

History route 2
Higher level and standard level
Paper 1 – communism in crisis 1976–1989

Thursday 14 May 2015 (morning)

1 hour

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer all the questions.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[25 marks]**.

Read all the sources carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

Sources in this paper have been edited: word additions or explanations are shown in square brackets []; substantive deletions of text are indicated by ellipses ... ; minor changes are not indicated.

These sources and questions relate to China under Deng Xiaoping (Teng Hsiao-p'ing): economic policies and the Four Modernizations.

Source A Deng Xiaoping, then vice-premier of the People's Republic of China, in a speech to Chinese Communist Party officials (30 March 1979).

What is our main task at present and for a fairly long time to come? To put it briefly, it is to carry out the modernization programme. The destiny of our country and people depends on its success. It will be precisely by succeeding in the Four Modernizations that we will be adhering to Marxism and holding high the great banner of Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung) Thought ...

At the present time, socialist modernization is of supreme political importance for us, because it represents the most fundamental interest of our people. Today every member of the Communist Party and the Communist Youth League and every patriotic citizen must devote all his energies to the modernization drive. To achieve the Four Modernizations and make China a powerful socialist country before the end of this century will be a gigantic task.

Source B Patricia Buckley Ebrey, a professor of East Asian Studies and History, writing in the academic history book *The Cambridge Illustrated History of China* (2010).

To fight poverty in the countryside, Deng approved the gradual removal of collective agriculture. Each household contracted with its production team to provide specified crops in exchange for use of particular fields; whatever the household produced, above what it owed the team, was its to keep or sell. Agricultural production rose significantly, and with it rural incomes. Even though farmers often complained that collective resources were not allocated fairly, overall they benefitted ... Rural local governments encouraged other enterprises as well, ranging from fish farming and equipment repair to mini-factories producing toys for export. These absorbed 100 million rural labourers in the 1980s. In cities, the private sector was revived, freeing people to open restaurants, beauty parlours, and other small businesses ... To speed up industrial development, Deng began to encourage foreign investors ... The course of economic progress was not always smooth. Economic crimes such as smuggling, fraud and forgery proved difficult to suppress. Inflation was a recurrent problem.

Source C Ezra F Vogel, a retired professor of social sciences, former director of the East Asian Research Center and chairman of the Council for East Asian Studies at Harvard University, writing in the academic history book *Deng Xiaoping and the Transformation of China* (2011).

In 1978 and 1979, an estimated 6.5 million youth returned to urban areas from the countryside. So just as Deng had used the danger of starvation to permit peasants to “find their own solution” he used the danger of increasing crime among urban youth to convince other leaders to let them form individual household enterprises ... Household enterprises increased: stalls sprang up in towns and cities offering haircuts; repairs of shoes, knives and bicycle tires; drinks or prepared foods; and handicrafts or manufactured goods ... The revival of urban services, like the revival of household agriculture, proved enormously popular, both to those who now had a way to earn a living and to the consumers who now had access to services and products.

Source D Patrick Tyler, a journalist, writing an obituary for Deng Xiaoping in the *New York Times* (20 February 1997).

Farmers began raising fish, shrimp and fruit for new markets that sprang up in every township. Private and collective enterprises multiplied as former peasants began manufacturing toys, fireworks, bricks, clothing – all manner of everyday items. The agricultural changes were easily accomplished and the farmers, by any previous standard, were getting rich.

In industrial reforms, Deng started creating Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in China’s coastal provinces, where tax benefits attracted foreign manufacturers ... The SEZs started an export explosion with China dominating the world market in toys, shoes and textiles. The SEZs multiplied [but they only increased wealth on the coast and in major inland cities].

Along with the wealth came problems. Child labour and sweatshops appeared as parents sent their children to work, not to school. Unsafe factories became firetraps where thousands died in accidents or fires. Criminal gangs, prostitution and the sale of women into slavery spread from rural to urban areas ...

When inflation got out of control in mid-1988, panic buying of food added to the unrest that sent hundreds of thousands of workers into the streets in support of democracy, but also to protest corruption and mismanagement.

Source E

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1. (a) Why, according to Source A, were the Four Modernizations so important? [3]
(b) What is the message conveyed by Source E? [2]
 2. Compare and contrast the views expressed in Sources B and D about the ways in which Deng Xiaoping’s economic reforms had an impact on the Chinese people. [6]
 3. With reference to their origin and purpose, assess the value and limitations of Source C and Source E for historians studying Deng Xiaoping’s modernization programme. [6]
 4. “Deng Xiaoping’s economic policies up to 1989 were successful, but progress was not always smooth.” Using the sources and your own knowledge, to what extent do you agree with this statement? [8]
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