
HISTORY (PRINCIPAL)

9769/74

Paper 5m Special Subject: China under Mao Zedong, 1949–1976

May/June 2015

2 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

The syllabus is approved for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.

Answer the following question.

Nominated topic: The Hundred Flowers Campaign of 1957 and the Great Leap Forward of 1958–1962

- 1 Study all the following documents and answer the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting upon the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

A *Mao sets out to the Supreme State Conference the basis of the Hundred Flowers Campaign.*

‘Let a hundred flowers blossom, let a hundred schools of thought contend.’ This is a response to China’s specific conditions, in recognition of the need to speed up its economic and cultural development. It represents the policy of promoting progress in the arts and sciences and a flourishing socialist culture. Art should develop freely. It is harmful for administrative measures to restrict Art and Science. A period of trial is often needed to determine whether something is right or wrong. In socialist society, new ideas are radically different and better than the old society. Nevertheless, it often happens that the growth of new things is held back and sound ideas stifled. It is, therefore, necessary to be careful about questions of right and wrong and to encourage free discussion. The Communist Party is strong and its prestige high. Although there are defects and mistakes in our work, we are loyal to the people and determined to work with them. Marxism is the guiding ideology. Can it be criticised? Certainly it can. It is scientific truth and fears no criticism. The Hundred Flowers Campaign will strengthen, not weaken, Marxism.

Speech, February 1957.

B *A newspaper editor welcomes the Hundred Flowers Campaign.*

After the liberation of 1949, intellectuals warmly supported the Party and accepted its leadership. But, in the past few years, the relations between the Party and the masses have not been good and have become a problem of our political life that needs readjustment. The key to the problem lies in the idea that ‘the world belongs to the party’. A party leading a nation is not the same as a party owning a nation. The public supports the Party, but members of the public have not forgotten that they are the masters of the nation, not the Party. It is too much that there must be a Party man as leader in every organisation big or small, whether section or subsection. For many years the talents and capabilities of many Party men have not matched their duties. They have bungled their jobs to the detriment of the state and they do not command the respect of the masses, with the result that the relations between the Party and the masses have been tense.

Guangming Daily, 1957.

C *A college professor responds to the invitation to speak freely in 1957.*

Party members holding leadership positions enjoy excessive privileges; one party official said he was never satisfied if he was not offered a seat in the front ten rows when he went to the theatre. Many people have been tortured and the intellectuals have been undermined by the Party. Why is it that the people have not been allowed to investigate when a Party member has made a mistake? Don’t treat the people like dog excreta!

Guangming Daily, 1957.

- D *The daughter of Communist officials describes the Hundred Flowers campaign.*

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- E *A modern historian considers Mao's motives for the Hundred Flowers campaign.*

Fearing that the anti-Stalinism movement sweeping the USSR in the later 1950s would affect China and especially his own power, Mao launched another political purge, the Anti-Rightist movement. This is generally portrayed as an attack on intellectuals who had voiced their criticisms during a brief period of free speech which Mao orchestrated for a few weeks in 1957 under the banner of 'the Hundred Flowers Campaign'. Mao apparently set a trap for intellectuals: those who did speak out were arrested as 'Rightists'. Some believe he was taken aback by the scale of the criticism. Half a million people were seized. However, the origins of the purge may lie in the failure of the first round of collectivisation, as the targets of the purge were officials who had complained about Mao's policies. The way to the Great Leap Forward was opened up.

Jasper Becker, *Hungry Ghosts, Mao's Secret Famine*, 1996.

- (a) How far does Document C corroborate the view of the relations between the Party and the people expressed in Document B? [10]
- (b) How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the objective of the Hundred Flowers Campaign was to improve the lives of the people of China?

In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge as well as the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Answer one of the following questions. *Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.*

- 2 With what justification can Maoism be seen as a coherent political philosophy? [30]
- 3 How much social change took place in China in the years 1949–56? [30]
- 4 What best explains both the beginning and the end of the Cultural Revolution? [30]

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