

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 2: Depth study

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76

Option 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90

Tuesday 22 May 2018 – Afternoon

Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

8HI0/2E

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the questions in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949-76

Source for use with Question 1(a).

Source 1: From a speech made by Mao Zedong at the Chinese Political Consultative Congress, September 1949. The Congress was an official CCP conference held to discuss future communist rule.

From now on, our nation will work bravely and industriously to create its own civilisation and happiness, and will, at the same time, promote world peace and freedom. Our nation will never again be an insulted nation. We have stood up.

Our revolutionary work is not yet concluded. The foreign and domestic reactionaries will certainly not take their defeat lying down. Daily, hourly, they will try to restore their rule in China. We must not relax our vigilance. 5

The people's democratic dictatorship, and unity with international friends, will enable us to obtain rapid success in our construction work. Our population of 475 million and our national territory of 9,597 million square kilometres are factors in our favour. It is true that there are difficulties ahead of us. But we firmly believe that all these difficulties will be overcome by the heroic struggle of all the people of our country. 10

Source for use with Question 1(b).

Source 2: From a memoir written by Reverend Hewlett Johnson, published 1969. Johnson was a British clergyman who was sometimes called the 'Red Dean' because of his regular visits to, and sympathy for, communist China. Here he is outlining information he collected about prison camps on a visit to China in 1956.

Dr Cheng told us that his duties had taken him to inspect prisons. One at Sian contained 1,200 prisoners. But these prisons were not prisons in our sense of the word. They were factories; for shoes and clothes, to make matches and for printing. Prisoners were not locked in cells, but slept in dormitories for 8 people, which were thoroughly clean. They could move inside as they pleased. The warden told Dr Cheng that the officers were not allowed to criticise or be angry with the prisoners and never beat them. The prisoners looked happy, healthy, and strong. They had leisure time, and games were organised. The prisoners had better food than most peasants could afford. 15

At Sian very few were ordinary criminals; they were mostly counter-revolutionaries. If ill, they were sent to hospital. Over 1,000 had been sentenced to death and then reprieved for a year, during which time they began to work well and live a new kind of life. In another prison, two had been executed but all the others had radically changed their lives and were making good. 25

Option 2E.2: The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90

Source for use with Question 2(a).

Source 3: From *What You Should Know About the Wall*, an East German propaganda booklet, published February 1962. The booklet was printed in English for distribution outside of the GDR. It included 10 points about the building of the Berlin Wall for the reader to consider.

4th CONSIDERATION. What did the wall prevent?

We no longer wanted to stand by passively and see how doctors, engineers, and skilled workers were tempted by clever propaganda to give up their secure existence in the GDR and work in West Germany or West Berlin. These and other manipulations cost the GDR annual losses amounting to 3.5 thousand million marks. 5

But with the wall we prevented something much more important: West Berlin becoming the starting point for a military conflict. The measures we introduced on 13 August, with the aid of other Warsaw Treaty countries, have cooled off a number of hotheads in West Germany who threatened war. A match which was lit to set fire to a war was extinguished before it had fulfilled its purpose. 10

Source for use with Question 2(b).

Source 4: From a report written by an SED Factory Party Organisation official, December 1955. The report summarised comments collected by SED activists from their fellow workers in a state-run factory. The comments were made in public during state-approved meetings and used to gauge public reaction to SED policies.

On the General Mood

A colleague stated that if the situation with regards to work does not change, he'll head for the West. In general, workers are trying earnestly to fulfil the planned production quotas by the end of the year. But they were very angry about production problems. They declare: 'We want to work but the managers have to create the conditions for us to do so.' There is also talk that the wages of skilled workers are too low compared to those of semi-skilled workers. 15

Officials were not able to answer the question of why various food ration-cards still existed in the GDR ten years after the end of the war. Another point of discussion was that things were better in 1951 and 1952. Back then, there were wage and salary increases which have been greatly missed recently. 20

Colleagues say that the cost of living is still too high. The promised prosperity of the working class has not materialised. There is great outrage about standing in line to shop and the heavy rush hour traffic. Colleagues are annoyed because they can't get on the bus. 25

There is talk that the supply of textiles and food in the GDR is inadequate. They think that the range of goods in the GDR is too small.

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