

## Option 32: Mao's China, 1945–76

### Key topic 1: Establishing communist rule, 1945–59

<b>1 The Civil War, 1945–49</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The relative strengths and weaknesses of the CCP and the Guomindang at the start of the Civil War.</li><li>• <del>Mao and the events of the Civil War. The significance of the loss of Manchuria and the Huai Hai Campaign.</del> Reasons for the success of Mao and the CCP, <u>including leadership, military factors, and unrest in the towns and cities.</u></li></ul>
<b>2 Communist rule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The ideology and role of Mao. Reasons for Mao's dominant position.</li><li>• The role of the CCP in the government of China, including new mass party membership and democratic centralism.</li></ul>
<b>3 Consolidating the CCP's hold on power, 1951–52</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The use of terror against opponents of communist rule.</li><li>• The 'three antis' and 'five antis' movements.</li></ul>
<b>4 The Hundred Flowers campaign, 1956–57</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mao's reasons for the Hundred Flowers campaign.</li><li>• Key features of the Hundred Flowers campaign; criticism of communist rule and the reaction of Mao.</li><li>• Results of the campaign, including the 'Anti-Rightist' purge.</li></ul>

#### Subtopic 1

1. Bp2 simplified by removing '*Mao and the events of the Civil War*' and '*The significance of the loss of Manchuria and the Huai Hai Campaign*'.

2. Additional wording added to the end of bp2 to expand reasons for success.

These changes make clear that students are not expected have a detailed knowledge of the events of the civil war; the focus is more on why the Communists won.

Key topic 2: Economic policy, 1949–65	
<b>1 Early changes in agriculture, 1949–57</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reasons for, and features of, the attacks on landlordism and the redistribution of land.</li> <li>Moves towards agricultural cooperation.</li> <li>Reasons for the change from voluntary to enforced collectivisation.</li> </ul>
<b>2 The communes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>The organisation of the commune: communal living and the abolition of private farming. The significance of Lysenkoism.</del></li> <li><del>The causes and impact of the Great Famine, 1958–62.</del></li> <li><del>Reasons for the restoration of private farming under Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping.</del></li> </ul>
<b>32 Industry and the Five-Year Plan, 1953–57</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reasons for, and targets of, the first Five-Year Plan. The significance of USSR financial and technical support.</li> <li>Success and failures of the first Five-Year Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>43 Economic reform and the Great Leap Forward</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mao's reasons for the second Five-Year Plan (the Great Leap Forward), 1958–62.</li> <li>The successes and failures of the Great Leap Forward. Reasons for failures. The importance of the Lushan Conference (1959).</li> <li><u>The organisation of the commune: communal living and the abolition of private farming. The significance of Lysenkoism.</u></li> <li><u>The causes and impact of the Great Famine, 1958–62.</u></li> <li><del>Reasons for, and features of, economic reform (1962–65) under Liu and Deng.</del></li> </ul>
<b>4 Economic reform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Reasons for the restoration of private farming under Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping.</u></li> <li><u>Reasons for, and features of, economic reform (1962–65) under Liu and Deng.</u></li> </ul>

The updates to Key Topic 2 do not change what needs to be taught; rather the events have been reordered so that they flow more logically.

#### (old) Subtopic 2

The old Subtopic 2 (the Communes) has been removed. Bp1 and bp2 have moved into the subtopic on the Great Leap Forward (renumbered as Subtopic 3), and bp3 has moved to new Subtopic 4 (Economic reform).

#### (new) Subtopic 3

- The subtopic heading has been renamed to remove reference to economic reform.
- As mentioned above, the first and second bullet points from the Communes have been moved to become bp3 and bp4.
- The final bp (reasons for economic reform) has moved into the new Subtopic 4.

#### (new) Subtopic 4

As noted above, this new Subtopic 4 contains what was previously the bp3 from the 'Communes' subtopic and the bp3 from what was 'Economic reform and the Great Leap Forward' subtopic.

Key topic 3: The Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, 1966–76	
<b>1 Reasons for the Cultural Revolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The power struggle: Mao, Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping.</li> <li>• Purification of communism, including the Socialist Education Movement, and the reform of education.</li> </ul>
<b>2 The Red Guards and the Red Terror</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mao's hold on young people, including the mass rallies of 1966. Jiang Qing and the attack on the CCP.</li> <li>• Red Guard attacks on the 'four olds' and the CCP. The growth of anarchy and the use of terror. Cultural destruction.</li> </ul>
<b>3 The effects of the Cultural Revolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political effects: the purging of the CCP, Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping, the rise and fall of Lin Biao.</li> <li>• Social effects, including the impact on education.</li> <li>• Economic effects: changes in industry, the removal of technicians, the move to the countryside and the impact on farming.</li> </ul>
<b>4 <del>The end of Winding down</del> the Cultural Revolution, 1968–76</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Reasons for the</u> <del>The</del> end of the Red Guards <del>–The</del> <u>and the significance of</u> the restoration of order by the PLA, <u>including</u> <del>–The return to power of Deng Xiaoping and the increased influence of Zhou Enlai. The</del> <u>the</u> 'Up to the mountains and down to the villages' campaign.</li> <li>• <u>The return to power of Deng Xiaoping and the increased influence of Zhou Enlai.</u> The rise and fall of the 'Gang of Four' and the death of Mao.</li> </ul>

#### Subtopic 1

We have replaced the comma with a colon to make clearer that power struggle refers to these three people.

#### Subtopic 4

1. Subtopic wording changed from '*winding down*' to '*the end of*' to better reflect the content.
2. Bp1 and bp2 merged to emphasise the linkages between them.
3. '*Reasons for*' added before '*the end of the Red guards*' to make clear the that the focus is on this rather than on a detailed understanding of the events.
4. '*The significance of*' added before '*restoration of order*' to make clear that the emphasis should be on why it mattered, rather than on how it happened.
5. '*the return to power of Deng (etc)*' moved from bp1 to new bp2 to improve the logical flow of the content.

Key topic 4: Life in Mao's China, 1949–76	
<b>1 Communist control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Propaganda and censorship and the significance of the 'cult of Mao'.</li> <li>• Thought control and the development of the 'Reform Through Labour' system.</li> </ul>
<b>2 Family life and the role of women</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in family life in towns and countryside. The impact of collectivisation and communes.</li> <li>• Reasons for changes in the status of women under Mao. The significance of foot binding and the Marriage Law (1950).</li> </ul>
<b>3 Education and health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasons for changes in education. Growth in literacy and the significance of Pinyin. The collapse of education after 1966.</li> <li>• Reasons for changes in health provision. The significance of the barefoot doctors. Successes and failures of healthcare reform.</li> </ul>
<b>4 Cultural change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasons for attacks on traditional culture in towns and countryside.</li> <li>• <del>The role and motives of Jiang Qing.</del> The imposition of revolutionary art and culture; <u>the role of Jiang Qing.</u></li> <li>• Reasons for attacks on Buddhism, Confucianism, Christianity, Islam and ancestor worship.</li> </ul>

#### Subtopic 4

1. '*The role of Jiang Qing*' moved to the end of bp2; this makes clear that she needs to be studied only in relation to the imposition of revolutionary culture.
2. '*motives*' [of Jiang Qing] removed to simplify what needs to be learned.