

SECTION A

Choose EITHER Option 2E.1 (Question 1) OR Option 2E.2 (Question 2), for which you have been prepared.

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76

Answer Question 1, parts (a) and (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) on page 7.

1 (a) Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the experiences of women in China during the early years of communist rule?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

AND

(b) Study Source 2 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

How much weight do you give to the evidence of Source 2 for an enquiry into the success of the Second Five-Year Plan (the Great Leap Forward)?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(12)

(Total for Question 1 = 20 marks)



Choose EITHER Option 2E.1 (Question 1) OR Option 2E.2 (Question 2), for which you have been prepared.

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

Answer Question 2, parts (a) and (b).

You should start the answer to part (a) on page 4.

You should start the answer to part (b) on page 7.

2 (a) Study Source 3 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

Why is Source 3 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the nature of the government of the GDR in the 1950s?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

AND

(b) Study Source 4 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

How much weight do you give to the evidence of Source 4 for an enquiry into social conditions in the GDR in the years 1949–61?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(12)

(Total for Question 2 = 20 marks)



P 4 5 9 8 8 R A 0 3 2 0

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 1 ☒ Question 2 ☒

(This is for part (a)) Source 3 is valuable to a historian in an enquiry into the nature of the GDR government in the 1950s, as it outlines the key aims and characteristics of the government. As an excerpt from the constitution of the Democratic Republic, as written in the year of the GDR's creation, the source is valuable in providing an insight into how the GDR wished to be presented; it is important to note, however, that, as a government document, it is able to alter some of the facts of the government's nature.

Source 3 is valuable in accurately depicting the SED's method of government. It describes how 'as a matter of ~~the~~ principle, the decisions of the republic are carried out by the states'; thus, the source refers to the SED's centralised system of government, wherein the Party's Politburo made all key decisions, and handed these down to be implemented by the new GDR districts, which were even smaller than the five original Länder of the GDR, thus allowing greater control by the Party over the lives



(This is for part (a)) of the East German people. As the GDR's 'Constitution of the Democratic Republic', it is important that the source accurately pointed out this change in the nature of the GDR's government.

Source 3 is also valuable in presenting how the GDR government was able to manipulate the view of the new state. Firstly, the Constitution describes that 'the people have given themselves this constitution', which conflicts with the fact that the SED did not initially receive wide support, and most people in the GDR despised their Soviet links. Furthermore, the Constitution suggests that it 'guarantee(s) freedom and human rights', which conflicts with the fact that the Stasi, the Secret Police designed to monitor and control the people, was created a year after the Constitution. Moreover, the constitution can be viewed to contradict itself, as its purpose is to validate the existence of the new GDR state, yet it insists that 'Germany is an indivisible democratic republic'; this contradiction is further enhanced by the claim that 'the capital of the republic is Berlin', when this was the shared capital of both the GDR



(This is for part (a)) and FRG. Thus, the source is highly valuable in presenting how the GDR government was able to manipulate the truth, to make the government and state appear more powerful.

Thus, in conclusion, source 3 is highly valuable in an enquiry as to the nature of the GDR government in the 1950s, as its provenance means it provides a direct account of how the government wished to be perceived, and how it would maintain power. Equally, this provenance reveals how the government's power meant they were able to manipulate how ~~the~~ ^{their} nature was perceived.



(This is for part (b)) Source 4 can be given some weight in an enquiry into social conditions in the GDR in the years 1949-61. As an excerpt from a West German's report, the source holds significant weight as, despite essentially being in opposition to the GDR, the source can only praise the GDR's social conditions. Nevertheless, the source ~~is limited~~ must be given limited weight, as it describes 'Stalinstadt', a 'new town' designed to show the benefits of living in a socialist state, thus may not be representative of general living conditions in the GDR.

The source praises all aspects of social conditions in the GDR, from living standards to educational facilities. It comments that, in Stalinstadt, there are 'currently around 24,000 inhabitants, whose hygienic dwellings, schools and community centres are really ideal'; thus, the source refers to the living complexes designed under Ulbricht to house many workers near new industrial sites, with the provision of social facilities on sight designed to enforce a socialist mentality in the people. Nevertheless, unlike



(This is for part (b)) what the source suggests, these conditions were not always 'really ideal', and the tight living conditions led to an increase of crime, with the 'new city' Halle Neustadt having a 20% higher crime rate than its older counterpart Halle. Furthermore, the provision of social facilities on site provided further means for the government to control the East German population. Thus, the source is of limited value in ~~providing~~ presenting the true nature of social conditions in the GDR. Moreover, the source suggests that there was 'variety in their architectural styles' of the housing complexes; this is disputed by the fact ~~that many~~ that the majority of East German housing was built as 'Plattenbau' housing, thus all housing had a uniformity. This led to workers commenting on the way their houses looked like lockers or prisons. ~~However~~ Thus, as a result of its provenance, I can place little weight on the source's account of housing in the GDR, as this is not representative of the whole state, but the show town of Stalinstadt.



(This is for part (b))

The source also suggests that general welfare in the GDR is good; with 'precisely one-third of the population' being 'made up of children under the age of 15'. This would have been important to a West German journalist as, after World War Two, many countries experienced the loss of a younger generation. This also reflects the growth in GDR healthcare facilities, with infant mortality rate decreasing to 0.92 in 1986. Thus, the source is valuable in showing improvements in healthcare. The source also suggests growth in the education system, as it comments that there are 'a series of technical apprenticeship schools and institutes of further education'. Whilst it is true that there was growth in education, as a West German journalist, the source is unable to present the full picture, that the education system was heavily influenced in controlling the people, with Russian being compulsory and students needing to show loyalty to the state to progress. Thus,



P 4 5 9 8 8 R A 0 9 2 0

(This is for part (b)) the source's provenance means it is of limited use as it is unable to present the full picture of social conditions in the GDR.

~~Thus, in conclusion, while the source is useful in~~

Thus, in conclusion, the source must be given limited weight in an enquiry about social conditions in the GDR from 1949 - 61. This is because, as ^{being written by} a West German journalist, the source is unable to present the full picture, and instead is heavily influenced by the propaganda of StalinStadt, a 'new town' designed to show the benefits of living in a socialist state. Thus, the source is unable to present a full picture of ~~living in~~ social conditions for the majority of East German citizens.



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(This is for part (b))

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS

P 4 5 9 8 8 R A 0 1 1 2 0