the people should be free to criticize their government, to assemble for political discussions, and from unlawful arrests and detention by the government. Therefore, the rights to freedom of speech, assemble and personal liberty are deemed the fundamental freedoms constitutionally necessary for the people. Without these freedoms, a constitution will not be successful.

The British people consider the rights to freedom of speech, assemble and personal liberty to be the foundations for a democratic government and value them so much, so do their American counterparts. Except anti-democratic aggressors in Fascist countries such as Germany and Japan, we think no one in the world will be hostile to the two essential qualities of democracy in Britain and America – equality and freedom. They are meant to be praised! They are the common treasure for the mankind. As righteous people in this world, we just want such equality and freedom to be reinforced and promoted. No one would ever disapprove or even utterly destroy these essential qualities.

- (a) If you were a Chinese intellectual in 1940, would you support Mao Zedong? Explain your answer with reference to Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) What was the attitude of the author of Source B towards Britain and America? Explain your answer with reference to one clue from Source B. (3 marks)
- (c) 'The political beliefs of the Chinese Communist Party demonstrated fundamental changes after the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949.' Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. Limit your discussion up to 1978. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme & Suggested Answer

(a) If you were a Chinese intellectual in 1940, would you support Mao Zedong?

Explain your answer with reference to Source A.

(4 marks)

Marking Scheme

L1 Vague answer and ineffective use of the Source. [max. 2]

L2 Clear answer and effective use of the Source. [max. 4]

Support:

e.g. - Mao Zedong campaigned against one-party dictatorship ('there should be no monopoly of power by a single party, group or class'), and fought for democracy as well as freedom for the people ('We must win democracy and freedom').

* Candidates in general will support Mao Zedong. However, marks will be awarded to answers that hold an opposite view and are presented logically.

Suggested Answer

I would support Mao Zedong.

Stating that 'there should be no monopoly of power by a single party, group or class', Mao was clearly against one-party dictatorship and thought that political power should not rest in the hands of a handful of people. Considering that Mao cared about the Chinese people and would share what food there was, I would support him.

Mao pointed out that 'there was no democratic government' in China except for areas such as the border regions, and his 'movement for constitutional government was to strive for a democracy that had not yet been achieved'. Clearly, Mao advocated democracy and worked towards a democratic government instead of an autocratic regime. For this reason, I would support him.

Mao claimed that constitutional development should 'take the course determined by the people' and they 'must win democracy and freedom' since it was the necessary way to 'prevent the nation from failing'. It was clear that Mao sincerely cared about the people, acted in the public interest and strived to save the nation. Therefore, I would support him.

(b) What was the attitude of the author of Source B towards Britain and America?
Explain your answer with reference to one clue from Source B. (3 marks)

Marking Scheme

One mark for valid attitude and two marks for valid explanation

Attitude:

e.g. - Complimentary, approving

Explanation

e.g. - Saying that 'no one in the world will be hostile to the two essential qualities of democracy in Britain and America – equality and freedom' and 'they are meant to be praised', the author intended to praise democracy in Britain and America.

Suggested Answer

The author held a positive, complimentary and approving attitude towards Britain and America.

Saying that 'no one in the world will be hostile to the two essential qualities of democracy in Britain and America – equality and freedom' and 'they are meant to be praised', the author intended to praise democracy in Britain and America. He thought that people in the world will not oppose the British and American democratic governments but praise them. It was clear that he held a complimentary attitude towards Britain and America.

- (c) 'The political beliefs of the Chinese Communist Party demonstrated fundamental changes after the establishment of the People's Republic of China in 1949.' Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. Limit your discussion up to 1978. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Vague argument, ineffective in using both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 2]
L2 Unbalanced discussion with effective use of Sources or own knowledge only. [max. 4]
L3 Sound and balanced discussion with effective use of both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 8]

Fundamental changes:

e.g. - Before 1949, the CCP supported a political environment with democracy and freedom (Sources A and B); after 1949, the CCP adopted one-party dictatorship, had no democratic elections and suppressed dissidents (Own knowledge).

No fundamental changes:

e.g. - Before 1949, the CCP advocated a new-democratic constitutional government (Source A); in 1949, the CCP established a people's democratic dictatorship based on workers and peasants, putting the dictatorship of the majority of the people into practice (Own knowledge).

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, I agree with this statement.

It was true that some of the CCP's political beliefs did not undergo fundamental changes. For example, from Source A, Mao supported a new-democratic constitutional government, which was 'the joint dictatorship of several revolutionary classes over the traitors and reactionaries', or the dictatorship with most classes united against the small group of reactionaries.

From my own knowledge, after the establishment of the PRC in 1949, the CCP united different classes, including workers, peasants, soldiers and students, and established a people's democratic dictatorship based on workers and peasants and fought against several classes, including the remaining Nationalists, wealthy peasants and capitalist roaders. The political belief of achieving a dictatorship led by workers and peasants was not changed throughout the period concerned.

In addition, one of the political beliefs of the CCP before 1949 was that ‘the party commands the gun’, and it believed that ‘political power grows out of the barrel of a gun’. Relying on war as a means to defeat the KMT, the CCP placed great emphasis on the principle of fully controlling the military.

From my own knowledge, such belief had not been changed after the time concerned as demonstrated by the fact that the People’s Liberation Army was directly under the CCP after 1949. The principle of ‘the party commands the gun’ was always adhered to without any changes.

However, there were drastic changes in its political beliefs in many other aspects.

From Source A, Mao advocated for democracy and claimed that ‘the current movement for constitutional government was to strive for a democracy that had not yet been achieved’. It was clear that he supported democracy with the people ruling the country and considered it the guiding principle for a constitutional government.

However, after the establishment of the PRC in 1949, the CCP abandoned democracy and established the autocratic dictatorship of the Communist Party as illustrated by the lack of national elections for the people to elect their representatives and rule the country. Therefore, there were fundamental changes since the CCP abandoned its democratic belief after 1949.

From Source A, Mao supported a multi-party system and pointed out that ‘there should be no monopoly of power by a single party, group or class’. Clearly against one-party dictatorship, Mao advocated a multi-party system and thought that the government should represent different political parties and classes instead of being controlled by a handful of politicians.

However, from my own knowledge, after the Anti-Rightist Movement of 1957, political parties other than the CCP existed in name only and political participation was out of reach for non-CCP members. China finished its transformation to one-party dictatorship, which was contrary to the CCP’s political beliefs in the past.

From Source B, the CCP supported a political environment with the freedoms for the people 'to criticize their government, to assemble for political discussions, and from unlawful arrests and detention by the government'. It considered these freedoms to be the prerequisite for a constitution to be successful and promoted the rights to these freedoms for the people.

However, from my own knowledge, the CCP allowed less and less freedom in the PRC after its establishment in 1949. During the Cultural Revolution, any criticism against Mao Zedong thought would be deemed reactionary, dissidents were purges and many intellectuals were sent to rural areas for 're-education'. The degree of freedom was extremely low, and the Chinese people lost their right to different freedoms. It was therefore clear that there were drastic changes in the CCP's political beliefs.

From Source B, the party newspaper portrayed America and Britain as role models and claimed that 'no one in the world would be hostile' towards 'democracy in Britain and America' and it was 'meant to be praised'. It was clear that the CCP showed approval of the British and American democratic governments, whose freedom and equality were considered worth learning from by China.

However, from my own knowledge, the CCP pursued an anti-imperialist policy after its rise to power in 1949 and targeted against Britain and America as leading imperialist countries. For example, Mao made the declaration titled 'People of The World, Unite and Defeat The U.S. Aggressors And All Their Running Dogs' in 1970 as a fierce criticism of American imperialism. It was clear that he abandoned the political belief of learning from Britain and America and even considered them enemies.

In conclusion, some of the political beliefs of the CCP were realized after 1949, but there were policies and developments in many aspects that were contrary to its political beliefs before 1949 and transformed China into an autocratic and one-party dictatorial country that lacked freedom and showed hostility towards the West. Therefore, there were fundamental changes to a large extent.

DBQ
#2

The Great Leap Forward of China during the Mao era
Study Sources A and B

SOURCE A

Below is a Chinese cartoon published during the Great Leap Forward.



The commune is like a gigantic dragon, and the production is noticeably awe-inspiring.

SOURCE B

The following article is the memoir of a Chinese person about the Great Leap Forward.

After the year of 1957, the whole nation made a 'great leap forward', rural areas were included in the People's Communes, and the higher authorities demanded us to dash to socialism. At that time, people completely lost their ordinary lifestyles and farming practices. Small individual families became big families in the form of production teams. All furniture was sent to public canteens. The useful pieces of furniture were kept and those of no use were burnt as firewood. All metal objects except tools such as sickles and hoes were taken for steel production, including even locks on doors and accessories on boxes. Houses were places for nothing but sleeping. In fact, even houses belonged to the communes. They often instructed us where to live and we had to follow. Some one-person houses were demolished, and residents there were forced to move to grand courtyards where all people lived.

Right after the Chinese New Year of 1959, public canteens faced food shortages and could only maintain their services with only a very limited amount of food every day. The staff barely put together some assorted grains and grind them into flour, which together with bran would be made into bread. Some 280 members of the team with men and women of all ages drooled in anticipation for food day and night. After a period of difficulties, they did not even have enough ingredients to make bran bread and had no choice but to add two or three catty of grain flour to a large pot of water and fill their stomachs with this 'flour mush'. Every day, one could only hear children in canteens crying bitterly to get something to eat from the grown-ups, and the grown-ups could do nothing except giving a sight out of frustration. Despite being starved, Commune members continued to work and hoped that they would break away from their plight after the autumn harvest.

- (a) According to Source A, what was the main message the cartoonist intended to convey? Explain your answer. (3 marks)
- (b) According to Source B, identify **two** characteristics of the People's Commune. Explain your answer. (4 marks)
- (c) 'Despite its good intentions, the Great Leap Forward was not an effective way to strengthen China.' Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme & Suggested Answer

- (a) According to Source A, what was the main message the cartoonist intended to convey? Explain your answer. (3 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Attempts identify a message, marred by lack in justification. [max.2]
L2 Able to identify an effective message, with sound justification. [max.4]

One mark for valid answer and three marks for valid explanation

Message:

e.g. - To praise the outstanding achievements of the People's Commune

Explanation

- e.g. - The caption 'the commune is like a gigantic dragon, and the production is noticeably awe-inspiring' showed the cartoonist's intention to show recognition for the People's Commune.
- In the cartoon, workers, peasants, party cadres and soldiers were all very enthusiastic about the People's Commune.
 - The abundance of items in the basin illustrated that the People's Commune generated bountiful revenue.

Suggested Answer

The main message was to praise the outstanding achievements of the People's Communes in bringing prosperity to China.

First of all, the caption 'the commune is like a gigantic dragon, and the production is noticeably awe-inspiring', together with the scene of people riding the gigantic dragon (the People's Commune) and holding high a huge basin of harvest, showed the cartoonist's appreciation of the Commune's production teams that reaped bumper harvests and created prosperity.

Also, the basin of 'the People's Commune' was filled with a myriad of items, including ships, planes, vegetables and rice. It was clear that the cartoonist wanted to praise the People's Commune that generated bountiful revenue and stimulated industrial as well as agricultural development.

Furthermore, the five people in the cartoon, representing workers, peasants, party cadres, students and soldiers respectively, wore delightful expressions on their faces. It was clear that the cartoonist praised the People's Commune by depicting the enthusiasm of different classes about the Commune and their satisfaction with the harvests.

Last but not least, in the cartoon, the People's Commune was portrayed as a place similar to heaven, which implied the cartoonist's appreciation of the achievements of the Commune and the well-off life led by its members.

(b) According to Source B, identify two characteristics of the People's Commune.
Explain your answer. (4 marks)

Marking Scheme

One characteristic plus relevant clue

max. 2 marks

- e.g. - High degree of public ownership ('All furniture was sent to public canteens... even houses belonged to the communes')
- Large in scale (The Commune was based on production teams, and the one the author belonged to had more than 280 members.)

Suggestion Answer

The first characteristic was its high degree of public ownership. From the Source, after peasants joined the Commune, 'all furniture was sent to public canteen', all iron objects 'were taken for steel production', and 'even houses belonged to the communes'. It was clear that peasants were deprived of private property and had to contribute everything they had to the Commune after joining it, and that the degree of public ownership was very high.

The second characteristic was its large scale. From the Source, 'small individual families became big families in the form of production teams', and the production team the author belonged to had 'some 280 members' 'with men and women of all ages'. Apparently, the People's Commune was based on not families but production teams consisting of several hundred people, being much larger in scale than production units in the past. The large scale is thus one of the Commune's characteristics.

- (c) 'Despite its good intentions, the Great Leap Forward was not an effective way to strengthen China.' Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Vague argument, ineffective in using both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 2]
L2 Unbalanced discussion with effective use of Sources or own knowledge only. [max. 4]
L3 Sound and balanced discussion with effective use of both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 8]

Intentions:

- e.g. - To stimulate industrial and agricultural production. (Source A)
- To speed up the transformation to socialism. (Source B0)
- To establish a socialist China as illustrated by slogans such as 'go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism' (Own knowledge)

Results:

- e.g. - Food shortages (Source B)
- The national iron and steel production campaign, during which most steel produced was below standard and could not be used at all, was time-consuming but fruitless. (Own knowledge)
- The People's Commune led to equalitarianism and undermine productivity. (Own knowledge)
- The Great Leap Forward led to the Great Chinese Famine and the 'Three Years of Difficulty'. (Own knowledge)

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, I agree with the statement.

In terms of intentions, Source A showed that the Great Leap Forward was well-intentioned. In the cartoon, there was a bumper harvest of products for the People's Commune, including ships, planes, vegetables and rice, that was exactly the goal of the movement. The intention of the movement. It was clear that the Great Leap Forward had the good intention to boost industrial and agricultural production.

From Source B, 'the whole nation made a 'great leap forward', rural areas were included in the People's Communes, and the higher authorities demanded us to dash to socialism'. Apparently, the goal of the Great Leap Forward was to speed up the process of putting revolutionary theories into practice in China and expedite its transformation to socialism, and the intentions of the movement were good.

From my own knowledge, the goal of the movement was to 'go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism'. It was clear that the movement was a well-intentioned attempt to establish a socialist China.

In terms of effectiveness, it was true that the Great Leap Forward was somewhat effective. From my own knowledge, a number of plants and facilities producing steel, machinery and chemicals were built during the Great Leap Forward, including the Nanjing Iron and Steel Plant (1958) and the Xinanjiang Hydroelectric Power Station (1959). These infrastructures promoted industrialization in China and helped strengthen the nation.

However, the effectiveness of the Great Leap Forward was far from satisfactory and did not actually make China a strong country. From Source B, 'all metal objects except tools such as sickles and hoes were taken for steel production, including even locks on doors and accessories on boxes.' As a result, the common people suffered a shortage of daily necessities since the majority of metal objects were used for steel refining purposes. Also, given that most steel produced was below standard, the campaign was a waste of manpower and resources and did not actually strengthen China.

From Source B, 'public canteens faced food shortages' and people had to eat 'bran bread' and 'flour mush' to stay alive. It was clear that the Great Leap Forward did not make the Chinese people well-fed and well-clothed. With the problems of hunger and food shortages, it was difficult for the nation to become strong.

From my own knowledge, the Great Leap Forward caused famines. As the central government continuously raised production targets, local cadres fabricated production figures to meet those sky-high targets. Also, with the practice of 'everybody eating out of the same big pot', the peasants ate as much as they wanted. As a result, famines occurred and more than 30 million people died. The consequence was disastrous.

Also, during the national iron and steel production campaign, more than 90 million people refined steel by indigenous methods with iron objects of inferior quality. As a result, half of the steel produced was below standard and about 1/4 could not be used at all. Apparently, the Great Leap Forward wasted a great deal of manpower and resources to produce useless steel. In addition to the food shortages it caused, the movement failed to make China strong.

Moreover, the People's Commune provided all kind of necessities for its members and adopted a collectivized production mode, undermining work incentives and agricultural production. This paved the way for the Great Chinese Famine in the early 1960s. It was clear that the People's Commune during the Great Leap Forward was a counter-productive attempt that reduced productivity instead of strengthening China.

Despite its good intentions and limited effectiveness, the Great Leap Forward gave poor results and even led to the largest famine in Chinese history, hindering the development of China in different aspects. Therefore, I agree with what the question suggests to a large extent.

Study Sources A and B.

DBQ
#3

SOURCE A

The following is a Chinese cartoon published in 1959.



人民公社好： People's Communes are good

共產主義是天堂，人民公社是橋樑： Communism is heaven and the People's Commune is the bridge to it.

SOURCE B

The following is adapted from the speech delivered by Mao Zedong at the Second Zhengzhou Conference of 1959.

The establishment of People's Communes leads to increased scale and level of the original system of collective ownership of the means of production, which also starts to embody certain elements of the system of ownership by the whole people. The communes' size is much larger than that of Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives, and, moreover, they have realized the unity of workers, peasants, merchants, students and soldiers, and of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, subsidiary productive activities and fish farming. This has given a powerful push to agricultural production and the development of the entire rural economy. A broad mass of peasants, especially those from poor or lower-middle backgrounds, have given big welcome to the communes. A large number of cadres have also done much useful work in the People's Commune Movement, manifesting great enthusiasm as communists. This is very valuable because it would have been impossible to make such extraordinary achievements if this kind of enthusiasm had been missing.

- (a) According to Source A, what was the cartoonist's view on the People's Commune? (4 marks)
- (b) According to the language and arguments used in Source B, what was Mao Zedong's attitude towards the People's Commune? (4 marks)
- (c) Do you agree with the cartoonist's and Mao Zedong's views on the People's Commune as reflected in Sources A and B respectively? Explain your answer with reference to the period concerned. (7 marks)

Marking Scheme & Suggested Answer

(a) According to Source A, what was the cartoonist's view on the People's Commune? (4 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Vague answer and ineffective use of the Source. [max. 2]
L2 Clear answer and effective use of the Source. [max. 4]

View:

e.g. - He thought that the People's Commune was a bridge leading China to communism.

Explanation:

- e.g. - Caption of the cartoon writes 'communism is heaven and the People's Commune is the bridge to it'.
- In the cartoon, people walked across the bridge in great delight, carrying a good deal of agricultural products.

Suggested Answer

He thought that the People's Commune was the bridge leading China to communism and making people's lives better.

In the cartoon, a group of worker, peasant, cadre, child and elderly person walked across the bridge representing the People's Commune together in great delight. This shows his view that People's Communes gave people good lives.

Also, in his depiction, people from all quarters reaped great results. For example, the peasant held a big corn, the student got a book in his hand, and the lady coming last raised a large plate of fruit. In the background there were also plenty of factories and crops. The cartoonist probably thought that People's Communes brought prosperity to people.

Lastly, the caption writes 'communism is heaven and the People's Commune is the bridge to it', implying that people would enjoy affluence and reach the heaven of communism after crossing the bridge representing the People's Commune. Therefore, the cartoonist was very likely to think that the commune was the bridge for China to communism.

(b) According to the language and arguments used in Source B, what was Mao Zedong's attitude towards the People's Commune? (4 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Vague answer, unable to clearly identify Mao's attitude, and/or only able to make good use of the language or arguments used in the Source to explain the answer. [max. 2]
- L2 Clear answer, able to identify Mao's attitude, with good use of the language and arguments used in the Source to explain the answer. [max. 4]

Attitude:

e.g. - satisfied, appreciative

Language:

- e.g. - Claimed that poor and lower-middle peasants 'had given big welcome' to People's Communes.
- Claimed that People's Communes had 'extraordinary achievements'.

Arguments:

- e.g. - People's Communes enlarged the system of collective ownership of the means of production.
- People's Communes boosted agricultural production and rural development.

Suggested Answer

Mao held positive, satisfied and appreciative attitude towards the People's Commune.

In terms of language, Mao claimed that poor and lower-middle peasants showed 'big welcome' to People's Communes, giving great support to their establishment. Therefore, Mao should be satisfied with the communes.

Mao also pointed out that the communes made 'extraordinary achievements', suggesting the results of the communes were significant. This is also an endorsement given to the communes and shows his appreciative attitude.

In terms of arguments, the formation of People's Communes led to 'increased scale and level of the original system of collective ownership of the means of production', which was then even larger than the Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives. Mao was therefore very satisfied with the results.

Mao also pointed out that the establishment of the communes led to the unity of all sectors of society ('workers, peasants, merchants, students and soldiers', and 'agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, subsidiary productive activities and fish farming'), which was a great 'push to agricultural production and the development of the entire rural economy'. The communes improved the conditions of rural areas and Mao held an appreciative attitude towards them.

(c) Do you agree with the cartoonist's and Mao Zedong's views on the People's Commune as reflected in Sources A and B respectively? Explain your answer with reference to the period concerned. (7 marks)

Marking Scheme

L1 Vague answer, unable to provide relevant historical facts as evidence, or give response to either views of the cartoonist and Mao as reflected in the two Sources respectively. [max. 4]

L2 Clear explanation supported by relevant historical facts, and give effective response to the views of the cartoonist and Mao as reflected in the two Sources. [max. 7]

Agree:

- e.g.
- Most peasants were members of People's Communes and they highly supported the communes.
 - Production tasks were performed by production teams in People's Communes under division of labour, which made collectivized production much more common in China.
 - People's Communes provided all kinds of services and a surge in degree of collectivism could be observed.

Disagree:

- e.g.
- People's Communes induced egalitarianism and made peasants less motivated in production.
 - People's Communes were too big that division of labour was poorly organized and management problems arose. Consequently, production in rural areas was adversely affected.

Suggested Answer

To a small extent, I agree with the positive views of the cartoonist and Mao as reflected in the Sources.

It is true that the communes were enthusiastically supported by peasants. By October 1958, 99.1% of peasants around the country joined the communes. This shows that People's Communes were highly supported by them.

Also, the presence of the communes did increase the level of collective ownership of the means of production. Under the People's Commune system, production teams finished their tasks by practising division of labour, which made collectivized production much more common in China and facilitated China's transition to a communist country by promoting the construction of socialism.

Moreover, People's Communes provided all kinds of services, including food provision, accommodation, health care and childcare services, that resulted in a surge in degree of collectivism and abolishment of China's private ownership system. This facilitated China's transition to a communist country.

However, the effectiveness of People's Communes was not great and they failed to bring people good lives and to make China a communist nation.

Firstly, People's Communes induced egalitarianism. Under the commune system, private ownership was abolished and collectivized production adopted. The members got the same pay regardless of the effort they put. Egalitarianism was resulted and people became less motivated in production. Consequently, agricultural production dropped and this paved the way for famines in the early 1960s, which made people lead a harder life. Therefore, the actual situation went against their views.

Secondly, their scale was too large with as much as 5000 households per commune. As a result, the division of labour was poorly organized and management problems arose. These lowered the efficacy and encouraged laziness, leading to decline in productivity and production. Therefore, the two people's views did not realize.

Last but not least, People's Communes, featuring public canteens, arranged daily necessities like food and housing for their members. Having the practice of 'everybody eating out of the same big pot', the peasants ate as much as they wanted and consumed massive amount of food at the beginning of the Great Leap Forward. Subsequently, food insufficiency hit China and 15-30 million people died from famines. It is clear that their views did not realize.

Despite the fact that People's Communes facilitated China's transition to a communist country, they adversely affected people's quality of life and were a main cause of the difficult three-year period in China. Therefore, I agree with the views of Mao and the cartoonist to a small extent only.

The Chinese Cultural Revolution

Study Sources A and B.

DBQ
#4

SOURCE A

The following poster was published in 1967. The people held in their hands *Selected Works of Mao Zedong* and wore armbands with the words 'Red Guard' or 'revolutionary rebel'.



The revolutionary rebels shall stick together to completely smash the bourgeois reactionary line of Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping!

SOURCE B

Below are the lyrics of the song *Battle Song of the Red Guards* written during the Cultural Revolution.

We are Chairman Mao's Red Guards.

We steel our red hearts amid great winds and waves.

We arm ourselves with Mao Zedong thought

To sweep away all pests

Dare to criticize, dare to struggle,

Never stop revolution and rebellion.

We will completely smash the old word,

And keep our revolutionary state red for ten thousand generations!

We are Chairman Mao's Red Guards,

Absolutely firm in our proletarian stand.

Marching on the revolutionary road of our forebears,

We shoulder the heavy task of our age.

We are Chairman Mao's Red Guards,

Vanguards of the Cultural Revolution.

We unite with the masses and together plunge into the battle,

Determined to wipe out all rightists.

- (a) Infer **two** characteristics of the Red Guards. Explain your answer with reference to Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) What did the songwriter of *Battle Song of the Red Guards* think was the mission of the Red Guards? Explain your answer with reference to one clue from Source B. (3 marks)
- (c) 'Despite its good intentions, the Cultural Revolution greatly undermined China's modernization.' Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme & Suggested Answer

(a) Infer two characteristics of the Red Guards. Explain your answer with reference to Source A. (4 marks)

Marking Scheme

- One characteristic plus relevant clue max. 2 marks
- e.g. - Personality cult of Mao Zedong ('The people held in their hands *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*')
- Support for revolution (armbands with the word 'revolutionary rebel', as well as the phrase 'the revolutionary rebels shall stick together')
 - Anti-capitalism ('to completely smash the bourgeois reactionary line of Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping!')

Suggestion Answer

The first characteristic was their personality cult of Mao Zedong. From the description of the poster, 'the people held in their hands *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*'. It was clear that the Red Guards had a cult of Mao Zedong since they supported Mao Zedong thought and studied his articles.

The second characteristic was their support for revolution and rebellion. In the poster, armbands of the people had words 'Red Guard' or 'revolutionary rebel', and the caption read 'the revolutionary rebels shall stick together'. It was clear that the Red Guards were on the same side as the revolutionary rebels and they together started the revolution, being pro-revolution.

The third characteristic was their anti-rightist stand. The Red Guard in the foreground held a hammer in his hand and was about to hit the two-headed beast representing Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping, and the caption read 'to completely smash the bourgeois reactionary line of Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping!'. It was clear that the anti-capitalist Red Guards considered the rightist ideology of Liu and Deng to be reactionary and deserved to be completely eradicated. They were therefore characterized as anti-rightist.

Point to Note

When the question requires two characteristics, students must answer two only. The principle of 'answering as many points as possible' is not applicable under such circumstances. Instead, they should elaborate their points in detail so that marks will not be deducted because of inadequate explanation.

(b) What did the songwriter of Battle Song of the Red Guards think was the mission of the Red Guards? Explain your answer with reference to one clue from Source B. (3 marks)

Marking Scheme

One mark for valid answer and two marks for valid explanation

Mission:

- e.g. - To eliminate bad ideas and old classes. ('To sweep away all pests'/'We will completely smash the old word')
- To eradicate the rightists. ('Absolutely firm in our proletarian stand'/'Determined to wipe out all rightists')

Suggested Answer#1

Their mission was to eliminate bad ideas and classes.

From the Source, the Red Guards had to 'arm themselves with Mao Zedong thought' and 'sweep away all pests'. It was clear that the mission of the Red Guards was to study Mao Zedong thought to eliminate the bad ideas and classes that were harmful to the nation and the people.

Suggested Answer #2

Their mission was to eradicate the rightists.

From the Source, the Red Guards were 'vanguards of the Cultural Revolution' and they united with the masses 'to wipe out all rightists. It was clear that the Red Guards were the major participants of the Cultural Revolution who were determined to fulfill their mission, which was to completely eradicate the rightists.

- (c) 'Despite its good intentions, the Cultural Revolution greatly undermined China's modernization.' Do you agree? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (8 marks)

Marking Scheme

- L1 Vague argument, ineffective in using both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 2]
L2 Unbalanced discussion with effective use of Sources or own knowledge only. [max. 4]
L3 Sound and balanced discussion with effective use of both Sources and own knowledge. [max. 8]

Intentions:

- e.g. - To abandon the reactionary line. (Source A)
- To eliminate old idea and destroy the old world. (Source B)
- To resume Mao Zedong's political control over China. (Own knowledge)

Results:

- e.g. - Endless political struggles (Sources A and B)
- Monopoly of Mao Zedong thought on Chinese academia (Source B)
- Interruption to economic and educational development. (Own knowledge)
- Diplomatic isolation (Own knowledge)

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, I agree with the statement.

The intentions of the Cultural Revolution were good to a large extent. From Source A, the phrase 'to completely smash the bourgeois reactionary line of Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping' showed that the goal of the Revolution was to abandon the bourgeois reactionary line adopted by Liu and Deng, and the term 'reactionary line' referred to a path going against the tide of history. It was clear that the Cultural Revolution was carried out to stop China from taking a path against the tide of history and thus well-intentioned.

From Source B, the Cultural Revolution was intended to arm the Red Guards with 'Mao Zedong thought' to 'sweep away all pests'. Clearly, the Cultural Revolution was carried out to let people study Mao Zedong thought in order to eliminate harmful ideas and classes and make China better, thus being well-intentioned.

From Source B, the Cultural Revolution was to encourage people to 'dare to criticize' and 'dare to struggle', and to 'completely smash the old world' by means of revolution. Apparently, the Cultural Revolution was a movement to encourage people to stand out and change the feudal old world for the better, being very well-intentioned.

To a small extent, the Cultural Revolution had bad intentions. From my own knowledge, Mao was obliged to accept his responsibility for the failure of the Great Leap Forward and retreat to the second line. One of the intentions for Mao to start the Cultural Revolution was to purge Liu and Deng in the Revolution and resume his control over the nation. Therefore, Mao staged the Revolution to regain political power out of selfish motives and bad intentions.

In terms of results, the Cultural Revolution did undermine China's modernization.

Politically speaking, from Source A, the Red Guards wanted to 'completely smash the bourgeois reactionary line of Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping' and purge the two state leaders, giving rise to political struggles. It was clear that by creating political instability in China and preventing the Chinese government from exercising effective governance, the Cultural Revolution hindered the nation's political modernization.

Economically speaking, from Source A, the people were enthusiastic about the Red Guards and took to the streets to purge capitalist roaders, causing an interruption to economic development. It was clear that by upsetting production and causing economic losses, the Cultural Revolution worked against China's economic modernization.

Ideologically speaking, from Source B, the Red Guards claimed themselves to be 'Chairman Mao's Red Guards' and armed themselves 'with Mao Zedong thought'. Their fanatic cult of Mao led to the monopoly of Mao Zedong thought on Chinese academia. Such homogenization prevented Chinese academia from developing in a diversified manner.

Politically speaking, from Source B, the line 'determined to wipe out all rightists' showed that the Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution were intolerant of rightist activists and ideas. This ran counter to the standard of political modernization, which was to allow different political parties and people of different political backgrounds to exist and voice their opinions. Such political suppression was harmful to China's modernization.

Socially speaking, from Source B, the line 'dare to criticize, dare to struggle, never stop revolution and rebellion' showed that the Red Guards carried out purges and caused endless conflicts as well as moral decline in society. The Revolution was thus detrimental to harmony and social stability, which symbolized social modernization.

From my own knowledge, in educational aspect, during the Cultural Revolution, education was regarded as unproductive and worthless, and people believed that 'the more you study, the more foolish you become'. These ideas contributed to a generation lacking education. Apparently, the Cultural Revolution led to the disregard for education and the lack of talented people, working against China's educational modernization.

Socially speaking, the Cultural Revolution kept Chinese society seriously divided for a long time. During the Revolution, there were purges between different classes and armed conflicts between different regional fractions, as exemplified by the January Revolution that took place in Shanghai in 1967 as an attempt to seize political power. For this reason, the Cultural Revolution led to grudges in society that lasted for several decades and hindered modernization by making society no longer harmonious.

Economically speaking, during the Cultural Revolution, the working population dropped significantly as people were preoccupied with purges. As a result, industrial and agricultural production came to a standstill, and 500 billion yuan of national income was lost. It was clear that by striking a blow to China's economic development and causing great losses to the nation, the Cultural Revolution undermined China's modernization.

Diplomatically speaking, during the Cultural Revolution, China had strained relations with other countries due to the internal anti-foreign sentiments and the attacks on foreign legations by the Red Guards. It was clear that the Cultural Revolution got China increasingly isolated and greatly hindered its diplomatic modernization.

In conclusion, the Cultural Revolution was staged partly because of Mao's selfish motives, but the masses participated in the Revolution in hopes of changing China for the better and the Revolution itself was well-intentioned to a large extent. However, the counter-productive Revolution did not create a better China but caused catastrophic consequences that greatly undermined China's modernization. Therefore, I agree with what the question suggests to a large extent.

a) State one feature of the Red Guards with reference to the Source(2marks)

Suggested Answer

Red Guards' characteristic is anti-foreign.

According to the Source, the Red Guard kept asking the author why he 'Why do you have to drink a foreign beverage?', 'Why do you have to eat foreign food?' and 'Why do you have so many foreign books?'. She also claimed that the author's house is 'the worst of all' and 'the most reactionary of all'. It can show that Red Guard hate foreign related things and would scold others because of this. They are anti-foreign.

b) Summarise the attitude of the Shenzhen government towards the entrance of McDonald's into China(3marks)

Suggested Answer

The Shenzhen government held a positive attitude. The government was welcoming, supportive and enthusiastic.

The Source pointed out that many Shenzhen government officials attended McDonald's opening ceremony and 'congratulated on behalf of the city government'. It included 'Li Guangzhou, Shenzhen's Deputy Mayor', 'Wu Xiaolan, Deputy Team Leader of the Preparatory Team of the Municipal People's Congress' and more. It can show that Shenzhen government welcomed the opening of McDonald's and officials attended the ceremony to show their support. The government is enthusiastic about the opening.

The Source is from Shenzhen Special Zone Daily, which is 'an official newspaper run by the Shenzhen Party Committee of the Communist Party of China'. The newspaper reported the opening ceremony of McDonald's and different information of McDonald's. It can show that there is a welcoming attitude.

c) Does the Reform and Opening up policy lead to a transformation in China[S+K](8marks)

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, Reform and Opening Up policy transformed China after 1978.

In terms of handling foreign matters, the Red Guard in Source kept asking the author why he ‘Why do you have to drink a foreign beverage?’, ‘Why do you have to eat foreign food?’ and ‘Why do you have so many foreign books?’. She also claimed that the author’s house is ‘the worst of all’ and ‘the most reactionary of all’. It can show that the Red Guard was anti-foreign.

However, in Source F, after Reform and Opening Up, McDonald’s was open in 1990. Chinese loves McDonald’s food and in the first three hours of its opening, it ‘had already eaten up foods that McDonald’s had prepared for a week’s consumption’. It can show that people held positive attitude rather than negative attitude. It can show that in terms of foreign matters, it was changed from dislike to welcome.

According to my own knowledge, in terms of economic, China had self-sufficient economic policy and refused to have rapid trading with other countries before Reform and Opening Up. The economy was closed.

However, during Reform and Opening Up, China started to open up coastal areas to trade with other countries. Such as Shenzhen and Guangzhou. Mounting foreign volume of trade was resulted. China became an ideal place for foreign corporations to set up their factories. China was known as ‘World Factory’. It can show that Reform and Opening Up transformed China’s economy from closed to open.

In terms of education, before Reform and Opening Up, people neglected the importance of education. During Cultural Revolution, ideas like ‘Study is useless’ and ‘The more you study, the more you are foolish’ are promoted. It can show that people didn’t care about education.

However, Deng Xiaoping knew that modernization can only be achieved by scientific method. As a result, during the drafting of Reform and Opening Up, education was known as the basis of China’s ‘Four Modernizations’. Education was emphasized like the implementation of the 9-year free education in 1986. It can show that the Reform and Opening Up transformed China from neglecting education to emphasizing education. It is a fundamental transform.

However, to a small extent, Reform and Opening Up was not China's turning point.

In terms of food, Source E was describing the Cultural Revolution period. Although anti-foreign ideas were promoted, there were still foreign food like 'coffee' and 'butter'. It can show that foreign food was found before Reform and Opening Up.

Til Reform and Opening Up, in Source F, McDonald's was opened in China. Foreign food like 'hamburger', 'French fries' and 'milkshake' can be found. It can show that foreign food can be found before and after Reform and Opening Up. Thus, in terms of food, Reform and Opening Up is not a turning point.

In terms of political, before Reform and Opening Up, China was an autocratic country, the Communist Party was the only legal political party . One party policy was implemented.

Although Reform and Opening Up changed the economic mode of China, one party policy was maintained in terms of political. In 1989, violent was used to suppress student movement (June Fourth Movement). It can show that the autocracy in terms of political was still maintained. It is not turning point.

Although China was still remained the same in some of the parts, generally, China was transformed in different parts. Thus, to a large extent, Reform and Opening Up transformed China.

a) Point out the view (3marks)

Suggested Answer

The cartoon represents the view that the People's Commune brought prosperity to China and the people there enjoyed abundant resources and good life.

First of all, people in the cartoon rode on a dragon and held a basin filled with harvest and resources. It shows the abundant resources produced by production teams of the People's Commune and prosperity in China.

Also, the basin was filled up with a myriad of items, including ships, planes, vegetables and paddy husk. It symbolizes rapid and healthy industrial and agricultural development that generated abundant resources.

Moreover, the five people in the cartoon represent workers, peasants, cadres, students and soldiers respectively. They wore joyful expression and were enthusiastic about the Commune, showing satisfaction with its outcome.

Lastly, the cartoonist portrayed the People's Commune as a place similar to heaven, showing that people enjoyed good everyday life.

b) Describe two trends (4marks)

Suggested Answer

The first trend was that the growth in industry was the fastest. From the Source, growth in industry had always been positive during the period concerned. The growth rate was 19.6% during the First Five-Year Plan and even reached 21.4% during the Readjustment period, being the highest among industrial, agricultural and commercial sectors.

The second trend was that agriculture and commerce had lower growth rates. The growth rate of agriculture ranged from -5.8% to 11.5%, lagging behind that of industry apparently. The deceleration in the growth of commerce was even more significant. Even in the readjustment period in which economic growth was relatively fast, commerce only grew at a rate of 2.9%, seven times less than the industrial growth in the same period. These figures show that the development in agriculture and commerce was slower.

c) Did the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution have good intentions but bring about bad results [S+K](7marks)

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, the statement is valid.

Speaking of the Great Leap Forward first, Source F shows the good intention of the Great Leap Forward. The cartoon shows abundant products generated by the People's Commune, including ships, planes, vegetables and paddy husk. This was exactly the goal of the movement. The intention of the movement, which was to raise industrial and agricultural production, was in fact good.

From my own knowledge, the aim of the movement was to 'go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism', i.e. to build socialism in China. The intention was good.

For the result of the movement, it had limited achievement. From my own knowledge, a couple of plants and facilities producing steel, machinery and chemicals were built during the Great Leap Forward, like the Nanjing Iron and Steel Plant (1958) and the Xinjiang Hydroelectric Power Station (1959). These infrastructures promoted industrialization in China.

However, the result of the Great Leap Forward was disappointing on the whole.

From Source G, economic growth rates of China decreased during 1958-62. The negative growth rates of -3.1%, -5.8% and -4.3% could be seen in national income, agriculture and commerce respectively. As the Great Leap Forward happened in 1958-60, we can see that it brought about economic recession and the result was bad.

From my own knowledge, the Great Leap Forward caused famines. As the central government raised production targets continuously, local cadres fabricated production figures to meet those sky-high targets. Also, with the practice of 'everybody eating out of the same big pot', the peasants ate as much as they wanted. As a result, famines occurred and more than 30 million people died. The result was disastrous.

Also, the Great Leap Forward caused wastage of industrial resources. The nationwide iron and steel production campaign was conducted during the movement. People collected all iron objects in their houses for smelting. However, half of the steel produced was below standard and about 1/4 could not be used at all. Wasting manpower and resources, it was time-consuming and fruitless.

After that, the Cultural Revolution is going to be discussed.

From my own knowledge, the purpose of the revolution was to rectify the 'right mistakes' made by Liu Xiaoqi during the Readjustment period and prevent China from becoming capitalistic and revisionist. Thus, people were asked to purge all the 'revisionists' in the party at the beginning of the revolution. Its intention was good originally.

With respect to the result, there is no doubt that many 'revisionists' in China were purged. The advocates of the Readjustment such as Liu Xiaoqi and Deng Xiaoping were purged and stepped down from office. It did prevent China from becoming capitalistic.

However, the result of the Cultural Revolution was bad on the whole. From Source G, Chinese economic growth slowed down greatly during 1966-75 (when Cultural Revolution happened). The growth rate of national income dropped from 14.7% in the Readjustment period (1963-65) to 8.3% during 1966-70. It decreased further to 5.5% (1970-75). These show that the struggles during the revolution brought about economic decline. The result was bad.

Also, the Cultural Revolution drew Chinese people into a 10-year political struggle. With more than 2.3 million cadres under investigation, party and government institutions were paralyzed for a long time. Worse still, many capable leaders were purged, removed from power or even persecuted. Liu Xiaoqi, the former State President, serves as a representative example. The result that China lost many capable leaders was bad.

Therefore, the intentions of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution were good. Although there were indeed some positive impacts, their results were bad that china entered the difficult period. To a large extent, I agree the statement.

Grid Method:

a) Infer the purpose of the cartoon (4marks)

Suggested Answer

The purpose was to vilify Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping and glorify Mao Zedong and the Red Guards, so as to enlist public support for the overthrow of the two political leaders.

In the cartoon, Liu and Deng were depicted as a beast (two-headed beast), which is dangerous to humans. Thus, it is meant to vilify the two leaders.

Also, the cartoonist depicted the man wearing arm band with words 'Red Guard' as an impressive hero who was going to wrack the beast with the iron hammer in his hand. This shows that the cartoon glorify the Red Guards and the act of struggling against the two revisionists.

Moreover, large group of people in the background of the cartoon wore arm bands with words 'Red Guard' or 'rebel faction'. Some of them even held the *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*. Therefore, we can infer that it intends to glorify the rebel factions led by Mao and the act of fighting against the two leaders.

Lastly, in the cartoon, the people behind the 'Red Guard' were walking to the front to support him to hit the beast. This scene shows that the cartoonist wanted the masses to stand out and purge the two enemies.

b) What short-term and long-term impacts did the Cultural Revolution bring to China [S+K](6marks)

Suggested Answer

For short-term impact, from Source E, the *Selected Works of Mao Zedong* on people's hands and the words 'Red Guard' printed on their arm bands showed their support for Mao. They stood out and supported the Red Guard to wrack the two-headed beast (Liu and Deng). The two leaders were purged and forced to step down. This was the instant political impact.

Also, people's active engagement in the Red Guard movement is shown in the Source. They hit the bricks and purged those 'capitalist roaders', leading to the halt in economic activities. This was an instant economic impact.

From my own knowledge, the Source does not describe the economic recession explicitly enough. As workers and peasants valued revolution but not their jobs, the production stopped. The industrial output in 1967 decreased by 15% to 20% compared with that in 1966, the time before the Cultural Revolution started.

In cultural aspect, the movement caused damage to monuments and halt in cultural activities. The Red Guards destroyed historical relics all over the country wantonly, like the Temple of Confucius in Qufu. Also, a decade lacking works of art was created as cultural activities were banned.

In diplomatic aspect, China was isolated owing to the revolution. As the movement stirred up anti-foreign sentiments around the country, foreign legations in China were attacked. Also, many countries criticized the unreasonable acts performed during the Cultural Revolution. The relations between China and other countries thus became even worse, leading to a more serious isolation.

For long-term impact, the Red Guards in Source E held the *Selected Works of Mao Zedong* and supported Mao Zedong thought. As a result, the education was dominated by such thought. Also, they blindly criticized traditional ideas and caused serious disruption of traditional values.

Also, from the Source, the people actively joined the Red Guards. Many students thus dropped off from schools and a generation lacking education was created. They lost the chance to receive education and lacked occupational skills.

Politically, from my own knowledge, the party leaders learned a lesson from it and implemented the Reform and Opening Up. Facing destructive impact of the revolution, Deng abandoned mass movement as the way to modernize China and introduced the Reform and Opening Up after he reclaimed power in 1977, which have been the guiding principle of China's development for several decades.

In social aspect, it created a divided society. The struggles between different classes and factions, like the 'January Revolution' aiming to overthrow the ruling group, induced long-standing grievances in the society.

Grid Method:

a) Infer 2 features (4marks)

Suggested Answer

The first characteristic of the Red Guards was that they admired and were loyal to Mao Zedong. In the lyric, the phrase 'We are Chairman Mao's Red Guards' was repeated and emphasized, showing that they supported Mao and regarded him as their leader. From the source, the sentences 'We arm ourselves with Mao Zedong's thought. Dare to sweep away all pests that threaten us.' also reflect that they believed his thought would eliminate bad elements. Apparently, they had a cult of Mao.

The second characteristic was that they supported revolutions and were rebellious. The wording 'revolutionary rebellion will never stop' in the lyric demonstrated that they belonged to the rebel factions. They were 'dare to criticise and repudiate, dare to struggle', and were eager to smash the old world and create a new world. From the Source, they also 'marched on the revolutionary road of their forbears', taking this weighty responsibility. Their support for revolutions and rebelliousness are shown in the text.

The third characteristic was that they were anti-rightist. From the Source, the goal of mobilizing public support for revolutions was to 'wipe out all the rightists', specifying their anti-rightist thought. They wanted to unite with the people to eliminate 'right' ideas by being the 'vanguards of the cultural revolution'.

Point to Note

When the question requires two characteristics, students must answer two only. The principle of 'answering as many points as possible' is not applicable under such circumstances. Instead, they should elaborate their points in detail so that marks will not be deducted because of inadequate explanation.

b) Was the Cultural Revolution harmful to China's modernization [S+K](6marks)

Suggested Answer

To a large extent, I agree that the Cultural Revolution was harmful to China's modernization.

From Source C, the Cultural Revolution worked against China's ideological modernization. The lyric displayed the deep admiration of the Red Guards, who 'armed themselves with Mao Zedong's thought'. Such idolatry caused the domination of his thought in education and homogenization of ideas. These were against healthy intellectual development that differentiated ideas should be allowed.

Also, from Source C, the Cultural Revolution was unfavourable to China's social modernization. The source reflects that the Red Guards deeply admired Mao and were dare to criticize and struggle. Such ideas led to unceasing purges and moral decline in the society, retarding social modernization in China.

From my own knowledge, the movement was also harmful to China's educational modernization. During the revolution, education was regarded as unproductive and worthless. People believed that 'study is useless: the more you study, the more foolish you become'. As a result, education was ignored and a generation lacking education was created, working against educational modernization.

Moreover, the Cultural Revolution was unfavourable to China's economic modernization. During the movement, people were preoccupied with purges and shortage of labour force occurred. Agricultural and industrial production was mostly halted, leading to a reduction of 500 billion yuan in national income. It struck a severe blow to China's economic development and modernization.

Furthermore, the Cultural Revolution worked against China's diplomatic modernization. People had strong anti-foreign feelings during the revolution. The Red Guards even attacked foreign legations, leading to discontent among other countries and strained international relations. China's relations with Western countries nearly broke off. These hindered diplomatic modernization.

Though the Cultural Revolution greatly harmed China's modernization, it promoted that to a small extent as well.

From my own knowledge, the Cultural Revolution changed the method to achieve modernization and thus worked for it. Learning a bitter lesson from the movement, the party leaders understood that mass movement was not the best way to modernization. Therefore, Deng changed the guiding principle and introduced the Reform and Opening Up after reclaiming the power. He adopted a more pragmatic approach in modernizing China, which was proved to be favourable to its modernization afterwards.

Though the Cultural Revolution brought China negative and destructive impact, we cannot ignore its inspiration for the reforms later on. Therefore, I agree with the statement to a large extent only.

Grid Method:

Analysis of Exam Essays by K.W. HO

A. Factor

★ **Declarative and Evaluative**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Discuss the factors working for and those working against the development of the Sino-Japanese relationship in the period 1949-2000. |
|---|--|

B. Situation

★ **Declarative and Evaluative**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 | Discuss and changes and continuities of Chinese politics in the period 1949-78. |
| 3 | Discuss the changes and continuities of China in the second half of the 20 th century. |
| 4 | Examine the major characteristics of Chinese politics in the period 1949-76. |
| 5 | Identify and explain the economic features of ‘Socialism with Chinese Characteristics’ in the Deng Xiaoping era. |
| 6 | Trace and explain the economic development of China in the period 1949-76. |
| 7 | Trace and explain the development of the Reform and Opening Up policy of China. |

★ **Comparative**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 8 | Compare the features of China’s modernization efforts in the Maoist and Dengist periods. |
|---|--|

C. Significance

★ **Declarative and Evaluative**

- | | |
|----|---|
| 9 | Discuss the impact on mass movements on China. Explain your answer with reference to Chinese history from the 1950s to 70s. |
| 10 | Assess the effectiveness of the efforts the PRC government made to improve China’s economy in the period 1949-65. |
| 11 | Discuss the impact of Mao Zedong on China. |
| 12 | Assess the effectiveness of Mao Zedong in coping with the problems he faced in the period 1946-76. |
| 13 | Discuss the ways in which the Reform and Opening Up has affected China’s relations with other Asian countries. |

★ **Polar**

14	'The Cultural Revolution was a loss rather than a gain to China.' Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.
15	How beneficial was the Reform and Opening Up after 1978 to China's modernization?

★ **Comparative**

16	Examine to what extent China in the late 20 th century was different from what it had been in the early 20 th century.
17	Do you agree that Mao Zedong(or Sun Yat-sen/Chiang Kai-shek/ Deng Xiaoping)'s impact on the development of China was more positive than negative?
18	In what ways was the year 1949 a turning point in Chinese history during the 20 th century?
19	Explain in what ways the year 1978 was a turning point in the modern history of China.
20	Discuss the economic characteristics of 'Socialism with Chinese characteristics' in the period 1978-2000.
21	'The Philippines was unique in the Southeast Asian independent movements after the Second World War.' Comment on the validity of this statement.
22	Compare the First Five-year Plan (1953-57) and the Readjustment policies (1961-65) with reference to their objectives and effectiveness.
23	'The Cultural Revolution brought China more loss than gains.' Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.
24	'The Reform and Opening Up did more good than harm to China.' Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the period 1978-2000.
25	Compare the contributions to China's modernization made in the Mao era and the Deng era.

Do you agree that Mao Zedong's impact on the development of China was more positive than negative?

Mao was an influential person who affected the development of China a lot. Though he succeeded in leading the CCP to defeat the KMT and founded the People's Republic of China, having many contributions to China. When compared to the negative impact created by him, negative impact was more than positive impact. Political, economic, social, educational and diplomatic aspects are to be discussed.

In political aspect, although Mao established a new China, the People's Republic of China, he dragged China into autocracy as well as political struggles. Thus, negative impact was more than positive impact. True, Mao led the CCP to defeat the KMT during the *Chinese Civil War* 國共內戰(1946-49) and built the new china. Plus, Mao was eager to build socialism in China and he even announced China stepping into a *socialist state* 社會主義國家 in 1956. However, there were more negative impact. Since the leadership under Mao was *one-party dictatorship* 一黨專制, China was thus failed to develop democracy. Besides, Mao was narrow-minded, craving for more powers. When he failed during the Great Leap Forward and he was forced to retreat to the second line, he was determined to reclaim the power. Eventually, he initiated the *Cultural Revolution* 文化大革命, which advocated mass mobilization. Red guards were gathered together to fight against the 'capitalist roaders' and 'revisionists'. China was then plunged into 10-year dark period. Not only did the party paralyze, but capable leaders were also lost, including *Liu Xiaoshi* 劉少奇, who died during the Cultural Revolution. Meanwhile, the long-lasting political struggles also made people lose faith and confidence towards the PRC, Marxism-Leninism and the government, which in turn contributed to the '*San Xin Weiji*' 三信危機, jeopardizing China. Comparatively speaking, even though Mao helped establish the new China and socialism, he did not help China develop democracy and autocracy even remained today. Political struggles were frequent and people lost confidence on the government, giving rise to the challenges in governance, which hampered the development of China. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

In economic aspect, though Mao did have contributions to China's economy, negative impact outweighed positive impact. Mao carried out the *Land Reform* 土地改革(1950-52), which expropriated large area of land from landlords and rich peasants, redistributing to peasants who had no land. This boosted the productivity. On top of that, the *First Five Year Plan* 一五計劃 led by Mao achieved impressive results. In 1957, the gross value of industrial output increased by 128.6% when compared with that of 1952, laying a solid foundation for China's industrialization. However, negative impact was more than positive impact. After achieving a significant result during the First Five Year Plan, Mao became so idealistic that he launched the *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進(1958-60). Owing to backward production as well as the poor quality of iron, the quality of the resulting steel was extremely poor. In spite of the 11.08 million tons of steel produced, half of which were below standard. To make matters worse, about 1/4 could not be used at all. Many of the manpower and resources were wasted. The failure of steel production, together with the fabrication of the production figures in agricultural produce, dragged China into difficult three-year period (1960-62). 15-30 million people died because of massive famines. Afterwards, Mao, in order to reclaim the power, started the *Cultural Revolution* 文革(1966-76), during which people were busy criticizing each other, halting economic production. It is estimated that the ten years of the revolution cost China 500 billion yuan of national income. Economic development was obstructed. Comparatively speaking, it is true that Mao made impressive results in economy during the earlier period, which was the 1950s. However, the catastrophic Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution started by Mao seriously hindered China's economic development. What he had achieved in earlier period was covered by his mistakes made in these two events. Plus, the period of 1950-1970s was the golden period of economic development around the world. China failed to grab this great opportunity. Her economy remained poor. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

In social aspect, in terms of preserving China's traditional cultures and moral, Mao undoubtedly brought more negative impact than positive impact. Mao made an attempt to enhance the status of women, and encouraged women to take part in the *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進 as well as the *Cultural Revolution* 文革. Apart from enhancing women's status, he also urged the masses to 'destroy the Four Olds' 破四舊. This favored Chinese to get rid of the traditional culture and customs. However, negative impact was more than positive impact as Mao started the Cultural Revolution to destroy the traditional values of China that had lasted for a few thousand years. For example, during the 'destroy the Four Olds' 破四舊, many valuable antiques and monuments were damaged at the same time. Confucianism was also criticized unreasonably. This seriously distorted the traditional cultures of China. Moreover, Mao mobilized the masses to criticize, making many teenagers at that time believed that 'parents may love me, but not as much as Chairman Mao' 爹親娘親不及毛主席親! They supported Mao rather than their parents and teachers. *Bo Xilai* 薄熙來, who purged his father, was a typical example. The society was divided and moral decline resulted. Comparatively speaking, Mao undeniably enhanced women's status and helped get rid of some feudal values, he also destructed many traditional values, one of which was Confucianism, leading to moral decline, which was irreversible. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

In educational aspect, Mao seriously impeded the educational development in China. Negative impact was thus more than positive impact. Despite the fact that Mao implemented the 'Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement' 上山下鄉運動 in 1968, sending 16 million 'sent-down youth', who set up schools in rural areas and became teachers. This facilitated the development of basic education. Due to the efforts made by the knowledgeable youngsters, the primary school enrolment rate increased from 57% in 1963 to 96% in 1976. Their contribution to basic education in China was significant. However, generally speaking, Mao hampered the educational development of China as he placed *emphasis on 'redness' at the expense of 'expertise'* 重紅不重專, turning a blind eye to knowledge and technology. For instance, during the *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進, he attached much importance to industrial production, frowning upon learning and education. Worse still, during the *Cultural Revolution* 文革, Mao mobilized the masses to criticize the intellectuals and professionals. Education was regarded as unproductive and worthless. People believed that 'the more knowledge, the more reactionary' 知識愈多愈反動 and 'the more you study, the more foolish you become' 讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢! This created a generation lacking education. In 1982, more than 200 million people were illiterate and semiliterate. Comparatively speaking, although the 'Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement' made a positive influence on China's basic education, the neglect and overlook on education generated a generation lacking in knowledge. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

In diplomatic aspect, Mao brought more negative impact than positive impact. Though Mao succeeded in enhancing the status of China as a communist country in communist bloc such as participating in the *Korean War* 韓戰(1950-53), helping North Korea to confront South Korea as well as the US, playing an important role in communist bloc. However, there was more negative impact. Since Mao intervened in the Korean War, the United Nations thus enforced *embargo* 禁運 on China, together with the poor relations with the west, diplomacy only maintained with communist countries. In the late 1950s, Mao openly criticized *Khrustchev* 赫魯曉夫 as 'capitalist roader 走資派', aggravating the relations between China and the USSR. The Soviet even called back the professionals in China, isolating China. To make things worse, during the *Cultural Revolution* 文革, strong anti-foreign feelings emerged. The Red Guards attacked foreign legations and assaulted ambassadors inside. The worsened the relations with the west. Though China used *Ping Pong Diplomacy* 乒乓外交(1971) to improve relations with the US, what Mao did during the Cultural Revolution brought China to a more serious isolation. Comparatively speaking, though Mao hoped to enhance China's status in the communist bloc, he lopsided China's diplomacy. China's relations with the Western countries nearly broke off during the Cultural Revolution, hindering the interaction with other countries. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

In conclusion, though Mao played a significant role and brought great influence on China during the earlier period, he became ambitious, aggressive and idealistic later. Eventually, he brought irreversible negative impact to China. Hence, negative impact was more than positive impact.

Words: 1406

'The Cultural Revolution was a loss rather than a gain to China.'

Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.

The Cultural Revolution (1966-76) did great harm to China in political, economic, educational, diplomatic and other aspects. It deserves to be assessed as 'a ten-year disaster'. However, one cannot completely neglect the gains it brought in spite of the obvious losses it caused, because it had considerable positive effect on rural development and women's status. That means the Cultural Revolution brought huge losses but also a few gains. Therefore, the statement is not totally valid.

Politically, the Cultural Revolution was a loss as it paralyzed party and government institution and caused the 'San Xin Weiji 三信危機'. The purges made during the Cultural Revolution were irrational. No evidence was needed to purge others. It posed a great challenge to the rule of law. Also, more than 2.3 million cadres were under investigation, which was 19.2% of the 12 million cadres in the country before the revolution. The acute shortage of officials paralyzed party, national and regional government institution, which remained unable to function properly long after the end of the revolution. Moreover, many capable leaders were purged, removed from power or even persecuted. *Liu Xiaoqi 劉少奇*, the former State President, was a representative example. China thus lacked capable leaders. Worse still, many people swore that black is white during the revolution. *Lin Biao 林彪*, the *Gang of Four 四人幫* and other people praised Mao Zedong thoughts just for self-interests and power. It led to continuous coups and struggles and eventually the 'San Xin Weiji 三信危機'. They lost faith in Communism, and also faith and confidence in the governance of the CCP. The crisis was unfavourable to the party's attempts at socialist modernization afterwards. These show that the party slide into chaos and lost people's confidence because of the Cultural Revolution, which was a great loss.

Economically, the long-lasting struggles during the revolution seriously hindered economic development. True, China's economy still grew between 1967 and 1976. For example, the gross value of industrial and agricultural output and national income increased at the average annual rates of 7.1% and 4.9% respectively. Nevertheless, most of the people were preoccupied with political movements and ignored productions during the revolution. Also, Mao placed lopsided *emphasis on 'redness' at the expense of 'expertise'* 重紅不重專. Knowledge and technology were neglected. This greatly hindered China's economic development. It is estimated that the ten years of the revolution cost China 5 billion yuan of national income, which exceeded the total investment in capital construction in the first 30 years of the PRC. The economic loss was the greatest in the early period. The gross value of industrial and agricultural output decreased by around 14% from 1967 to 1968. When economies of the US, European and Asian countries boomed in the 1960s and 70s, China was still suffering from political struggles and its economic development was greatly harmed. These worked against its modernization. Therefore, the revolution was a loss because of its serious hindrance to economic development.

In educational aspect, China's education was in a period of discontinuity during the revolution and that was unfavourable to its development. Education was regarded as unproductive and worthless. People believed that *'study is useless: the more you study, the more foolish you become'* 讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢 and *'the more knowledge, the more reactionary'* 知識愈多愈反動. Cultural activities were halted and cultural development was seriously hindered. In addition, teenagers in cities were forced to leave school and work in rural areas owing to the *'Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement'* 上山下鄉運動, losing the chance to study. They thus lacked skills and knowledge. Moreover, many intellectuals and professionals were labelled as *'reactionary authorities'* 反動權威 or *'stinking old ninth'* 臭老九 and purged. As a result, education in China stopped. In 1982, more than 200 million people were illiterate or semiliterate. The movement created a generation lacking education and hindered Chinese educational modernization. Therefore, the revolution was definitely a loss to China as it halted Chinese educational development.

In diplomatic aspect, the anti-foreign feelings during the revolution caused more serious isolation and that worked against China's diplomacy. People had strong anti-foreign feelings during the Cultural Revolution as Mao incited them to struggle against 'imperialism 帝國主義', 'revisionism 修正主義' and 'capitalism 資本主義', which indirectly refer to Western countries and the Soviet Union. It aroused anti-foreign feeling in China. The Red Guards attacked foreign legations and assaulted ambassadors inside. Other foreigners in China were closely watched over. Also, Chinese people with foreign contact were persecuted as 'capitalist roaders 走資派' or 'traitors 漢奸'. Consequently, China's relations with the Western countries nearly broke off. Although Mao tried to improve relations with other countries in the early 1970s, there is no doubt that anti-foreign feelings in China was at the peak during the movement and it made China more isolated. It prevented the inflow of foreign knowledge and technology that would promote China's modernization. Therefore, the revolution was also a loss to China in diplomatic development.

Despite the disastrous losses, the positive impact of the revolution should not be neglected.

In agricultural aspect, the revolution favoured development in the countryside and that of education, producing positive effect. Economic activities were stopped almost completely during the Cultural Revolution. However, Mao initiated the 'Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement 上山下鄉運動' in 1968, encouraging youth in cities to live and work in rural areas. It is estimated that about 16 million 'sent-down youth' had moved to rural or remote areas to work during the revolution. They helped construct infrastructures and farm, promoting development in the countryside. In addition, the knowledgeable 'sent-down youth' set up schools in the rural areas and became the teachers, facilitating the development of basic education. The primary school enrolment rate increased from 57% in 1963 to 96% in 1976. Their contribution to basic education in China was significant. These show that the revolution had some positive impact on Chinese rural and educational development.

As for women's status, the revolution was a milestone in Chinese women's history and had profound significance. Women's status had been increasing since the introduction of the First and Second Five-Year Plans. Based on the concept of collectivization, everyone should take his/her own roles and contribute to the society regardless of sex. During the Cultural Revolution, Mao introduced the idea of 'women hold up half the sky' 婦女能頂半邊天 and it spread all over China. Women took part in purges actively and constituted large part of the Red Guards. Women also presented in much political propaganda, promoting gender equality and women's liberation. Moreover, *Jiang Qing* 江青, one of the leaders of the Cultural Revolution, became the role model for women. Her presence encouraged other women to join political and social movements, promoting feminism in China as well. Therefore, the revolution was a gain to China because it promoted women's rights in China and it had considerable effect.

To conclude, the Cultural Revolution brought huge losses but also a few gains to China. Therefore, it should not be considered as a total loss rather than gain and the statement is not completely true.

Word count: 1138

‘The Cultural Revolution brought China more losses than gains.’

Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the second half of the 20th century.

Spanning ten years from 1966 to 1976, the Cultural Revolution caused sweeping changes in China. Among these changes, the losses brought by the revolution vastly outweighed the gains, and this was clearly demonstrated in political, economic, social, educational and diplomatic aspects. Therefore, what the question suggests is valid.

In political aspect, the Cultural Revolution brought far more loss than gains to China. It was true that from Mao’s perspective, the Cultural Revolution would be a success in the sense that *capitalist roaders* 走資派 such as *Liu Xiaoqi* 劉少奇 and *Deng Xiaoping* 鄧小平 were purged and China was guided back on the track to socialism with the original right deviation rectified. This could be seen as a gain for China. However, the Cultural Revolution paralyzed party and government institutions. Without any justification, the masses blindly made purges out of conformity and put more than 2.3 million cadres under investigation. This caused enduring paralysis affecting party, national and regional government institutions. Also, many capable leaders were purged, removed from power or even persecuted because of the revolution. *Liu Xiaoqi* 劉少奇, the former President, was one of the examples. This led to a lack of capable leaders. Moreover, many people swore that black was white and praised Mao Zedong thoughts just for self-interest and power as exemplified by *Lin Biao* 林彪 and the *Gang of Four* 四人幫. This led to repeated coups and struggles and created the ‘*San Xin Weiji* 三信危機’ among the people, who lost faith in communism as well as trust and confidence in the governance of the CCP. The Communist Party was losing its ability to rally support for its social modernization efforts. In comparison, in terms of political modernization and stability, although the Cultural Revolution brought China back on the track to socialism, it caused enduring paralysis affecting government and party institutions, a great loss of capable leaders and the ‘*San Xin Weiji*’, being particularly harmful to China’s politics and its political modernization. Therefore, the gains were overshadowed by the losses.

In economic aspect, the Cultural Revolution caused dramatic losses and they outweighed the gains. True, the revolution had some contributions to the economic construction in China's rural areas because of the 'Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement' 上山下鄉 initiated by Mao in 1968 that encouraged the youth in cities to live and work in rural areas. It is estimated that about 16 million 'sent-down youth' had moved to rural or remote areas to work during the revolution, helping with the construction of infrastructure and farming. The revolution was therefore conducive to the development of infrastructure and agriculture in China's rural areas. Nevertheless, the Cultural Revolution brought way more losses to China. During the revolution, the whole population was preoccupied with political movements and ignored economic activities. In addition to the *lopsided emphasis placed by Mao on 'redness' at the expense of 'expertise'* 重紅不重專 that neglected knowledge and technology, China's economic development was greatly hampered. It is estimated that the ten years of the revolution cost China 500 billion yuan of national income, which exceeded the aggregate of gross national fixed assets in the first 30 years of the PRC. The economic losses were tremendous. In comparison, in terms of economic gains and losses, the 'Up to the Mountains and down to the countryside movement' was conducive to economic development in rural areas, but its effectiveness should not be overestimated because the majority of workers and peasants ignored production during the revolution and economic recession was resulted. The 1960s and 1970s were when Europe, the US and Asian countries enjoyed economic boom, but China at that time was caught up in political struggles and its economic development was seriously hindered. Being unfavourable to China's economic modernization, the revolution brought far more losses than gains.

In social aspect, the Cultural Revolution also brought more losses than gains. The Cultural Revolution did help improve women's status. During the revolution, *Jiang Qing* 江青, as one of the leaders of the movement, became the role model for women of political participation and involvement in social movements. Also, the revolution leaders called on women to take the initiative in purges. In addition to the extensive use of representations of women in propaganda, the idea of gender equality was reinforced and women's liberation movement facilitated. It had therefore significant positive effects on feminism in China. However, the revolution also led to moral decline in China and caused even greater harm. The revolution emphasized revolutionary ideas and mobilized the Red Guards to purge 'capitalist roaders' and 'revisionists'. Worse still, many teenagers, influenced by their cult of Mao, believed that *'parents may love me, but not as much as Chairman Mao'* 爹親娘親不如毛主席親. They supported Mao and struggled against their parents and teachers. *Bo Xilai* 薄熙來 who purged his father was a typical example. This resulted in moral decline and caused irreversible damage to society, working against social harmony and cohesion that symbolize modernization. In comparison, in terms of shaping a civilized society, although the Cultural Revolution helped promote women's status, it embroiled China into continued social conflicts and caused severe division and hatred, destroying morality and ethics that took several thousand years to build. Given that the destruction it caused was too large to be fixed, it did bring more losses than gains.

In educational aspect, the Cultural Revolution also brought more losses than gains. During the Cultural Revolution, Mao launched the 'Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement' 上山下鄉運動 and called upon the educated youth in cities to work in rural areas. Many of them started schools and gave lessons there, greatly promoting the development of elementary education. As a result, the enrolment rate in primary schools increased from 57% in 1963 to 96% in 1976. The revolution therefore had positive effects on the development of elementary education in China. Nevertheless, the revolution itself was a great obstacle to educational development and brought way more losses. Education was degraded as unproductive and worthless during the revolution, and beliefs such as 'study is useless: the more you study, the more foolish you become' 讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢 and 'the more knowledge, the more reactionary' 知識愈多愈反動 prevailed across the country. Cultural and creative activities were also brought to a standstill. These seriously hindered China's cultural and educational development. Moreover, many intellectuals and professionals were purged and persecuted after being labeled as 'reactionary authorities' 反動權威 or 'stinking old ninth' 臭老九. As a result, education in China was greatly interrupted. It is estimated that more than 200 million people were illiterate or semiliterate in 1982. The revolution created a generation lacking education and was a period of deterioration instead of improvement with respect to educational modernization. In comparison, with respect to the progress of educational development, although the 'Up to the mountains and down to the countryside movement' had positive effects on elementary education in China, the educated were treated with contempt by society, and the development of academia and tertiary education was seriously interrupted. It led to a period lacking education, during which educational development was not facilitated but disrupted. Therefore, it caused enduring negative effects and the losses were greater than the gains.

In diplomatic aspect, the Cultural Revolution again brought more losses than gains to China. During the revolution, Mao called upon the Red Guards to struggle against 'capitalist roaders' in the country like Liu Xiaogi, insinuating that Soviet leader Khrushchev should also be struggled against because he was deemed to be acting together with capitalist countries for trying to improve relations with the West. This enhanced China's influence within the communist bloc. However, the Cultural Revolution led to diplomatic isolation of China and had much greater negative impact. Mao incited people to struggle against 'imperialism 帝國主義', 'revisionism 修正主義' and 'capitalism 資本主義', all of which were apparently related to Western countries and the Soviet Union. This aroused anti-foreign feelings in China. The Red Guards attacked foreign legations and assaulted ambassadors. Other foreigners in China were closely watched over. On top of that, Chinese people in close contact with foreigners were persecuted as 'capitalist roaders 走資派' or 'traitors 漢奸'. As a result, China's relations with foreign countries deteriorated to a point that they nearly broke off. In comparison, concerning China's international participation, the Cultural Revolution strengthened China's status as a completely socialist country and gave China a more significant role in the communist bloc by damaging the international image of the Soviet Union, but it led to diplomatic isolation of China and cut off its interactions with most countries. This prevented China from introducing foreign know-how and technology for modernization. The revolution therefore brought more losses than gains.

In conclusion, the Cultural Revolution caused drastic losses in political, economic, social, educational and diplomatic aspects and these considerably outweighed the gains it brought. Therefore, it would be no exaggeration to say the revolution was a 'ten-year disaster'.

Words: 1417

‘The Reform and Opening Up did more good than harm to China.’ Comment on the validity of this statement with reference to the history of China in the period 1978-2000.

Communist China started its Reform and Opening Up policy in 1978 and caused drastic changes to the country in every aspect. Among these fields, the policy did more good than harm in agricultural, industrial and commercial, as well as educational and technological aspects, and did as much good as harm politically and socially. Therefore, what the question suggests is valid to a large extent.

Firstly, the Reform and Opening Up greatly promoted agricultural development in China and did more good than harm. After the Reform and Opening Up, the government shifted the focus of the reform to urban areas since the mid-1980s, and this led to sluggish agricultural development and the deterioration of the *‘Three Rural Issues’* 三農問題, which were the low degree of mechanization in agriculture, inadequate infrastructure in rural areas and low incomes of peasants. These were the harm brought by the policy. However, the Reform and Opening Up actually did more harm than good to China’s agriculture. Communist China introduced the *Household Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包制 in 1978 to abandon collectivized production and allow peasants to keep their harvest or sell it in the market after handing over a designated amount of it. As a result, their productivity was greatly boosted as illustrated by a 50% increase in the gross value of agricultural production between 1979 and 1984. Subsequently, agricultural production kept increasing with the introduction of foreign farming skills and agricultural machinery, and food production hit a record high at 500 million tons in 1996. To compare the good and harm, the Reform and Opening Up brought more benefits in agricultural aspect since China’s agricultural production greatly increased and improvements were seen in rural areas and peasants’ livelihood. Although the ‘Three Rural Issues’ were not eased after the Reform and Opening Up, the policy was an attempt to solve these problems instead of a cause of them. Therefore, it did more good than harm in agricultural aspect.

Secondly, the Reform and Opening Up stimulated industrial and commercial development and did more good than harm. It was true that after the policy, the government streamlined state-owned companies to cut costs. More than 95 million of their employees were made redundant and became 'laid-off workers 下崗工人'. In addition, the large-scale infrastructure projects and credit investment led to the problem of inflation. China experienced three severe episodes of hyperinflation in the period 1984-95 that greatly affected the development of different industries and people's lives. But still, the policy did more good than harm to China. Before the policy, Chinese state-owned enterprises (SOEs) had low productivity and some even incurred significant losses. But after 1978, there was rapid industrial and commercial development after the government reformed SOEs, developed Township Village Enterprises and opened up the country to attract foreign capital and technology. Overall, China's GDP enjoyed an average annual growth rate of 9.6% and its GDP per capita increased from \$379 in 1978 to \$7159 in 1999. These showed the country's thriving development. On balance, the Reform and Opening Up brought both benefits and drawbacks with respect to China's industrial and commercial development, but since the policy significantly stimulated economic development and greatly improved China's economy by reforming its industrial and commercial structures under socialism, it did more good than harm.

Thirdly, the Reform and Opening Up did more good than harm to the development of education and science in China. It was true that after the policy, devaluation of academic credentials was resulted after the government allocated substantial resources to the education and technology sectors and stimulated the development of basic and tertiary education. However, the policy did improve the quality of the labour force with its focus on education and science, which were both very important in terms of productivity enhancement and military build-up. The Communist Party greatly promoted educational development by introducing the *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 in 1986 that required students to attend school for at least nine years at no cost, and bringing colleges all over the country back into operation while creating 28 more. As a result, China's education enjoyed rapid growth. With the increasing educational level, science and technology also developed at a rocketing rate, especially for aerospace technology. For example, in 1990, China successfully sent an American communication satellite into orbit as planned with its self-invented *Long March rocket* 長征火箭 and entered the international market. This marked a new chapter for China's aerospace industry. Comparatively speaking, the Reform and Opening Up clearly did far more good than harm by stimulating China's educational and technological development and rectifying the *emphasis on redness at the expense of expertise* 重紅不重專. It was a milestone in the development of education and technology in China.

Despite the fact that the Reform and Opening Up policy did more good than harm in the above three fields, it did as much good as harm in political and social aspects.

Politically speaking, the Reform and Opening Up had an equally positive and negative impact on China's politics. The implementation of this policy marked the end of class struggle in China that was replaced by unity for economic construction. This facilitated political stability in China after 1978 in the aftermath of several decades of enduring political struggles and chaos, contributing to a harmonious and united country for better development. However, while stabilizing the political situation, the Reform and Opening Up also promoted bribery and corruption among cadres. Some officials and their relatives abused their power and legal loopholes to make personal gain through illegal ways. The *Chen Xitong case* 陳希同案 in the 1990s was a representative example of corruption among the Communist Party cadres. The problem of corruption had a huge adverse impact on the country's development in the sense that government officials were not proactive at work and had low working efficiency due to corruption, and that the rule of law was destroyed with the presence of injustice. Since the Reform and Opening Up helped stabilize China's political situation and end struggles but at the same time led to a growing trend of bribery and corruption among cadres, the policy worked both ways.

Socially speaking, the Reform and Opening Up cut both ways as to the population issue. Along with the implementation of the policy, the Communist Party introduced the *one-child policy* 一孩政策 in 1979 with a view to alleviating the burden of social welfare and resources by lowering the birth rate. Allowing urban couples to have only one baby, this policy led to a sharp decline in fertility rates and prevented an estimated 250 million births in the period 1979-2000. It helped alleviate the issue of population explosion. Nevertheless, while having significant achievement in slowing down population growth, the one-child policy also led to many serious consequences, and of those, the most significant was the return of the idea of gender inequality, which prompted many pregnant women with female infants to resort to abortion or abandonment, and resulted in severe gender imbalance. Worse still, this policy greatly undermined China's competitiveness and the quality of its labour force since its working-age population suffered massive decline due to the decreasing birth rate, and most only children lacked self-reliance due to their parents' overindulgence. This largely worked against China's long-term development. To compare the good and harm, the one-child policy after the Reform and Opening Up did slow down China's population growth right away, but it also led to harmful consequences and undermined China's competitiveness in the long run. Therefore, the policy had equal advantages and disadvantages.

In conclusion, the Reform and Opening Up policy did as much good as harm to China politically and socially, but it clearly did more good than harm in agricultural, industrial and commercial, as well as educational and technological aspects. People's livelihood also improved much and the country was developing towards a modernized society. Therefore, what the question suggests is valid to a large extent.

Words: 1307

Compare the features of China's modernization efforts in the Maoist and Dengist periods.

After the new China established in 1949, the Maoist and post Mao periods (the era of Deng Xiaoping) worked a lot in achieving the modernization of China. However, in comparison of the aspects of political, freedom of economy, development of economic areas, educational and diplomatic, it was clear that the features of the two periods had great differences.

Politically, the feature of China's modernization efforts in the Maoist period was the focus on class struggle, but that of post-Mao period focused on class unity. In order to achieve the feature of modernization of achieving *political stability* 政治安穩, Mao suggested the strategy of 'taking class struggle as the key link' 以階級鬥爭為綱 which eliminated the corrupted and anti forces in *Three-anti and Five-anti Campaigns* 三反五反運動(1951-52). For instance, Mao initiated the *Cultural Revolution* 文化大革命 in 1966 and called the public to fight against the 'capitalist roaders' 走資派 led by Liu Shaoqi so as to actualize political stability. In opposite, the era of Deng achieved political stability by stressing on class unity. Deng scrapped the direction of 'taking class struggle as the key link' in the *Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist* 第十一屆三中全會. Instead, he united people in the entire country and put the focus on constructing the economy so as to achieve political stability. At the same time, it could avoid the occurrence of disputes which harmed the political stability like what the Cultural Revolution did. In comparison, the Maoist period kept asking people to carry out class struggle and eliminate the opposing forces so as to achieve political stability. But the period of Deng was just the opposite. Through asking people to unite different classes, the economy was developed and political stability was achieved. This showed that the features of China's modernization efforts in the Maoist and post-Mao periods were extremely different.

In the aspect of economic freedom, the feature in Maoist period was that it had relatively less freedom while the Deng period had relatively more freedom. In order to foster the economic development and achieve modernization, the Communist Party of China (CPC) in the Maoist period started numerous 5-year plans which highly planned the economic development. For instance, in 1958, all people were asked to *refine steel* 煉鋼. More than 90 million people joined in and refined steel. At the same time, the Maoist period focused on collective production. People joined into *People's Commune* 人民公社 and produced mutually by the distribution of position of the commune. Freedom enjoyed was relatively less. In opposite, the period of Deng enjoyed more freedom. Although Deng continued using planned economy, he at the same time used the concept of market economy in capitalism and gave more freedom to people. For instance, the *Household Contract Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包制 was implemented since 1978 and broke down the People's Commune. Peasants were allowed to produce freely and gave up collective production. Apart from that, the Chinese enterprises were revolted. In 1985, *Contract Responsibility System* 責任制 and *shareholding system* 股份制 were introduced. Chinese enterprises could operate with autonomy and they enjoyed much greater freedom. In comparison, China used the planned economy in these two periods. However, in the Maoist period, the economic development was greatly controlled by the government and had low level of freedom. But the government reduced the span of control in economy during the Deng period, higher level of freedom was enjoyed.

In the areas of economic development, a feature that was made in achieving modernization during the Maoist period was that it focused on the even development in the entire country, the Deng period focused on the development stage by stage in different areas. In order to increase the standard of living of people and achieve a moderately prosperous society, Mao advocated the even development of country and initiated revolution regardless of different areas. For instance, the *Land Reform* 土地改革 in 1950-52 was launched in the entire state. Land was confiscated from the rich peasants and distributed to tenant-peasants and poor peasants; the *Agricultural Great Leap Forward* 農業大躍進 in 1958 was another revolt item involving the entire nation which happened at the same time. However, the efforts on modernization during the period of Deng were regional. He divided China into the East, Central and West. He first developed the coastal areas so as to promote the development of inner areas. For instance, in 1980, Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen were set as *Special Economic Zones* 經濟特區. Trade were opened. In 1992, more than 30 border cities along the Yangtze River were opened up so as to develop the central area. Until 1997, China *Western Development* 西部大開發 was suggested so as to attract the enterprises to develop in the West. In comparison, the feature of modernization in the Maoist period was that it involved the entire country and implemented reform uniformly in the hope of achieving mutual wealth. However, in the era of Deng, divergence among different areas existed. He first developed the Eastern area, and gradually promoted the development in the Central and Western areas. This illustrated that the two periods demonstrated a very different feature.

In the educational aspect, the feature of Maoist period in modernization was that it neglected education, while the Deng period put a lot of stress on it. In order to push the country so as to achieve modernization, Mao suppressed the development in education as he believed that modernization was promoted by the unity of proletariats (workers and peasants). Education would on the other hand lead to the *social disunion* 社會分化 as the intellectuals were mostly belonged to the petty bourgeoisie class. As the result, people were scornful of education. During the *Cultural Revolution* 文革, students even purged teachers and intellectuals. Slogans like '*studying is useless, the more you study the more stupid you will be* 讀書無用·愈讀愈蠢' spread all over the country. It reflected that the period of Mao neglected education. In opposite, the feature in the period of Deng was that it focused a lot on education. He thought that education was the foundation achieving the '*Four Modernizations* 四個現代化' and hence listed it as the major reform item. For instance, in the aspect of basic education, the *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 was implemented in 1986 and 9-year free education was provided to students aged 6. Moreover, in the tertiary education, 60 key secondary schools were set up and 28 high school were added as National Key Universities. He hoped that education and technology could push the development of China's modernization. In comparison, the Maoist period neglected education and thought that it did not facilitate production. But the Deng period put a lot of focus on the development of education. Education was seen as the foundation of actualizing modernization. This illustrated that the features of these two periods had immense difference.

Diplomatically, a feature of modernization in the Maoist period was that China leaned one-sided on the communist countries and had a great difference with the multilateral diplomacy during the period of Deng. In order to improve the international status and achieve diplomatic modernization, Mao Zedong implemented the foreign policy of lean on *one-side* 一邊倒. He actively supported the communist countries so as to counterbalance the capitalist states. For instance, China supported North Korea and North Vietnam in the *Korean War* 韓戰(1950-53) and *Vietnam War* 越戰(1961-75) respectively. It aimed at consolidating his leading role in the international communist movements. Also, it was a mean to improve the international status. In opposite, Deng achieved the same goal by developing *multilateral diplomacy* 多邊外交. He gave up the foreign policy of lean on one side of the communist countries. Instead, he actively developed the relationship with different countries. For instance, after the implementation of Reform and Opening-Up in 1978, China formed relationship with the *US* 美國, *India* 印度 and *South Korea* 南韓 again. Apart from that, China actively developed the relationship with South East Asian and African countries. This made China to be active in the international stage again and had a great increase in the international status. In comparison, Mao used a more radical lean on one side policy to improve the international status of China. However, Deng used a relatively mild policy and developed multi-lateral diplomacy which helped to increase China's diplomatic status. This showed that the efforts of modernization on diplomacy was greatly different.

To conclude, the main features of China's modernization efforts in the Maoist and post-Mao periods were entirely different. They are explained in different aspects like political, economic, educational and diplomatic.

Words: 1382

How far were the methods of economic development adopted in the Maoist period different from those in the Deng Xiaoping era?

During the Maoist era, China experienced fluctuations in economic development and its economic growth lagged behind other countries in the world; in contrast, during the Deng Xiaoping era, China's economy began booming and became one of the fastest developing countries in the world. After all, the differences in development between the two eras were attributable to the difference in method. Despite the fact that planned economy was adopted during both eras, there were fundamental differences between the two eras in terms of degree of openness, mode of production, ownership system and regional layout of reforms. Therefore, the methods of economic development adopted in the two eras were largely different.

In terms of degree of openness, the self-sufficient approach taken in the Maoist era was greatly different from the reform and opening up approach adopted in the Deng Xiaoping era. During the Maoist era, the Chinese Communist Party intended to achieve *self-sufficiency* 自給自足 by promoting industrial and agricultural development with the power of the masses. For example, during the Great Leap Forward movement, Mao Zedong mounted a *nationwide steel production campaign* 全民大煉鋼 for the sake of industrialization, which gathered more than 90 million people to work in backyard furnaces in order to help increase steel production. In agricultural aspect, the CCP encouraged close cropping and deep plowing and introduced the concept of '*satellite farm* 衛星田, attempting to increase productivity and promote economic development with the will of the people. However, during the Deng Xiaoping era, the self-sufficient approach was replaced by the reform and opening up policy, which was a plan to promote economic growth by opening up China gradually and attracting foreign investment and technology transfer. For instance, four Special Economic Zones were established in *Shenzhen* 深圳, *Zhuhai* 珠海, *Shantou* 汕頭 and *Xiamen* 廈門 in 1980, and more than 30 cities along the *Yangtze River* 長江 or close to the border were further opened up in 1992, with a view to increasing trade ties with foreign countries and promoting economic growth. In comparison, in terms of openness, Mao's method was a *closed-door* 封閉 strategy that relied on the power of the masses, while Deng's method was an *open-door* 開放 one that aimed at leveraging foreign capital together with the country's own labour force and resources to stimulate economic growth at the initial stage. The two methods were clearly very different from each other.

In terms of mode of production, *collectivization* 集體化 in the Maoist era was also vastly different from *individualization* 個體化 in the Deng Xiaoping era. During the Maoist era, the CCP was eager to promote socialist transformation and strived to introduce collectivization as early as the First Five-year Plan, which led to the establishment of *agricultural producers' cooperatives* 農業生產合作社 and *handicraft producers' cooperatives* 手工業生產合作社. During the Great Leap Forward movement, the *People's Communes* 人民公社 went one step further by making all means of production collectivized and having production teams for collective production. It was true that during the *Readjustment period* 調整時期 (1962-66), there was the decollectivizing 'three selfs and one contract' 三自一包 policy that allowed peasants to perform production individually to a limited extent; nevertheless, collectivized mode of production was mostly adopted throughout the Maoist era and the level of collectivization saw an overall upward trend. In contrast, individualized mode of production was adopted during the Deng Xiaoping era. For example, in agricultural aspect, the *household responsibility system* 家庭聯產承包制 was introduced in 1978 to mark the end of collective production, allowing peasants to contract land from the *People's Communes* 人民公社 with household instead of commune as production unit. In addition, the disbandment of the People's Communes in 1984 marked the end of the collectivized mode of production of the Maoist era. In comparison, in terms of mode of production, collectivization during the Maoist era was completely different from individualization during the Deng Xiaoping era. The former was to increase productivity through collective production and collaboration, while the latter was to boost productivity by allowing peasants to carry out production individually and independently. It was clear that the two modes of production were vastly different.

In terms of ownership system, public ownership in the Maoist era was also greatly different from private ownership in the Deng Xiaoping era. During the Maoist era, Mao deemed that *private ownership* 財產私有制 would contribute to the rise of the bourgeoisie and work against developing a socialist economy with common prosperity, thus striving to eliminate private ownership. For example, in the First Five-year Plan, large enterprises and railways were *nationalized* 國有化 and the *unified purchase and marketing system* 統購統銷制度 was implemented in 1953 to eliminate market economy through state monopoly of purchasing and marketing. During the Great Leap Forward movement, public ownership was completely achieved as the *People's Communes* 人民公社 took all means of production into collective ownership. In contrast, Deng supported private ownership. He introduced market economy to China and allowed the Chinese people to possess private property. For example, farmers were allowed to retain surplus production after fulfilling the state procurement quota obligations under the *Household Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包制, and state-owned enterprises became independent and self-financially with the introduction of *responsibility system* 責任制 and *share system* 股份制, which allowed owners to get their share of the profits. In comparison, in terms of ownership system, Mao adopted public ownership to create an economy with equality, while Deng chose to allow private ownership with a view to stimulating productivity and promoting economic development. Their approaches were therefore very different in this aspect.

In terms of regional layout of reforms, the two eras also differed considerably since nationwide reforms were adopted in the Maoist era while region-specific reforms were implemented in stages in the Deng Xiaoping era. In order to raise people's quality of life to the standards of a moderately prosperous and modernized country, Mao adopted a 'one-size-fits-all' 全國均一發展 approach to carry out reforms in a nationwide manner without adapting to regional differences. For instance, the *Land Reform* 土地改革 of 1950-52 was a nationwide program of land confiscation from rich farmers and redistribution to poor and tenant peasants, and the *agricultural Great Leap Forward* 農業大躍進 beginning in 1958 was also a reform at national level participated by people across the country. In contrast, the modernization efforts during the Deng Xiaoping era were region-specific and unfolded stage by stage. Dividing China into the eastern, central and western regions, Deng chose to develop the coastal eastern region first and hoped the success would drive the development of inland China. For instance, in 1980, *special economic zones* 經濟特區 were established in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen to create an open trading environment; in 1992, the Open Door policy was extended to more than 30 cities along the Yangtze River or close to the border to develop Central China; and finally in 1997, the *Great Western Development Strategy* 西部大開發 was put forward to attract investment to Western China. In comparison, in terms of regional layout, Mao's reforms were nationwide and implemented uniformly across the country to achieve common prosperity, while Deng's reforms were region-specific and implemented step by step in Eastern, Central and Western China to achieve prosperity. There were therefore clear differences in the approaches adopted in the two eras.

Although the methods of economic development in the two eras differed a lot, they still shared one method in common and that was planned economy.

In terms of planned economy, it was adopted in both the Maoist era and the Deng Xiaoping era as a method of economic development. During the Maoist era, China had implemented several Five-year Plans since 1953. The First Five-year Plan (1953-57) was aimed at '*one transformation and three changes* 一化三改造, which referred to socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicraft industry and private industry and business. The Second Five-year Plan (1958-62) remained focused on heavy industry and at the same time promoted *collectivization* 集體化 and *public ownership* 公有化. Under Mao's leadership, the CCP implemented planned economy for five years periods to regulate China's short-term and medium-term economic development. Similarly, planned economy was also adopted during the Deng Xiaoping era. Rising to power during the Fifth Five-year Plan (1976-80), Deng implemented the Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five-year Plans before he passed away in 1997. In addition, despite the fact that Deng introduced principles of market economy, he adopted different means for *macroeconomic controls* 宏觀調控 such as laws and regulations to make sure that China's economic growth rate fell within the range expected by the central government and to avoid social issues caused by excessively rapid economic growth. For example, *Zhu Rongji* 朱鎔基, then Governor of the People's Bank of China, began the depreciation of renminbi from 6 per US dollar to 8 per US dollar in 1994 to facilitate the growth of China's external trade. Upon comparison, from 1953 to 1997, planned economy had been adopted as a method of economic development during both Mao's and Deng's leadership except for the Readjustment period (1962-66). Under planned economy, the central government implemented macroeconomic controls to make sure that China's economic development met the government's expectations. It was clear that planned economy was one thing in common shared by the two eras.

In conclusion, planned economy was adopted during both the Maoist era and the Deng Xiaoping era, but overall speaking, the two eras differed significantly in terms of degree of openness, mode of production, ownership system and regional layout of reforms, so did the effectiveness of measures taken in the two eras—China lagged behind other countries in terms of economic growth under Mao's rule but became an important emerging economy under Deng's leadership. It could therefore be concluded that the methods of economic development adopted in the two eras differed greatly.

Words: 1575

Compare the effectiveness to China's modernization made in the Mao era and the Deng era.

A modernized country or region must have got rid of backwardness and feudalism, being modern and civilized in nature. In the late 20th century, Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping worked hard in modernizing China. However, in comparison, Deng contributed more than Mao. Below, the comparison would be made in the political, economic, education and diplomatic aspects.

Politically, Deng contributed more to the modernization of China than Mao did. In the era of Mao, he advocated '*class struggle* 階級鬥爭' and encouraged the public to criticize the '*capitalist roaders* 走資派' in the party. As a result, huge challenge was imposed to rule of law. Also, 2.3 million cadres (accounted for 19.2%) of the whole country was being checked. This made the country, local parties and agencies to be gotten into long term paralysis. This greatly harmed the rule of law and political stability. In the era of Deng, he stressed on *unity among classes* 階級團結 and achieved political stability by mutual economic production. Also, the occurrence of Reform and Opening Up encouraged the instillation of ideas like democracy through trading and people studying abroad. This facilitated the spread of ideas such as *freedom* 自由 and *democracy* 民主. This greatly advocated the development of such ideas. In compared of the two, the era of Mao greatly damaged the development of political modernization. Not only did China could not practice rule of law, the government paralyzed and led to '*San Xin Weiji*' 三信危機 which people lost confidence to them. In opposite, the era of Deng indeed brought a lot of positive impact to the politics of China. Political stability was achieved and people's trust to the government was rebuilt. Also, the ideas of freedom and democracy could be developed in China and hence he had greater contribution than Mao.

Economically, the contribution of Deng was more than that of Mao in China's economic modernization. In the era of Mao, the *First Five Year Plan* 一五計劃 (1953-57) had significant achievement. However, *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進 (1958-60) was a failure with their development neglecting the actual situation. The Great Leap Forward in industry and agriculture were in great failure and China's economy recessed. Whole country got into a 3-year difficult period (1960-62). In the Cultural Revolution, China got into a craze of political movement, production was neglected. As a result, the economy of China stopped and the estimated lost in people's income amounted to 500 billion dollars. This severely damaged the construction of economic modernization. In opposite, Deng suggested Reform and Opening Up, and opened up *cities on the coast* 沿海城市. Apart from that, he reformed the *nation-owned enterprises* 國有企業 and actualized '*Contracting Out System* 承包制' in agriculture which greatly encouraged the development of China's agriculture, industries and businesses. As a result, the agricultural products of China changed from long-term shortage to a balanced supply and demand. Also, the Gross Domestic Products of China increased by 9.6% in 1979-1999 and became the country which had the greatest growth in the world. To compare the two, the governance of Mao helped the development of China's economy. However, the achievement was ruined by Great Leap Forward and Cultural Revolution. Poverty remained in China and the economy paralyzed. However, in the era of Deng, economic modernization of China was successfully encouraged. Huge achievement was made in industry, agriculture and business. People's quality of life rose and thus he had greater contribution than Mao.

In the education aspect, the era of Mao did not value the development of education thus had less contribution than the era of Deng. Mao neglected professional knowledge and education. For instance, he asked people to refine steel during the *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進, as well as encouraging people to engage in production during the agricultural Great Leap Forward. Education was being neglected at that time. Worse still, in the *Cultural Revolution* 文化大革命, education was seen as an item which was not beneficial to production. Thoughts like 'Study is useless, the more you study the more stupid you become' 讀書無用、愈讀愈蠢 instilled into people's mind. As a result, the elites of this generation was in a vacuum state. It was estimated that the number of illiterate and semi-illiterate people amounted to 0.2 billion. It greatly hindered the development of China's education modernization. However, in the era of Deng, he stressed that education was the prerequisite of the *Four Modernizations* 四個現代化. Not only did he resumed the operation of all education institutions and restarted the 60 key secondary schools, he added 28 high school as National Key Universities. In 1978, China has already established 88 National Key Universities. Apart from that, universal education was promoted. For instance, *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 was implemented in 1986 and provided 9-year free education to students aged 6. It greatly advocated the development of China's primary and tertiary education. In comparison, the era of Mao had limited contribution to the educational modernization of China as his approach created barrier to its development. On the other hand, in the era of Mao, he restarted the development of education in China. He greatly improved the problem of illiteracy and the knowledge level of China. He contributed more than Mao did.

Diplomatically, Deng contributed more on China's modernization than Mao did. In the era of Mao, he relied solely on the diplomatic policy of the communist bloc. For instance, China supported communist North Korea and North Vietnam in the *Korean War* 韓戰(1950-53) and *Vietnam War* 越戰(1961-75) respectively. It limited China's diplomatic development. Also, in the late 1950s, the relationship of China and Soviet Union became hostile. Together with the anti-foreign sentiments rose during the *Cultural Revolution* 文革 in China, it was being isolated and could not develop normal relationship with the international community. In opposite, in the era of Deng, Deng worked hard in improving the relationship of China and other countries. He hoped to increase cooperation by Reform and Opening Up policies and increase contact with others. Moreover, the diplomatic development in this era was not limited to the communist bloc, cooperation was carried out with capitalist countries like Japan and South Korea as well. Also, development in relationship with third world countries like Africa was included. Diplomacy of China was becoming more multilateral. This resumed the participation of China in international affairs. For instance, in *the issue of nuclear in North Korea* 北韓核問題 in 1990s, China was acting as a channel in the communication between her and other countries. In comparison, the era of Mao made the diplomacy of China to be more and more narrow and China was being isolated by others. However, the era of Deng greatly improved the relationship of China and the international community. Not only did China started to develop multilaterally, it could return to the international stage and actualized diplomatic modernization. Such contribution exceeded that of Mao.

To sum up, in terms of the contribution of China's modernization, the era of Deng had a more significant contribution than that of Mao in political, economic, education and diplomatic aspects. The aggressive reforms and radical mass movements hindered the construction of China's modernization. However, in the era of Deng, he carried up the reform step-by-step and pragmatically. This could help actualizing China's modernization more effectively.

Words: 1190

'The Great Leap Forward (1958-60) and the Reform and Opening Up (1978-2000) had different programmes to achieve similar aims.' Comment on the validity of this statement.

The Great Leap Forward (1958-60) and the Reform and Opening Up (1978-2000) had the same goal of modernizing China and guiding it out of feudalism and backwardness towards advancement and civilization, but with completely different programmes. The statement concerned is therefore valid and this essay is going to discuss it in political, economic and diplomatic aspects.

Politically, both movements aimed at making China a socialist modernized country. As for the Great Leap Forward, the General Line for Socialist Construction clearly put down its goal as *'aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better, and more economical results in building socialism 力爭上游，多快好省地建設社會主義'*. During the Reform and Opening Up period, Deng Xiaoping also emphasized that China was still in the *'primary stage of socialism 社會主義初級階段'* and it would take more than a hundred years to transform the country into a socialist one. Therefore, both movements had the same political goal of turning China into a socialist country.

To achieve the above goal, dissimilar programmes were implemented in the two movements. In the Great Leap Forward, the levels of collectivization and public ownership were raised in order to transform China into a socialist country. In terms of *collectivization 集體化*, for example, the *People's Communes 人民公社* were widely established and more than 99% of the people joined, within whom *production teams 生產隊* were formed, for collectivized production. In terms of *public ownership 公有化*, expropriating all properties for public use and abolishing private ownership helped make China a socialist country. On the contrary, the Reform and Opening Up was to reduce the levels of collectivization and public ownership because Deng believed poverty was not socialism and he proposed economic development should be put before socialist modernization. Therefore, there came permission of private ownership, abolishment of the People's Communes and introduction of the *Household Responsibility System 家庭聯產承包責任制* (1979), which allowed peasants to have individualized production, in order to boost China's economic development and contribute to its socialist transformation. Relatively speaking, both movements aimed at developing China into a socialist country, but the Great Leap Forward sought quick success by increasing the levels of collectivization and public ownership rapidly, while the Reform and Opening Up had long-term goals and these levels were reduced to stimulate economic development and fulfill its objective step by step. It can be concluded that the two movements had different means for the same result.

Economically, both movements were intended to promote China's economic development for the sake of modernization. Speaking of the Great Leap Forward, its intention was to deal with the economic backwardness of China by boosting industrial and agricultural production. In industrial aspect, for example, there were clear goals that the country's steel output should 'overtake Britain and catch up with the US 超英趕美' in fifteen years and, for the short term, the steel output in 1958 should double that of 1957. Concerning the Reform and Opening Up, there were also explicit economic goals that China's GNP in 1990 should double that of 1980 to settle the people's basic needs, the GNP in 2000 should again double that of 1990 to attain moderate prosperity, and the GNP in 2050 should reach a level close to that of certain developed countries. It is therefore understood that both movements had the same objective of promoting China's economic development.

To achieve the above goal, different programmes were adopted in the two movements. The plan for the Great Leap Forward was to work on self-sufficiency and realize the Great Leap Forward in industry and agriculture with the power of the masses. Collective efforts were made regarding steel and agricultural production for the purpose of economic development. As for industry, Mao started the *nationwide steel production campaign* 全民大煉鋼, under which more than 90 million people participated in *steel refinement by indigenous methods* 土法煉鋼, to increase steel output; as for agriculture, the Party encouraged peasants to 'plough deep and plant close 深耕密植' and developed 'satellite farms 衛星田'. Contrastively, the plan for the Reform and Opening Up was to open China up gradually. For example, four *special economic zones* 經濟特區 were established in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen in 1980, and after that more than 30 cities along Yangtze River and China's state border were opened up to facilitate foreign trade and, subsequently, economic development. Comparatively speaking, where the Great Leap Forward was an exclusive domestic reform where the power of the masses was employed to build China's economy, the Reform and Opening Up was an inclusive reform programme which relied on foreign capital, together with manpower and resources within the nation, to stimulate economic development. Therefore, the two efforts achieved the same goal with different programmes.

Diplomatically, both movements were intended to improve China's diplomatic status so as to achieve modernization in this aspect. Concerning the Great Leap Forward, in view of its over-reliance on the Soviet Union during the First Five-Year Plan, China was eager to get rid of Soviet influence and achieve diplomatic autonomy and higher international status. As for the Reform and Opening Up, China, after the ten-year Cultural Revolution, had bad relations with most countries, including South Korea and India, and suffered diplomatic isolation. The reform was therefore aimed at improving China's foreign relations in order to enhance its diplomatic status and make a comeback to the international community. It is therefore understood that both movements were intended to improve the country's diplomatic status.

For the goal of improving diplomatic status, different programmes were adopted during the two movements. As for the Great Leap Forward, the movement reduced China's reliance on the Soviet Union. Projects under the movement were mostly domestic and executed independently, exemplified by *steel refinement by indigenous methods* 土法煉鋼 that required low skills. This was to reduce the country's reliance on Soviet technical support so as to enhance its diplomatic autonomy and international status. On the contrary, the Reform and Opening Up was intended to increase China's interactions and connections with the outside in order to raise its diplomatic status. Its efforts included further opening its port cities up and trading with other countries. Meanwhile, multilateral diplomatic policy was adopted not only to improve China's relationship with capitalist nations by resuming diplomatic relations with countries like the US, South Korea and India, but also to seek connections with third-world countries like those in Africa. China could therefore have greater influence over international affairs. Relatively speaking, both movements were intended to modernize China by boosting its diplomatic status, but the Great Leap Forward was to reduce its reliance on other countries and achieve greater autonomy, while the Reform and Opening Up was to increase connections with other countries and raise its diplomatic influence. It is clear that in the two periods there were similar goals but different programmes.

To conclude, although both movements were attempts to bring transformation and modernization to China, there were significant differences in their contents. The statement concerned is therefore proven valid.

Words: 1128

Which of the following leaders do you think was a greater leader for China?

(a) Sun Yat-sen

(b) Mao Zedong

A 'great' leader should have remarkable personal achievements, make contributions and sacrifices for others instead of focusing on his own interests, and care about the common people. Both Sun Yat-sen and Mao Zedong were of crucial importance to the development of China as the former has been dubbed the founding father of the Republic of China while the latter was a prominent figure in the establishment of the People's Republic of China. Upon comparison, Sun was a greater leader compared to Mao. This essay is going to discuss it from political, social and diplomatic perspectives.

Politically speaking, a great leader should be able to promote China's political development and sacrifice his own power and interests for the sake of China. As for Mao, he was one of the founding members and the leader of the Communist Part of China (CPC). Under his leadership, the CPC defeated the Kuomintang (KMT) and established the *People's Republic of China* 中華人民共和國 in 1949. After that, Mao made active efforts to promote China's socialist revolution. In 1952, he launched the *First Five-Year Plan* 第一個五年計劃 to build cooperation by calling on peasants and handicraftsmen to set up cooperatives, and to achieve *nationalization* 國有化 by nationalizing large enterprises and railways. In 1956, Mao announced that China had achieved socialism and transformed from a capitalist country into a communist one.

As for Sun, he also contributed significantly to China's political development. Since the establishment of China's first revolutionary organization, the *Xingzhonghui* 興中會, in 1894, Sun had made continuous anti-Qing efforts with a view to overthrowing the monarchy and making China a constitutional republic. In 1905, Sun formed the *Tongmenghui* 同盟會 from the merger of different revolutionary groups and established the Three People's Principles of 'People's Livelihood 民生', 'Nationalism 民族' and 'Democracy 民權'. At the end, the revolutionaries with Sun as the leader managed to overthrow the Manchu Qing through the 1911 Revolution and marked the end of 2,000 years of imperial rule in China with the establishment of the Republic of China. Under Yuan Shikai's dictatorial rule, Sun also started the *Second Revolution* 二次革命(1913) and the *National Protection War* 護國戰爭(1915) in an attempt to overthrow Yuan's autocratic regime and achieve the principle of democracy by giving people the decision-making power. Sun had been devoted to China's revolution throughout his life. Despite being seriously ill, he still reminded his comrades in 1925 that 'the work of the Revolution was not yet done' and the comrades should 'strive on for its consummation'. His dedication and commitment to his nation was beyond doubt.

In comparison, Sun was a greater leader than Mao. In terms of their achievements, Sun was a key figure of overthrowing the monarchy, while Mao was the leader who established the People's Republic of China. Both of them played an important role for China. However, in terms of the sacrifices they made for the nation, Mao as a power-hungry leader started the *Cultural Revolution* 文革 against Liu Xiaoli in an attempt to regain political power after being forced to retreat to the second line after the failure of the Great Leap Forward, and the ten-year disaster of the Cultural Revolution did irreparable harm to China; in contrast, Sun handed the *provisional presidency* 臨時大總統 to Yuan Shikai in order to prevent China from becoming divided and experiencing civil wars. Pursuing national stability at the expense of his leadership role, Sun lived up to his reputation as a great leader with his altruist spirit. It was clear that Sun was a greater leader than Mao.

Socially speaking, a great leader should be able to save the people and prevent China from becoming divided by uniting the people for the development of China. As for Mao, in the face of Japanese military threats, Mao called upon the Nationalists to give up their policy of *'internal pacification before external resistance'* 先安內，後攘外 and make concerted efforts against Japanese aggression, contributing to the Second United Front. Although the Chinese Civil War broke out after the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, Mao led the CPC to defeat the KMT and officially unified China, saving the people from war. After the founding of the PRC, Mao also implemented the *Land Reform* 土地改革(1950-52) in order to saving the people from food shortage. By redistributing farmland to peasants across the nation, Mao enabled the Chinese people to farm their own land and feed themselves.

Sun also played a significant role in promoting China's social development. Before the 1911 Revolution, Sun proposed the principle of nationalism and the program to *'expel the northern barbarians'* 驅除韃虜 in order to liberate the Han people who were controlled by the Manchus. After overthrowing the Manchu rule and freeing the Han people in 1911, Sun wanted to pool the wisdom and power of different races. Therefore, he put aside his grudges with the Manchus and changed his idea of 'nationalism' to that of *'five-group harmony'* 五族共和 among the Han, the Manchus, the Hui, the Mongols and the Tibetans in pursuit of racial equality and national unity. In addition, slogans such as *'racial harmony'* 民族融和 became known across the nation after the 1911 Revolution. After that, Sun even proposed the concept of *'the Chinese nation'* 中華民族 that entailed the five races to replace the old monoethnic nationalism. By establishing the concepts of 'the Chinese nation' and 'the Chinese ethnicities', Sun contributed to racial unity and brought all races in China together to develop the nation.

In comparison, Sun was a greater leader than Mao. In terms of saving the people, it was true that Sun did not address the issues of people's livelihood and improve their life; nevertheless, Mao started the *Great Leap Forward* 大躍進(1958-60) with the intention of achieving instant success and caused the Chinese economy to regress. Bringing about great famines that killed 15 to 30 million people, Mao's over-ambitious attempt was a devastating event in Chinese history. In terms of uniting the Chinese people, despite that Mao created the New China, he divided the Chinese nation since the KMT fled to Taiwan and there was the opposition between mainland China and Taiwan. Besides, Mao advocated for *'class revolution'* 階級革命 and made continuous attempts to purge dissidents, including the Cultural Revolution (1966-76) that aimed at fighting against 'capitalist roaders'. As a result, society became seriously divided and morally degenerated. In contrast, Sun managed to unite different races and even put aside political differences to forge *'alliance with Russia and the Community Party'* 聯俄容共, under which Chinese Communists were admitted into the KMT with a view to jointly strengthening China. His inclusiveness characterized him as a truly great leader. Therefore, Sun was a greater leader for China than Mao.

Diplomatically speaking, a great leader should be able to raise China's international status and connect the nation to the world. As for Mao, he made active efforts to strengthen China's ties with the Soviet Union in the early years of the establishment of the PRC. For example, in 1950, Mao signed the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship and Alliance* 中蘇友好同盟條約 to promote cooperation with the Soviet Union. In addition, Mao also intended to exert more influence in the communist bloc with a hard-line foreign policy. For instance, he intervened in the *Korean War* 韓戰 (1950-53) and the Vietnam War (1961-75) in favour of North Korea and North Vietnam against the capitalist bloc. With Chinese assistance, North Korea was able to resist South Korea as well as the United Nations forces, and North Vietnam even defeated its southern counterpart. There was thus a significant rise in China's status in the communist bloc. Moreover, Mao fought for China's membership in the *United Nations* 聯合國 and succeeded in 1971, helping connect China to the world.

Sun also facilitated China's diplomatic development. Among Sun's Three Principles of the People, the principle of nationalism was meant to not only overthrow the Manchu regime but also free China from foreign domination. Before the 1911 Revolution, Sun lobbied different countries hard for their recognition of the Chinese revolution in order to protect the fruits of revolution against foreign powers. After the success of the revolution, Sun continued his endeavor to fight for the interests of China. For instance, in 1923, Sun and Soviet Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Adolph Joffe signed the *Sun-Joffe Manifesto* 孫文越飛宣言, under which the Soviet Union agreed to abolish its unequal treaties with China and recognized Outer Mongolia as part of China. This helped promote China's international status. In addition, after the 1911 Revolution, Sun also advocated the use of the Western Calendar and the abolition of evil practices such as foot-binding and slavery in the Republic of China, helping China converge with world standards culturally.

In comparison, Sun was a greater leader than Mao. In terms of connecting China to the world, Mao's diplomatic policy of '*leaning to one side* 一邊倒' in favor of the communist bloc alienated China from capitalist countries. For example, China was condemned by Western Countries and experienced *embargo* 禁運 by the United Nations for its intervention in the Korean War, and the Sino-Soviet split took place after Mao criticized Soviet leader Khrushchev for being a 'capitalist roader' in the late 1950s. During the Cultural Revolution, Mao incited strong anti-foreign sentiments among the *Red Guards* 紅衛兵, who therefore attacked foreign legations and ambassadors. What Mao did got China caught up in diplomatic isolation and disconnected the nation from the rest of the world. In contrast, Sun made active efforts to build ties with other countries. Even for the communist Soviet Union that showed significant ideological differences with him, Sun could still put aside the differences and put Chinese interests first. Through the meeting with *Adolph Joffe* 越飛, Sun worked hard to revoke the unequal treaties the Soviet Union had with China and forge close ties with the communist power with a view to facilitating China's integration into the global community. Therefore, Sun was a greater leader compared to Mao.

In conclusion, Sun differentiated himself from Mao with his inclusiveness, altruism and devotion for China and lived up to his reputation as the founding father. Despite being one of the crucial leaders who created modern China, Mao failed to either hold back his hunger for power and political views, or genuinely care about his people and pursue national interests rather than personal interests. Therefore, Sun was a greater leader compared to Mao.

Assess the effectiveness of the efforts made by the People's Republic of China to achieve economic modernization in the period 1949-1965.

Economic modernization means industries and agriculture are developed in a balanced and vigorous way, and people live at a subsistence level. The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) started different attempts to attain economic modernization after it established the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1949, which included the Land Reforms, the First Five Year Plan, the Great Leap Forward and the Readjustment. Among them, the Land Reform, the First Five Year Plan and the Readjustment achieved satisfying effectiveness, yet the Great Leap Forward brought disastrous effect, which had poor effectiveness.

First, the Land Reforms carried out by the CCP to facilitate economic modernization had significant effectiveness. In order to achieve targets aiming at economic modernization like people living at subsistence level and raising agricultural productivity, the CCP launched the *Land Reforms* 推行土地改革(1950-52) after it established the PRC in 1949. Land was confiscated from landlords and kulaks and then distributed to *tenant farmers* 佃農 and peasants. Land ownership was implemented in order to raise peasants' productivity and improve agricultural production. The Land Reforms got significant effectiveness. Almost 0.3 billion tenant farmers and peasants benefited from it and were distributed 0.7 billion acres of land. 70 billion jin of grains which were handed to landlords annually in the past were omitted since then. Resources like farm animals, houses and farming tools were shared among peasants. As a result, productivity increased rapidly after peasants got the land. Total grain production of China increased by 44.8% in 1952 comparing with 1949. The production growth of cotton even reached 193.4%, greatly ensuring people's basic needs for food. Economy was greatly developed. Therefore, the CCP successfully liberated the land by launching the Land Reforms. Productivity was raised. The Land Reform was effective in achieving economic modernization.

Second, the First Five Year Plan carried out by the CCP to facilitate economic modernization had significant effectiveness. To realize industrial modernization, stimulate industrial production of China, raise productivity in agriculture and handicraft industries, and control prices so as to avoid people's livelihood being affected by high prices, the CCP launched the First Five Year Plan in 1953. It set "one transformation and three changes 一化三改造" as the target, hoping to actualize industrialization, as well as the socialist transformation in agriculture, handicraft industries and private industries and business. For industry, the CCP carried out more than 694 construction projects and invested 58% of the national expenses in industries, including iron and steel as well as machinery. At the same time, the CCP also set up Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives 生產合作社 and Handicraft Producers' Cooperatives to raise level of collectivization 集體化程度. It was hoped that production could be raised by cooperation. Moreover, the unified purchase and marketing system 統購統銷制度 was implemented since 1953 so as to control the source and supply of food and prevent merchants from hoarding the food for speculation which could affect people's livelihood. The First Five Year Plan achieved great effectiveness. The pace of industrialization was greatly pushed forward as the CCP put in abundant resources in industrial aspect. In 1957, the gross value of industrial output increased by 128.6% compared with that of 1952. The total output of heavy industries and that of light industries grew by 210.7% and 83.3% respectively. The figures reflected the explosive growth in industrial production. At the same time, productivity of agriculture and handicraft industry increased as well. The annual growth rate of gross national income during the First Five Year Plan reached 8.9%. Also, under the unified purchase and marketing system, prices were manipulated. The level of economic modernization was raised, and people's livelihood was improved. Therefore, the implementation of the First Five Year Plan by the CCP to achieve economic modernization had certain effectiveness.

Besides, the CCP carried out the Great Leap Forward as a way to achieve economic modernization, yet it actually caused the economy to regress and impeded the economic modernization. In order to further raise production of industry and agriculture, narrow the gap between the rich and poor and create an economic status which was modernized and subsistent, the CCP launched the Great Leap Forward in 1958. The *nationwide iron and steel production campaign* 全民大煉鋼 was carried out. Masses were called to join the steel production campaign while peasants were called to concentrate in agricultural production. Through collectivized cooperation as well as the introduction of new ways to farm and rear, it was hoped that agricultural production could be raised drastically. Furthermore, the *People's Communes* 人民公社 were set up to plan production and take care of people's basic needs, such as food and medical treatment, etc. People's livelihood was hoped to improve. However, the Great Leap Forward could not stimulate economic development, it even caused the economy to regress. For instance, for Great Leap Forward in industry, nearly 90 million people were mobilized to refine steel, but half of the steel production was not up to standard. Time was wasted and thing could not reach its goal. Manpower and resources were misused. For Great Leap Forward in agriculture, under the "*equalitarianism* 平均主義" of the People's Communes, working incentive was much lower. Plus, local government and peasants falsely reported the agricultural production in order to satisfy the unreachably high standard set by the government. As a result, localities did not have sufficient food supply after handing over the amount of food required by the state. Famine occurred in the early 1960s. The number of unnatural death reached 30 million people. Economy turned bad and fell into difficult situation, and negative growth (3.1%) was even recorded in the annual growth rate of gross national income. People's lives were poor. Therefore, the CCP carried out the Great Leap Forward to achieve economic modernization, but the economy was even worse after its implementation. The Great Leap Forward backfired.

Lastly, the Readjustment carried out by the CCP to achieve economic modernization had significant effectiveness. After the Great Leap Forward, the economy of China fell into a difficult period. In order to turn over the economic doldrums, bring growths in industry and agriculture again, improve people's livelihood and solve famine, the CCP leaders, headed by Liu Shaoqi, proposed the Readjustment in 1963. In agriculture, the party adopted the policy of *'three freedoms and one fixed quota 三自一包'* (i.e. plot free for private use, free markets, enterprises free to take responsibility for their own profits and losses and the fixed output quotas on the basis of individual households). Peasants got their own land and were allowed to sell the surplus in the markets after submitting a fixed quota to the government. For industry, the government no longer focused on the quantity only. It monitored the quality of the industrial products as well. At the same time, it closed a number of loss-making factories and enterprises. During 1961-62, about 43,000 factories and enterprises were shut down to improve the quality of the products and enterprises themselves, hoping to achieve economic modernization. In fact, the Readjustment carried by the CCP had satisfying results. The Readjustment not only corrected the concept of blindly pursuing rash advance, but it also drove the recovery and development of national economy gradually. For instance, in industry and agriculture aspect, after the readjustment, the annual growth rate of industry was 18% and that of agriculture was 12%. Industry and agriculture were developed again. Even more, the average growth rate of gross national income during the readjustment reached 14.7%, reflecting that people's livelihood was improved greatly. Threats from famine were eliminated. Therefore, the Readjustment carried out by the CCP helped drive the progress of economic modernization. It was very effective.

To conclude, although the CCP made efforts to achieve economic modernization in China since 1949, in which the Land Reforms, the First Five Year Plan and the Readjustment got satisfying results, the foundation of economy in China was still backward. Plus, with the disastrous setback of the Great Leap Forward, economy of China still could not reach modernization in the late 1960s.

Words: 1310

Assess the effectiveness of the efforts made by the People's Republic of China to achieve economic modernization in the period 1978-2000.

Economic modernization means free business environment, investment in mechanization in production and balanced economic development, etc. In order to reach economic modernization, the Chinese Communist government not only greatly reformed agricultural industry and industry and commerce, which directly promoted economic modernization, but the government also put effort into educational, social and military aspects, indirectly promoted economic development. Although the efforts mentioned above were quite effective, the Chinese communist government still faced the problem of imbalanced economic development. Therefore, the level of economic modernization was not thorough in China.

In agricultural aspect, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was rather effective. Agricultural economy modernization means adopting mechanization and scientific ways to produce in agricultural industry. Also, agricultural production can reach self-sufficient, even export to overseas market. In terms of production mode, in Reform and Opening-up, agriculture was perceived as one of the 'Four Modernization 四個現代化' by the Chinese Communist government. The government actively promoted investigation and research in agricultural technology and introduced foreign farming techniques and machines. The level of agricultural technology in China continuously increased. The input of machines such as *planter 播種機* and *harvesters 收割機* was high. GM crops which were high-yield and drought-resistant were used, such as *hybrid rice seeds 雜交水稻種子*, reflecting that agricultural industry in China already adopted mechanization and scientific ways to produce. In terms of the agricultural productivity, owing to the change of production mode, as well as the implementation of the Household Responsibility System in 1978 by the Chinese communist government, which gave up those collectivized programs and required peasants to hand over the designated agricultural production amount to the state, the agricultural production in China increased day by day. Under the *Household Responsibility System 家庭聯產承包制*, food grew beyond the targets belonged to the peasants and they could eat it or sell the surplus in the open market. Agricultural production increased rapidly, among them, grain yield reached 0.5 billion tons in 1996, which was the highest in history. Supply of agricultural products changed from long-term shortage to balanced supply and demand, surplus was even noted, which was a historical change. Therefore, the Chinese Communist government achieved notable significance in achieving agricultural economy modernization.

In industry and commerce, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was rather effective. Modernization of industry and commerce means that there is free economic environment, and economy is developed vigorously that the quality of life of citizens is satisfactory. After 1978, the Chinese Communist government abandoned the principle of having highly planned economy, and turned to introduce *market economy* 市場經濟 which was capitalist, raising the freedom of business environment. For instance, the *unified purchase and marketing system* 統購統銷制度 was also abolished in 1985. Prices of commodities were then regulated by market. State-owned enterprises were reformed in the 1980s. They were then fully responsible for their decisions and self-financing, making business environment become freer. Moreover, along with the Reform and Opening, China gradually opened up the coastal cities, for instance, *Special Economic Zones* 經濟特區(SEZs) were set up in Shenzhen and Zhuhai in 1980. In 1992, more than 30 border cities along the Yangtze River were opened up. Trade between China and foreign countries became frequent and the economic environment had an increasing level of freedom. In terms of people's quality of life, with the rapid commercial development after Reform and Opening Up, there was improved quality of life for the citizens. The GNP of China was growing at an average annual rate of 9.6% during 1979-99, which was one of the highest among all countries. The GDP per capita also increased from 379 yuan in 1978 to 7,159 yuan in 1999. The economic figures reflected that the economy flourished in China. Therefore, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving modernization of industry and commerce was certainly effective.

In educational aspect, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was effective. Education was an important way to push forward economic modernization, as high-quality labour force could raise economic efficiency and increase technology level in economic aspect, including the development of mechanization and high-tech industry. In fact, educational reform carried out by the Chinese Communist government helped promote the implementation of economic modernization greatly. In basic education aspect, the *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 was introduced in 1986, which required students to receive 9-year mandatory and free education. This raised overall educational level of students. For tertiary education, the party also reactivated key universities and 28 universities were added to the list of key universities. As a result, education in China developed at surprising speed. In 1999, the enrolment rate for children of school age reached 99% and there were 1071 universities in China. The development of education had remarkable effectiveness. With the increase of educational level, China got unprecedented development in various aspects in economic technology, including biotechnology and energy technology, etc., which helped promote development of agricultural industry and industrial modernization in China. So, the effort in education by the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was effective.

In social and military aspect, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was effective. Overly high social and military expenses would impede capital investment on promoting economic development. Therefore, in order to reach economic modernization, the Chinese Communist government actively reduced social and military expenses. In 1978, Deng Xiaoping came into power again and he carried out harsher population policy. In social aspect, the party implemented the *One-child Policy* 一孩政策 which allowed each couple living in urban areas to have one child only in 1979 in order to reduce pressure on resources and welfare by lowering the birth rate. As a result, the policy caused great decline in birth rate. Approximately 250 million births were prevented during 1979-2000. Resources could be reallocated and concentrated on economic development. The alternative use of resources helped China to achieve higher economic goals. In military aspect, the Chinese Communist government actively reduced the scale of army. In 1985, the size of the PLA was reduced by a million so as to reduce the military expenses greatly and then reallocate resources for alternative use, such as agricultural industry and education, etc. The pace of economic modernization could be facilitated. Therefore, the effort in social and military aspects by the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was effective certainly.

However, for regional economy aspect, the effort of the Chinese Communist government in achieving economic modernization was not effective. One of the important standards of economic modernization is balanced economic development, including balanced development in rural area and cities, as well as the balanced development in all regions in China. Although the Chinese Communist government actively promoted the progress of economic modernization, it could not reach balanced economic development. For example, the Chinese Communist government laid over-emphasis on the development of industry and commerce in mid and late 1980s. Economy of rural areas was ignored. Plus, under inflation, *Three Rural Issues* 三農問題 were deteriorated. Economy of rural areas was far behind economy of cities. In the late 20th century, 200 million out of 9000 million peasants in China were unemployed or underemployed, showing how serious the Three Rural Issues were. Moreover, the Chinese Communist government proposed the Three-Step Development Strategy in order to push forward the trade development. Coastal regions were opened up first so as to push forward the development of central regions. Western regions were the last to develop. Yet, this policy caused the economic development of central and western regions far lagged behind than that of the eastern region. As a result, wealth gap was widened. Many people in western provinces like Tibet and Guizhou lived below the poverty threshold and the living standard was poor. Therefore, the effort by the Chinese Communist government on regional economy was ineffective.

To conclude, although the Chinese Communist government made efforts in achieving economic modernization during 1979-2000 and effectiveness was seen in various aspects, the level of economic modernization in China was not thorough as there was still great difference in regional economic development, which lowered the level of economic modernization in China.

Word Count: 1319

In what ways could the year 1949 be regarded as a turning point in modern Chinese history?

In 1949, the Chinese Communist Party defeated the Kuomintang and announced the establishment of the People's Republic of China, which led to sweeping changes in political, economic, social, military and diplomatic aspects of China. Therefore, the year was a turning point in modern Chinese history.

Politically speaking, the year 1949 was the turning point when China's political system changed from a capitalist one to a communist one. Before 1949, the ruling Kuomintang followed Sun Yat-sen's 'Fundamentals of National Reconstruction' to proceed from military rule to political tutelage and to constitutional government. The goal was to establish a republic in China similar to capitalist countries such as America and France. In 1946, the Nanjing government also promulgated the Constitution of the Republic of China that guaranteed the separation of the five powers represented by the Executive, Legislative, Judicial, Control and Examination Yuans, and the presence of a parliament, cabinet and president, making China a capitalist republic. However, in 1949, the Kuomintang was defeated in the Chinese Civil War and had to flee to Taiwan, while the Communist Party took control of China and established the People's Republic of China. After 1949, China was transformed into a communist country. The five-power separation was replaced by one-party dictatorship, under which the Communist Party enjoyed complete power and its members filled up all positions in major government institutions such as the State Council, National People's Congress and Central Military Commission. In comparison, China before 1949 was a republic running a capitalist system, but the Communist Party defeated the Kuomintang in 1949 and installed a communist regime that has existed until now. Therefore, the year 1949 was a turning point for China politically.

Economically speaking, the year 1949 was a turning point for China's economic system and mode of production. Before 1949, China under Nanjing rule had a free market economy that was a product of capitalism. It allowed free trade and greatly promoted the development of the financial and commercial sectors. For example, it set up the Central Bank in 1928 to regulate the financial industry, and introduced a series of economic regulations such as the Exchange Act and Weights and Measures Act to create a business-friendly environment. In addition, people could work on their own will and production was individualized instead of collectivized. However, after the communist takeover in 1949, China came under strict control by the communists and the government implemented five-year plans to manipulate the economy. After 1949, the commercial and financial sectors as well as trade were regulated. In 1953, the government adopted the unified purchase and marketing system to control the origin and supply of food, and this undermined the country's economic freedom. In addition, in order to realize communism, the government enforced collectivization of production as exemplified by the People's Communes (1958) and production teams formed during the Great Leap Forward. In comparison, China's economy changed from a free economy before 1949 to a highly planned economy after that, and its mode of production also changed from individualized to collectivized. With significant changes in its economic system and mode, the year was a turning point.

In social aspect, the year 1949 was the turning point when China's social class structure was reversed. Before 1949, the bourgeoisie had dominance over the proletariat. The upper class was filled by merchants, entrepreneurs and landlords who enjoyed most of the fruits of economic growth, and of those, the most representative were the Big Four Families (Song, Chen, Jiang and Kong) who monopolized the economy during the Nanjing period. In stark contrast, most workers and peasants led a poor life and worked for the bourgeoisie. The proletariat had low social status and were exploited by the bourgeoisie before 1949. However, in 1949, the Communist Party that advocated the leadership of the working class defeated the Kuomintang and established a regime headed by the proletariat. After 1949, the number of the bourgeoisie plummeted since many of them emigrated for fear that the communists would jeopardize their interests. Also, the Communist Party actively sought to suppress the bourgeoisie after founding the PRC. For instance, it announced the Agrarian Reform Law in 1950 to expropriate land from landlords and redistribute it to peasants who had no land. In addition to further suppression during the Cultural Revolution (1966-76), the bourgeoisie had disappeared by the end of the Maoist period. In comparison, the bourgeoisie had dominance over the proletariat before 1949, but after the founding of the PRC in 1949, the proletariat turned the tables on the bourgeoisie and became the leading class of society. Therefore, the year was the turning point marking the shift in China's social class structure.

In military aspect, the year 1949 was the turning point marking the transition from war to peace in China. Before 1949, China was trapped in wars for long. The death of Yuan Shikai in 1916 was immediately followed by the chaotic Warlord Era. Although the Nanjing government got rid of warlords by military means in the successful Northern Expedition in 1928, it started its sustained effort against the Communist Party and even launched five encirclement campaigns against the communists between 1933 and 1934. The Japanese invasion put the war between the two parties into hiatus but the civil war continued after Japan's surrender in 1945. It was clear that China was fighting in wars in almost the whole first half of the 20th century. However, the CCP soon defeated the KMT in the Chinese Civil War and killed 1.5 million KMT soldiers in the three major campaigns (Liaoshen, Huaihai and Pingjin Campaigns), forcing the nationalists to flee to Taiwan. After 1949, the Communist Party took full control of China and ended the prolonged wars. There had been no major civil wars or foreign invasions affecting China since 1949. In comparison, China suffered successive wars in the first half of the 20th century and experienced the Warlord Era, Japanese invasion, Chinese Civil War and other armed conflicts, but all these ended as the CCP defeated the KMT in the year 1949, which was therefore a turning point.

In diplomatic aspect, the year 1949 was the turning point when China abandoned multilateral diplomacy for unilateral diplomacy. Before 1949, China adopted multilateral foreign policy and actively built ties with different countries in order to abolish unequal treaties and resist Japanese invasions. For example, in 1943, Chiang Kai-shek attended the Cairo Conference to discuss the above matters with the leaders of America and Britain. In addition, despite the KMT's hostility with the Soviets, the CCP retained close ties with the USSR and the Soviets even gave all the weapons seized from the Japanese to the communists. However, when the PRC was established in 1949, the CCP loathed capitalist countries like America that used to support the KMT, while Western countries were suspicious of Communist China. After 1949, there was a long-term split between China and capitalist countries, and China implemented a unilateral foreign policy by only building relations with communist countries. For example, it signed the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance in 1950 that guaranteed its friendly relationship with the USSR. Also, it also fought in the Korean War of 1950-53 in favour of North Korea, providing assistance for a communist country. In comparison, China before 1949 exercised multilateral diplomacy and had connections with both capitalist and communist countries, but after 1949 it used unilateral diplomacy and developed relations only with communist countries. The year was therefore a turning point in China's diplomatic development.

In conclusion, the founding of the new China did cause sweeping changes in political, economic, social, military and diplomatic aspects of the country, being a turning point in modern Chinese history.

Words: 1276

To what extent was the year 1978 a turning point in Chinese history? Explain your answer with reference to the period 1949-2000.

The comeback of Deng Xiaoping and implementation of the Reform and Opening Up made the year 1978 a turning point in Chinese history to a large extent. China had revolutionary changes in political, agricultural, industrial and commercial, educational, and diplomatic aspects, despite continuity in social and military aspects.

Politically, the relentless class struggles before 1978 were replaced by class unity after that, and the year was therefore a turning point. Before 1978, Mao Zedong proposed '*taking class struggle as the key link* 以階級鬥爭為綱' to eradicate corrupt officials and reactionaries. For example, the '*Three-Anti*' and '*Five-Anti*' Campaigns 三反五反運動 were launched during 1951-52 against those involved in, for example, corruption or stealing state economic information. Besides, Mao launched the *Cultural Revolution* 文化大革命 in 1966 and called on the masses to fight against 'capitalist roaders' with Liu Xiaogi as the leader. As a consequence, political struggles took place in China one after another in the period 1949-78. However, Deng came into power in 1978 and he realized that class struggles would only cause instability and chaos in China, which worked against China's modernization. Therefore, he abandoned the principle of 'taking class struggle as the key link' at the *3rd Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the CCP* 第十一屆三中全會 in 1978. Instead, he tried to unite the people and changed the focus to building the economy in order to achieve political stability and prevent another Cultural Revolution, stabilizing China's politics in 1978. Relatively speaking, before 1978, Mao stressed class struggles and urged the people to start revolutions against the opposition, making the political situation unstable; however, after 1978, Deng adopted the opposite approach and stabilized China by encouraging class unity for economic development. Therefore, the year 1978 was a turning point in this regard.

In agricultural aspect, the year 1978 was the turning point when the production mode changed from collectivized to individualized. Before 1978, the Chinese government gradually put agricultural collectivization into practice. For instance, it established '*Elementary Agricultural Producers' Cooperatives* 初級農業生產合作社' and '*Advanced Agricultural Production Cooperatives* 高級農業生產合作社' during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57), and even the *People's Communes* 人民公社 during the Great Leap Forward (1958-60) to further promote collectivized production. Although this mode was temporarily changed during the Readjustment (1962-66), the People's Communes were still running and collectivized production system based on production teams remained. However, Deng introduced the Reform and Opening Up in 1978 with the '*Household Responsibility System* 家庭聯產承包責任制', under which peasants were given contracted use of land. They could not only keep all crops they produced beyond production targets but also decide what crops to grow and how they were grown. As a result, the Communes running for years collapsed and were formally abolished in 1984. Comparatively speaking, China's agricultural production changed from collectivized before 1978 to individualized after 1978, and the People's Communes were moving towards disintegration after 1978. As there was transformation in China's agricultural production, the year concerned was a turning point.

In industrial and commercial aspect, the year 1978 was the turning point when the Chinese economy changed from closed to open and its level of freedom from low to high. Before 1978, the Chinese government did value heavy industry, but industry of China was self-sustaining and exclusive with only unofficial trade ties with foreign nations. In addition, China's nationalization policy and the *unified purchase and marketing system* 統購統銷制度 controlled the supply of goods and allowed a low degree of freedom in the market. However, after 1978, with the Reform and Opening Up policy, China's commerce and industry not only developed rapidly but also opened up to the world gradually. For example, *special economic zones* 經濟特區 were established in the coastal cities Shenzhen and Zhuhai in 1980 to attract foreign capital and technology. The reform also led to a surge in China's volume of trade and made the country the world's largest trading nation in the early 21st century. Also, the Chinese market was granted greater freedom with the reform of state-owned enterprises that made them independent and self-financing, and the abolition of the unified purchase and marketing system in 1985. The business environment had an increasing level of freedom. Relatively speaking, China before 1978 was closed to foreign trade and remained self-sustaining, but after 1978 it put enormous effort into trade development and increased the degree of freedom of its market. Therefore, the year concerned was a turning point.

In educational aspect, China changed from disregarding education to emphasizing it in the year 1978, which could therefore be considered a turning point. Before 1978, education was not valued because Mao relied upon the power of the masses for modernization with disregard for expertise. This was best exemplified by the Great Leap Forward that lacked investment in technology and depended on the masses for construction. During the Cultural Revolution, knowledge was even regarded as the source of reactionary thoughts, and views such as '*study is useless* 讀書無用' and '*the more you study, the more foolish you become* 愈讀愈蠢' prevailed nationwide. However, after restored to power in 1978, Deng emphasized that education was the prerequisite for China's 'Four Modernizations'. Therefore, he brought colleges all over the country, including the 60 key universities, back into operation and added 28 more to the list of key universities, making the total number 88 in 1978. Also, universal education was achieved with the introduction of the *Compulsory Education Law* 義務教育法 in 1986 to provide nine-year free and mandatory education. Comparatively speaking, China before 1978 ignored education and its educational development came to a standstill, but after 1978 it valued education and greatly promoted its development at elementary and tertiary levels. Therefore, the year 1978 should be a turning point.

In diplomatic aspect, the year 1978 was the turning point when China gave up isolation for multilateral diplomacy. Before 1978, China adopted the diplomatic policy of 'leaning to one side', under which it inclined to build close relationship with communist countries while maintaining hostility towards the capitalist ones, as exemplified by its participation in the *Korean War* 韓戰(1950-53) against America and South Korea. This policy led to a rift between China and Western countries. Worse still, in the late 1950s, Mao had a disagreement with the Soviet leader *Khrushchev* 赫魯曉夫 and there had been the Sino-Soviet split since then. Although China re-established and normalized its diplomatic relations with America and Japan in the early 1970s, the country was more diplomatically isolated before 1978. However, after 1978, with the Reform and Opening Up taking place, China made great efforts to improve its foreign relations, which were exemplified by the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations in 1989 and establishment of diplomatic relations with South Korea in 1992. By the end of the 20th century, China had recovered its diplomatic relations with most countries and been moving towards multilateral development. Relatively speaking, China was more diplomatically isolated and had bad relations with many countries before 1978, but it tried hard to re-establish foreign relations and develop multilateral diplomacy after that. Therefore, the year 1978 should be a turning point.

From the above discussion, there were dramatic differences in China before and after 1978 from political, agricultural, industrial and commercial, educational, and diplomatic points of view. However, the continuity in social and military aspects should also not be ignored.

In social aspect, the year 1978 marked the continuity in China's population problem and family planning policy. As early as the 1960s, the Chinese government sensed the pressure of population growth and set up the *Family Planning Commission of the State Council* 國務院計劃生育委員會(1964) and the *Family Planning Leading Group of the State Council* 國務院計劃生育領導小組(1973) to coordinate family planning work. After 1978, the population problem in China persisted and the government continued to make efforts to solve it. For example, the *one-child policy* 一孩政策 was implemented in 1979 and the *National Population and Family Planning Commission* 國家計劃生育委員會 established in 1981 to give directions to family planning. Although the one-child policy had alleviated the population problem since 1978, the Chinese population was approaching 1.3 billion in 2000 and the population explosion issue remained acute. Relatively speaking, the Chinese population problem persisted and became a critical issue for China during the second half of the 20th century, and the government had been adopting different policies accordingly to cope with the population pressure. Therefore, China differed not much before and after 1978 and there was only continuity in this aspect.

In military aspect, the year 1978 also marked the continuity in the development of China's national defense. Before 1978, China already put great effort into military build-up. For example, China successfully exploded its first *atomic bomb* 原子彈 in 1964 and became the world's fifth nuclear-armed state. Also, the number of the People's Liberation Army remained high and even reached 6.61 million in 1975, showing the CCP's emphasis on national defense. After 1978, national defense remained one of China's key construction projects, and Deng Xiaoping even stressed how important it was to China by putting it as one of the 'Four Modernizations'. After the Reform and Opening Up, the government cut its army's size to reduce expenditure. In 1985, the size of the PLA was reduced by a million. But at the same time it put more focus on the quality and equipment of the army. In addition, the government made considerable efforts to design and produce high-tech weapons. For example, the research and development of 'Jian-10' began in 1986 and its prototype made the first flight in 1998. The development of national defense also received great support after 1978. Comparatively speaking, in the period 1949-2000, the government strategically lowered the number of its army, but it kept making national defense one of its priorities and made great efforts to develop military technology represented by atomic bombs and fighter aircrafts. Therefore, what China experienced before and after 1978 was continuity instead of changes.

In conclusion, with the Reform and Opening Up being implemented in 1978, China underwent dramatic changes in political, agricultural, industrial and commercial, educational, and diplomatic aspects. Although the year 1978 only brought continuity instead of changes in some aspects such as the social and military ones, it was still a turning point to a large extent.

Words: 1669

Discuss the ways in which the Reform and Opening Up has affected China's relations with other Asian countries.

China has implemented the Reform and Opening Up policy since 1978, gradually opening up the domestic market. Transformation has taken place. The Reform and Opening Up policy not only changed the internal situation of China, but it also had significant effect on the development of the relationships between China and other Asian countries. The Reform and Opening Up policy improved their relationships in economic, social and military aspects, but it still brought detrimental effects in political aspect.

In economic aspect, the Reform and Opening Up policy increased trade between China and other Asian countries, facilitating the development of bilateral relationship. Before 1978, under the leadership of Mao Zedong, the economic policy of self-sufficiency which did not advocate foreign trade was carried out in China, so the economic interaction between China and the nearby Asian countries was restricted. However, with the implementation of the Reform and Opening Up policy in 1978, China opened up its domestic market gradually. The government made its very first attempt to set up *Special Economic Zones (SEZs)* 經濟特區 in Guangdong and Fujian provinces in 1979. Then, it officially established the four major SEZs in Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen in 1980. After that, it opened up 14 more coastal cities in 1984 and more than 30 cities along Yangtze River and its state border gradually starting from 1992 so as to attract foreign investment and develop foreign trade. As a result, the total trade of China with other Asian countries increased at an annual rate of 16% in the 1990s and their bilateral trade reached US\$270 billion in 1999, establishing tight trading relationship. In addition, China cooperated with other countries actively in the fields of economy and trade. For example, it joined the *Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)* 亞太經合組織 in 1991 and started participating in the *ASEAN Regional Forum* 東盟地區論壇 in 1994. China had more economic interactions with the neighbouring countries, facilitating development of bilateral relationship greatly. Therefore, the Reform and Opening Up policy facilitated the economic interaction between China and other Asian countries, promoting the development of their relationships.

In social aspect, the Reform and Opening Up policy increased the social interaction between China and other Asian countries, favoring the development of relationship between both sides. Before the Reform and Opening Up policy, the thought of exclusionism from the Cultural Revolution harmed the relationships between China and other Asian countries. They had limited social interaction. With the implementation of the Reform and Opening Up policy, China adopted more open policy to foreign countries, increasing cultural interaction with other Asian countries such as Japan, South Korea and other Southeast Asian countries day by day. China reorganized the *Ministry of Culture* 文化部 and established the *Bureau for External Cultural Relations* 對外文化聯絡局 which is in charge of foreign affairs in cultural work and cultural exchanges in 1987, strengthening the cultural interaction with the neighbouring countries. It also signed many different cultural cooperation agreements with other states. For example, it signed a cultural agreement with *India* 印度 in 1995, which included interactions of education, culture, art, social science and other aspects. The interaction between China and neighboring countries became more frequent. Mutual communication and understanding were facilitated. Therefore, the Reform and Opening Up policy provided a favourable atmosphere for China to increase its cultural interaction with other Asian countries, favouring the development of bilateral relationship.

In military aspect, the Reform and Opening Up policy caused China to reduce military expenses and armed forces, improving its relationship with other Asian countries. Before the Reform and Opening Up policy, China invested heavily in military aspect. Military expenses accounted for 24% of the treasury in 1969, and the number of army reached 6.31 million at the same year, causing tremendous pressure on national defense to the nearby Asian countries. However, with the implementation of the policy, the military development of China slowed down as the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) had to invest more and put more resources in economic and educational aspects. Also, China hoped to increase the economic interaction with foreign countries by improving their relationship so the CCP slowed down the development on military aspect. For instance, military expenses were gradually cut down to 9.58% in 1985. In the same year, the size of the PLA was reduced by a million, which was 1/4 of the total number of soldiers in the army. Later on, the CCP continued to reduce the size of army actively. For example, it reduced it by 0.5 million in 1997. The large scale disarmament of China greatly reduced the fear of foreign countries on China's military development, improving the relationship between China and the nearby Asian countries. Therefore, the Reform and Opening Up policy slowed down the military development of China, improving its relationship with the nearby Asian countries.

Although the Reform and Opening Up policy helped facilitate the development of the relationships between China and the nearby Asian countries in economic, social and military aspects, it also brought adverse impact to the development of their relationships in political aspect.

In political aspect, the national power of China rose abruptly due to the Reform and Opening Up policy, increasing the suspicion of other countries to China. Building harmonious relationships between China and other countries was more difficult. Before the Reform and Opening Up policy, despite the tremendous size of army of China, other countries could not be threatened by China as it was attacked by foreign countries. However, after the Reform and Opening Up policy, China improved its relationship with foreign countries by opening up the domestic market. Diplomatic isolation was gradually abandoned and China started to return to international arena. Moreover, China became more powerful after the Reform and Opening Up policy. The GNP of China was growing at an average annual rate of 9.6% during 1979-99. The GDP per capita also increased from 379 yuan in 1978 to 7,159 yuan in 1999. Yet, the expansion of national power aroused suspicion of the foreign countries. “*China Threat* 中國威脅論” Theory even appeared. As a result, although the Reform and Opening Up policy improved the relationship between China and the nearby Asian countries, it raised the suspicion of other Asian countries to China. China could not build harmonious and friendly relationship with the neighboring countries. Therefore, the sudden emerge of China due to the Reform and Opening Up policy brought detrimental effect to its relationship with other Asian countries indirectly.

To conclude, the Reform and Opening Up policy brought great influence to relationships between China and other Asian countries. In spite of bilateral relationship development in economic, social and military aspects, in political aspect, suspicion of other countries to China increased. Thus, even though their relationship were improved due to the policy, suspicion existed among them mutually, constraining the development of their relationship.

Words: 1119

HK

K.W. HO

歷史 HISTORY

考場戰神 · 求敗 · 高考歷史科全卷88%分數奪A

【變強，首先要承認自己的不足】

K.W.HO於會考及高考期間，深知單憑學校教導不足以取得最強成績，因此不斷補習取經，進而歸納技巧，再不斷反覆驗證答題方法，最終於會考取得A級成績，更在高考以88%的求敗分數奪A！

【天才 · 出於勤】

歷史科只有「努力型天才」，並不存在「天賦型天才」。只要透過努力及正確方法，任何人均可以於歷史科獲取佳績。K.W.HO出身於天水圍一所band 2中學，歷史科在中四時候僅取得中游成績，但往後透過不斷積極求學，以及鑽研答題要求及方法，最終於高考取得88%的求敗成績，誰與爭鋒？

【專注 · 極至】

K.W.HO除了高考歷史科獲A外，高考通識科亦以Straight A(三份卷全A)的完美姿態奪A。然而，K.W.HO斷然放棄學生人數較歷史科多近10倍的通識科[^]，專注鑽研、任教歷史科。原因僅單純出於興趣及責任，希望專心致志地教好一科、教好每一個學生，這才是問心無愧。

【革命 · 顛覆所有】

於高考過後，K.W.HO內心有一個很強烈的念頭，就是將他對歷史科所有的研究毫無保留地公諸於世。於是，K.W.HO於19歲時開設了K.W.HO_History Blog (<http://cyruzho.mysinablog.com/>)，記錄他在高考2年來點滴積累的論文、考試心得，供人免費觀看。在他不斷堅持下，累積超過500篇文章，瀏覽人次高達165萬。於2015年，K.W.HO感覺到單純以「網站分享」已經到達了瓶頸，必須有更強大的力量支持方能完成他的革命。所以，K.W.HO加盟英皇教育，親身將答題技巧教授予同學，徹底改變同學對於讀歷史科的思維模式！

【戰績 · 有誰可比？】

連續4年(2016-2019年)蟬聯全港最多DSE歷史科5+、5**學生
歷史科市場領導! 4年合共打造過百名5**學生!
大幅拋離坊間其他導師!
2017年有重考門生由Level 2跳升至5**，創造重考傳奇!
2016年有門生僅用10個月時間新修歷史科取得5**，開創新修傳奇! [^]
[^]根據學生向英皇教育提供的數據或資料分析