



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2015

History

HIS20

Unit 20 The Impact of Chairman Mao: China, 1946–1976

Wednesday 20 May 2015 1.30pm to 3.00pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is HIS20.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- 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 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Adapted from an article published in The Peking Review, 26 July 1968.

A large number of students graduated this summer. Firmly responding to Chairman Mao's great call, they asked to go to the countryside and the border regions where living conditions are hardest. This is a perfect expression of the revolutionary spirit of young intellectuals in the era of Mao Zedong. Chairman Mao's revolutionary line is that educated youth should integrate themselves with the workers and peasants. This is a fundamental measure for preventing and opposing the growth of revisionist ideas. For quite a long time now, hundreds of thousands of revolutionary youngsters have followed the direction pointed out by Chairman Mao and have settled down in the countryside.

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Source B The reopening of schools in the summer of 1968 helped to restore peace. However, it did not solve the problem of the millions of youths who should have graduated during the previous two years and instead had spent their time roaming the country as Red Guards. Even before the Cultural Revolution, it was necessary, because of youth unemployment, to have a voluntary programme of going to the countryside for school leavers. In the autumn of 1968, this programme was revived on an expanded basis – but this time it was compulsory. Over the next two years, five million people would be sent to the countryside. For Mao, this fulfilled his ideal of breaking down barriers between town and country.

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Adapted from Philip Short, Mao: A Life, 1999

Source C A former Red Guard, writing in 1987 about the Cultural Revolution.

When I went to university in 1973, we former Red Guards met to exchange our experiences. We agreed that our stay in the country had taught us the value of things – and of life itself. Looking back, whatever motivated Mao to launch the Cultural Revolution, some of the ideas which emerged from it are still valuable. The 'barefoot doctor' and 'barefoot teacher' systems were certainly good for a country like China. Basic things like how to read, write and calculate can be taught very cheaply if they are organised by the local people themselves. At the beginning of the Cultural Revolution, I feel that the ordinary people were exhilarated by their new right to criticise their bosses.

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0 1 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to China's youth during the Cultural Revolution.

[12 marks]

and

0 2 Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How successful was Mao in developing a revolutionary spirit among China's youth during the Cultural Revolution?

[24 marks]

Either

Question 2

0 3 Explain why the Nationalists (Guomindang) lost support during the Chinese Civil War in the years 1946 to 1949.

[12 marks]

and

0 4 'Mao was able to consolidate his power, in the years 1949 to 1953, because he involved the Chinese people in mass campaigns.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

Or

Question 3

0 5 Explain why Mao introduced the First Five Year Plan in 1953.

[12 marks]

and

0 6 'Mao's economic policies, in the years 1953 to 1960, were a success.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: www.pekingreview.com

Question 1 Source B: Philip Short, *Mao: A Life*, John Murray, 2004

Question 1 Source C: From 'I was a teenage Red Guard' by Mo Bo, in 'New Internationalist' April 1987 Issue 170. Reprinted by kind permission of New Internationalist. Copyright New Internationalist. www.newint.org

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