

AS HISTORY

The Transformation of China, 1936–1997

Component 2P The emergence of the People’s Republic of China, 1936–1962

Monday 20 May 2019 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-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 7041/2P.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a report, 'The Strength of the Masses Is Limitless', produced by a Communist official in Hunan Province in late 1958 and published nationally later that year.

Iron smelting and steel making in Hunan Province are rapidly developing on a mass scale. In a short period in autumn 1958, 12,378 local blast furnaces were built in this area. Of these, 4,816 went into immediate operation, with a daily output of more than 2,400 tons. In the first ten days of September 1958, daily output more than trebled. Now this region has already produced 50,000 tons of iron. Not only is there a 'bumper harvest' in many places but the Chinua Iron Works in Shaotung County, 'king' of local blast furnaces, produced the remarkable record of almost three tons a day. At present, people in many districts are working with increasing enthusiasm to produce iron and steel.

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Source B

From a private letter written by Peng Dehuai, Minister of Defence, to Mao Zedong, 14 July 1959. This was a few days before a meeting of the Politburo.

Being too fanatical has resulted in mistakes. I, like many comrades during the first year of the Great Leap Forward, was taken in by what seemed like achievements and by the passion we had inspired in the peasants. Because of this we moved too far to the left. We thought we could jump straight to communism in one great bound. The idea of the Great Leap took possession of our minds. We forgot our policies and the need to rely on statistics and facts which the Party had been putting together for many years. Because of the way we were thinking, we confused the dreams of the Great Leap with the reality of what was happening.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining the impact of the Great Leap Forward?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'Support for the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in 1946 was due to the leadership of Mao Zedong.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'The consolidation of Communist power, in the years 1950 to 1953, was due to the impact of mass mobilisation campaigns.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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