

# Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

## History

**Advanced**

**Paper 2: Depth study**

**Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76**

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

Sample assessment materials for first teaching

September 2015

**Sources Booklet**

Paper Reference

**9HI0/2E**

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**Sources for use with Section A. Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.**

**Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76**

**Sources for use with Question 1.**

**Source 1:** From Li Zhisui, *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*, published 1994. Li Zhisui was Mao's doctor from 1954–76. After Mao's death, he emigrated to the USA. Here, he is describing events in 1958.

In late summer 1958, China was struck with a mass hysteria fed by Mao, who then fell victim himself. The idea for mini steel mills had originated with the Central Bureau of Guards, but Mao did not oppose them, and soon everyone was stoking the fires. The rare voices of caution were being stilled. Everyone was hurrying to jump on the utopian\* bandwagon. Liu Shaoqi, Deng Xiaoping, Zhou Enlai, men who might once have reined the Chairman in, were speaking with a single voice, and that voice was Mao's. 5

In October, we set out by train, heading south. Harvest time was approaching, and the crops were thriving. The fields were crowded with peasants at work, and they were all women and young girls, grey-haired old men or teenagers. All the able-bodied males, the real farmers of China, had been taken out of agricultural production to tend the backyard steel furnaces. 10

As the drive to produce steel continued at an ever more frantic pace, people were forced to contribute their pots and pans, their doorknobs, the steel from their wrought-iron gates, shovels and spades. There was not enough coal to fire the furnaces, so the fires were fed with peasants' wooden furniture – their tables, chairs and beds. But what came out of the furnaces was useless – nothing more than melted down knives and pots and pans. 15

\*utopian – related to the idea of an imaginary, perfect society

**Source 2:** From Zhou Enlai's 'Report on Steel Production', published in the *Beijing Review*, 1 September 1959. The *Beijing Review* was a newspaper published in English for distribution overseas to inform the rest of the world about events in China.

Some people hold that, during last year's mass campaign to make iron and steel, much manpower was used and much money was spent. As a result, it was more 'loss than gain'. We consider this view utterly wrong. 20

In 1958, we produced 13.69 million tons of iron (excluding the 4–5 million tons that were not suitable for steelmaking but good for the manufacture of simple farm implements and tools), which was 2.3 times as much as was produced in 1957. We produced 11.08 million tons of steel which was more than double our production in 1957. The mass campaign to make iron and steel paved the way for the future development of the iron and steel industry, and industry as a whole. 25

Considerable progress has been made in the past few months in raising the quality of products from the small blast furnaces and in reducing their consumption of coal. By July, the proportion of iron produced up to standard, by small blast furnaces, had risen to about 75 per cent. This proves that the mass campaign in the iron and steel industry has tremendous vitality and has been raised to a new stage. It has also served to enable the masses to acquire technical skill and knowledge and large numbers of cadres to gain experience. 30

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

### Sources for use with Question 2.

**Source 3:** From a radio telegram sent by the Soviet High Commissioner in Berlin to the Soviet government in Moscow, 17 June 1953.

In Berlin demonstrators built barriers. In some government buildings, windows were smashed. The office building of the GDR government, which was attacked by demonstrators, has been liberated after the arrival of tanks. The demonstrators were also repulsed from the SED Central Committee building and the Police Presidium building. The German police and our troops opened fire on the demonstrators. 5

Until our troops took active measures to settle the unrest, the demonstrators succeeded in overcoming resistance by the German People's Police and the Garrisoned People's Police, who in general did not hold them off. With the start of active intervention by our troops, the situation in Berlin began to normalise. Demonstrators dispersed after the appearance of Soviet tanks. 10

At 12:00 pm, rail traffic was stopped in order to impede the arrival of provocateurs from West Berlin.

The situation in the GDR is gradually becoming normal. The most serious situation is in the city of Görlitz on the German-Polish border where a mob of 30,000 destroyed SED offices, the prison, and the buildings of the security service. A reinforced armour battalion with tanks was deployed to Görlitz. 15

**Source 4:** From *The Agitator's Notebook*, published by the SED's Agitation Department, Berlin District, November 1955. This was a briefing for party activists, indicating arguments they could use when seeking to persuade members of the public.

Under the leadership of the party of the working class, this state began a fundamental democratic transformation of life and is today successfully building the foundations of socialism. 20

Our republic has jobs for everyone – he who works well here lives well. He who steadily improves his work will live better and help ensure that everyone else lives better too. Our democratic government can be proud of its successes. It has made it possible for every citizen to find a secure job. Youth has a future it never had before. New social institutions offer broad cultural opportunities. 25

There is nonetheless a part of our population who, given the division of Berlin, seek material advantages. Take, for example, construction workers. During the building season they go to West Berlin to work. They work as cheap labourers or strike breakers, stabbing those fighting for a better life in the back. In the winter, they work in our factories again, since by us it is possible to be a construction worker throughout the year. They get their vacation here and enjoy the social and cultural benefits of socialism, then return to work in West Berlin when convenient. 30

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### **Acknowledgements**

Source 1 is from Zhisui Li, *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*, Arrow 1996 © 2014 The Random House Group; Source 2 is from Alan Lawrence, *China Since 1919 - Revolution and Reform: A Sourcebook*, Routledge 2003; Source 3 is from Christian F Ostermann (ed.), *Uprising in East Germany, 1953: The Cold War, the German Question and the First Major Upheaval Behind the Iron Curtain*, Central European University Press 2001; Source 4 is from the German Propaganda Archive, Calvin College © Randall Bytwerk.

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