A-level
HISTORY

Component 2P The Transformation of China, 1936–1997

Wednesday 13 June 2018   Afternoon   Time allowed: 2 hours 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 7042/2P.
• Answer three questions.
  In Section A answer Question 01.
  In Section B answer two questions.

Information
• The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
• The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
• 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:
  – 60 minutes on Question 01
  – 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
Source A

From an editorial entitled ‘Hold High the Red Flag of People’s Communes and March On’ in the newspaper, People’s Daily, 3 September 1958.

Where the people’s communes have already come into existence, the peasants, beating drums and gongs, celebrated the occasion with great joy and their enthusiasm for production has reached a new height. The poor and lower-middle peasants, in particular, rejoice in the formation of the commune and regard it as the ‘realisation of a long-cherished dream’. China now has some 700,000 agricultural producers’ co-operatives, mostly set up during the upsurge of socialism in 1955 and later gradually transformed into advanced co-operatives. They are undoubtedly far superior to individual farming, mutual-aid terms, and even the elementary agricultural producers’ co-operatives, and have contributed enormously to the steady increase of China’s farm output in the past few years. During the current leap forward in agricultural production and rural work, the mass of peasants have witnessed not only a several-fold increase in agricultural production but also the happy future of industrialisation and urbanisation of rural areas. As a result, the prestige of the Party has become more consolidated than ever among the peasants.

Source B

Source B has been removed because of third-party copyright restrictions. It is from ‘Tombstone’ by Yang Jisheng and is a report by Liang Jinxue about working in a commune.
Source C

Source C has been removed because of third-party copyright restrictions. It is from ‘Tombstone’ by Yang Jisheng and is about the effects of the Great Leap Forward.

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the Great Leap Forward. [30 marks]

Turn over for Section B
Section B

Answer two questions.

02  ‘Jiang Jieshi’s government was strengthened by its handling of the Sino-Japanese war.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

03  How significant was the role of the PLA in the Cultural Revolution? [25 marks]

04  ‘The Tiananmen Square demonstrations of 1989 were the result of Deng Xiaoping’s economic policies.’

Assess the validity of this view. [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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