Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

History

Paper 3: Modern depth study
Option 32: Mao's China, c1945–76

Tuesday 12 June 2018 – Afternoon
Sources/Interpretations Booklet

Paper Reference
1HI0/32

Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Sources/interpretations for use with Section B.

Source B: From a speech made by Mao Zedong on 1 October 1949. Here he is announcing the establishment of the People's Republic of China.

> The people supported our People's Liberation Army in defending the Chinese motherland. The People's Liberation Army fought like heroes to protect people's rights and property and to stop the suffering of the people. Together the People's Liberation Army and the people have eliminated the Guomindang troops and overthrown the reactionary rule of the Guomindang government. Now the war of the people's liberation has been won and the majority of the people have been freed.

Source C: From a letter written by the American Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the President of the USA in 1949. The letter was published in American newspapers. The author is commenting on the Chinese Civil War, during which the USA supported the Guomindang.

> During the significant year of 1948, the Guomindang lost every battle even though they had enough arms and ammunition. In fact, we had observed many problems with the Guomindang early in the war. These problems made it impossible for the Guomindang to resist the CCP.
>
> The Guomindang leaders had proved incapable of dealing with the crisis facing them. Guomindang troops no longer wanted to fight and their government had lost the support of the people. The Communists, on the other hand, had strong discipline and fanatical enthusiasm. They also attempted to sell themselves as protectors and liberators of the people.

Interpretation 1: From *Mao: A Very Short Introduction* by D Davin, published 2013.

> The Guomindang was disunited, incompetent and corrupt. It was unable to win despite large amounts of American government aid. Inflation and financial scandals made the Guomindang increasingly unpopular. Its troops lost the will to fight. Many people living in the towns began to think that the CCP could not be any worse than the Guomindang. In fact, as the Communists began to capture the towns they became more popular and gained a reputation as being honest and efficient.

Interpretation 2: From *China 1900–76* by G Stewart, published 2006.

> During the Civil War, support for the Communists appeared to be widening. The CCP targeted most classes of people. In the cities, it increasingly attracted intellectuals and those who wanted political change. In the countryside, it was careful not to lose the support of the better-off peasants. The CCP's policy of setting fair rents for houses, its aid to the village communities and the decent behaviour of the PLA troops, attracted the support of most peasants. People began to believe that the Communists would solve China's problems and so lift China off its knees.

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Acknowledgements

Source B taken from 'The Transformation of China 1936-97', Robert Whitfield, Oxford University Press
Source C taken from 'The Transformation of China 1936-97', Robert Whitfield, Oxford University Press
Interpretation 1 taken from 'Mao A Very Short Introduction', Delia Davin Oxford University Press
Interpretation 2 taken from 'China 1900-76', Geoff Stewart, Heinemann

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