

NAME: _____ DATE _____

GLOBAL STUDIES 10

Document 1 (June '07 #7)

This is an excerpt from Chapter 1, General Principles, of the 1954 “Constitution of the People’s Republic of China.”

Article 1 The People’s Republic of China is a people’s democratic state led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants. . . .

Article 6 The state sector of the economy is the socialist sector owned by the whole people. It is the leading force in the national economy and the material basis on which the state carries out socialist transformation. The state ensures priority for the development of the state sector of the economy.

All mineral resources and waters, as well as forests, undeveloped land and other resources which the state owns by law, are the property of the whole people.

Article 7 The co-operative sector of the economy is either socialist, when collectively owned by the masses of working people, or semi-socialist, when in part collectively owned by the masses of working people. Partial collective ownership by the masses of working people is a transitional form by means of which individual peasants, individual handicraftsmen and other individual working people organize themselves in their advance towards collective ownership by the masses of working people. . . .

Source: *Constitutions of Asian Countries*, N. M. Tripathi Private

1. Based on these articles from the “Constitution of the People’s Republic of China,” state **two** characteristics of the communist economic system in China.

(1) _____

(2) _____

Document 2 (June '07 #8)

In an attempt to break with the Russian model of Communism and to catch up with more advanced nations, Mao proposed that China should make a “great leap forward” into modernization. He began a militant Five Year Plan to promote technology and agricultural self-sufficiency. Overnight, fertile rice fields were ploughed over, and factory construction work began. Labour-intensive methods were introduced and farming collectivized on a massive scale. The campaign created about 23,500 communes, each controlling its own means of production. But former farmers had no idea how to actually use the new factories and what was once fertile crop land went to waste on a disastrous scale. The Great Leap Forward was held responsible for famine in 1960 and 1961. Twenty million people starved, and Mao Zedong withdrew temporarily from public view.

Source: BBC News, Special Reports, China’s Communist Revolution

2. Based on this BBC News article, what is **one** effect the Great Leap Forward had on China’s economy?

Document 3 (June '07 #9)

This is an excerpt from the speech “We Shall Speed Up Reform” given by Deng Xiaoping on June 12, 1987.

... China is now carrying out a reform. I am all in favour of that. There is no other solution for us. After years of practice it turned out that the old stuff didn't work. In the past we copied foreign models mechanically, which only hampered [blocked] the development of our productive forces, induced [caused] ideological rigidity and kept people and grass-roots units from taking any initiative. We made some mistakes of our own as well, such as the Great Leap Forward and the “cultural revolution” [Mao's policies], which were our own inventions. I would say that since 1957 our major mistakes have been “Left” ones. The “cultural revolution” was an ultra-Left mistake. In fact, during the two decades from 1958 through 1978, China remained at a standstill. There was little economic growth and not much of a rise in the people's standard of living. How could we go on like that without introducing reforms? So in 1978, at the Third Plenary Session of the Eleventh Central Committee, we formulated a new basic political line: to give first priority to the drive for modernization and strive to develop the productive forces. In accordance with that line we drew up a series of new principles and policies, the major ones being reform and the open policy. By reform we mean something comprehensive, including reform of both the economic structure and the political structure and corresponding changes in all other areas. By the open policy we mean both opening to all other countries, irrespective [regardless] of their social systems, and opening at home, which means invigorating [quicken] the domestic economy. . . .

Source: Deng Xiaoping, *Fundamental Issues in Present-Day China*, Foreign Languages Press, 1987

3. According to Deng Xiaoping, what were **two** ways Mao Zedong's economic policies influenced China?

(1) _____

(2) _____

Document 4 (Jan. '08 #9)

... Between 1966 and 1976, a whole generation of teenagers failed to receive a real education; other Chinese came to call them “the lost generation.” At least twenty thousand people lost their lives because of the Cultural Revolution.

... Because of the Cultural Revolution, many Chinese young people grew up with no knowledge of traditional Chinese customs and beliefs. Needing to fill that gap, some of them began looking to the West — especially to the Western ideals of democracy, freedom, capitalism, and individualism. . . .

Source: *Great Events: The Twentieth Century 1960–1968*, Salem Press

4. Based on this excerpt from *Great Events*, state **one** impact the Cultural Revolution had on Chinese society.

Document 5 (Jan. '08 #7)

This is an account of Nien Cheng's experiences during the Cultural Revolution. This excerpt describes what was happening the day she was sent to the Detention House.

. . . The streets of Shanghai, normally deserted at nine o'clock in the evening, were a sea of humanity. Under the clear autumn sky in the cool breeze of September, people were out in thousands to watch the intensified activities of the Red Guards. On temporary platforms erected everywhere, the young Revolutionaries were calling upon the people in shrill and fiery rhetoric to join in the Revolution, and conducting small-scale struggle meetings against men and women they seized at random on the street and accused of failing to carry Mao's Little Red Book of quotations or simply wearing the sort of clothes the Red Guards disapproved of. Outside private houses and apartment buildings, smoke rose over the garden walls, permeating the air as the Red Guards continued to burn books indiscriminately. . . .

Source: Nien Cheng, *Life and Death in Shanghai*, Penguin Books

5. According to Nien Cheng, what were **two** actions taken by the Red Guards in an attempt to control the thoughts of the people during Mao's rule in China?

(1) _____

(2) _____



In Following the Revolutionary Road, Strive for an Even Greater Victory

Mao as the Reddest Red Sun in people's hearts, floating above Tiananmen Square. At the front of the huge, Little Red Book-waving crowd are the figures of a worker, peasant, and soldier, while representatives from other occupations stand just behind. The Book was compiled from Mao's Selected Works by Lin Biao in the early 1960s to be used for propaganda work in the People's Liberation Army. After the Cultural Revolution began, it became an integral part of the ritual of Mao worship. By 1970, this kind of orchestrated adulation [staged praise] and the power of Lin Biao were both at their zenith [height].

Source: *Picturing Power: Posters from the Chinese Cultural Revolution Exhibit*, Indiana University

6. According to this document, what was **one** way that Mao's government attempted to influence the people of China?
