



A-level HISTORY

The Transformation of China, 1936–1997

Paper 2P

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER

2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is **2P**.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
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Section AAnswer Question 01

Source A

From **The United States Position on China**, 5th August 1949

Dean Acheson was US Secretary of State and had been asked to produce a paper explaining the US failure to prevent the spread of communism in Eastern Asia, despite US funding to the GMD.

The reasons for the failures of the Chinese National Government do not stem from any inadequacy of American aid. Our military observers on the spot have reported that the Nationalist armies did not lose a single battle during the crucial year of 1948 through lack of arms or ammunition. The fact was that the decay which our observers had detected in Chungking early in the war had fatally sapped the powers of resistance of the Guomindang. Its leaders had proved incapable of meeting the crisis confronting them, its troops had lost the will to fight and its government had lost popular support. The Communists, on the other hand, through a ruthless discipline and fanatical zeal, attempted to sell themselves as guardians and liberators of the people. The Nationalist armies did not have to be defeated; they disintegrated. History has proved again and again that a regime without faith in itself and an army without morale cannot survive the test of battle.

Source B

'The Causes of the Victory of the Chinese Communist Party over Jiang Jieshi and the CCP's Perspectives'. This was a report on the Chinese Situation to the Third World Congress of the Fourth International, 1951. The Fourth International is the international communist organisation.

Jiang's government was extremely afraid of and hostile to the people. It oppressed and sustained itself on the exploitation of the masses by the most barbaric methods. If the CCP had called upon the workers in the cities to rise in rebellion and overthrow the regime, it would have been as easy as knocking down rotten wood. But Mao merely gave orders to the people to quietly wait for their liberation by the PLA. At the same time, since by its very nature Jiang's regime represented the bourgeoisie, Jiang's regime could only support itself with the imperialist powers. However, the U.S. was compelled to abandon its aid to Jiang's government and adopt a wait-and-see attitude toward the CCP, pending a more favourable opportunity to assert its influence. This final decision by American imperialism came as a death-blow to Jiang's regime, which was expressed in the atmosphere of dejection and despair hovering around Jiang's group when the news reached China of Truman's victory in the 1948 election and his refusal of aid to Jiang.

Source C

A speech given by Jiang Jieshi to his party, June 1947.

Regardless of what aspect we discuss, we hold an absolute superiority; in terms of the troops' equipment, battle techniques and experience, the Communists are not our equal. We are also ten times richer than the communist army in terms of military-supply replacements, such as food, fodder and ammunition. With regard to material, we have very good equipment and excellent weapons; one could say that we possess all the conditions necessary for victory. But most of our officers don't use their brains and are unwilling to study. Regardless of what problem, they are invariably careless and do not seek a thorough understanding. In administration, they are even more superficial and do not attempt to be thorough. Now, the brains of most of our soldiers are actually asleep. It is only because everything in China is backward and there is a shortage of talent that the officers, with limited abilities, bear such heavy responsibilities.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the reasons for the defeat of the Nationalists in the Chinese Civil War.

[30 marks]

Section BAnswer **two** questions

0 2

‘Mao’s desire to consolidate his own power was the only objective of the Anti-Rightist movement in the aftermath of the Hundred Flowers Campaign.’

Assess the validity of this view.

0 3

‘The situation for the peasants and workers changed little before 1966.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**0 4**

‘By 1976 Deng Xiaoping had completely secured his position in power.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**END OF QUESTIONS**

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Question 1 Source A: Modern History Sourcebook

Question 1 Source C: Modern History Sourcebook

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