Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced
Paper 2: Depth study
Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76
Option The German Democratic Republic, 1949–90

Friday 16 June 2017 – Morning
Sources Booklet

Paper Reference
9HI0/2E

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 2E.1: Mao's China, 1949–76

Sources for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From a speech made by Lin Xiling, during a debate at Beijing University, 23 May 1957. Her words were recorded in note-form by university students attending the meeting. Lin Xiling was a communist revolutionary who had become critical of the Communist Party. She supported the Hundred Flowers campaign.

I am very excited today to be able to breathe the fresh air of the University.

There has been a loosening up here, but I am not optimistic about the overall success of the campaign because there are still too many guardians of the rules. These officials want to use socialism as a ladder to climb to higher positions. It is also said that there are signs of reining in the Hundred Flowers movement in order to keep the people quiet.

This University has acted in favour of the campaign, and it is a good beginning. Now the students of the north-west and elsewhere are stirring. But we have no way to communicate with each other; there is a news blackout. If we utter one wrong word, the guardians can manufacture charges out of nothing.

We should be vigilant! We are honest people! Honest people are found everywhere and we should unite! The masses of the people are not fools.

I am not afraid to speak out in this way. My friends constantly tell me: 'You little devil, all of us are going to find you in jail one day.' Although this was said jokingly, there is such a possibility.

Our struggle today is not merely personal grumbling. Our objective is crystal clear: to establish genuine socialism – to lead the life of real people.

Source 2: From an officially-published statement by Fei Xiaotang, 13 July 1957.
Fei Xiaotang was a prominent academic and a leading member of an official political group called the Democratic League, which had been supportive of the Hundred Flowers campaign. Here he is being forced to renounce his past political activities.

I admit my guilt to the people and continue to expose my crime, and that of the Chang-Lo conspiracy*.

In 1955, I worked for the Culture and Education Committee of the Democratic League. I proposed organising small forums and inviting those League members who were dissatisfied with the Party. Names of the persons attending the forums were off the record. This work did extremely serious harm:

(i) It encouraged the uncritical growth and spread of backward thoughts.

(ii) It influenced moderate League members.

In February this year I made an extremely absurd speech against the Party at a forum of the League Central Committee.

I wrote 'Early Spring Weather for Intellectuals' based on that speech. Lo read my draft and spurred me on. This article aroused anti-Party and anti-socialist feelings. This article was indeed an attack on the Party. I accept and am thankful for criticism of this action from Communist Party deputies. I should go a step further and criticise myself.

I hate my past and I must change. I hate my links with the Chang-Lo conspiracy and I must draw a boundary line against them and sever our connections. I am grateful to the Party for keeping the door of reform open to those guilty of mistakes and who have fallen into the swamp of the rightists. Permit me to enter this door courageously and completely reform myself.

*the Chang-Lo conspiracy – Chang and Lo were leaders of the Democratic League

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

Sources for use with Question 2.

Source 3: From an article in the *Tageszeitung* or '*taz*' newspaper, 11 November 1989. '*Taz*' was a West Berlin left-wing newspaper owned by its workers. Here the events in Berlin on the 9–10 November are being described.

There was chaos at the border crossings. Cars were parked in all directions, their passengers jumping out, racing to the border. Even the most rational of the *taz* reporters is cheering. The mood hits everyone, like it or not.

Some succeed in climbing over barriers to the East, within sight of border guards. Though not allowed all the way over yet – visa and money changing are still compulsory. Halfway between East and West, the East Germans obediently stand in line waiting to be called. They receive a stamp and are told, 'You can go'. Some have to be pushed over the border into the West. Many are afraid they will not be allowed back.

Meanwhile, shouts from the West Berlin side. 'We want in!' There's no stopping the crowd anymore. At approximately 1:00 am they all start running. A handful of border guards protect their borders. Gates open, the barrier is lifted. This is East Berlin.

A woman [in East Berlin] is calling to her son who is one barrier further than she is. He goes back to get her, but she is afraid: 'I don't even want to go over.' But the next morning, we see her again, this time on television: 'We were on the other side; we climbed over the Wall.'

Source 4: From an eyewitness account of events at the Berlin Wall, 12 November 1989. It was written by Andreas Ramos, a South American living in Denmark at the time. On hearing the news of the events happening in Germany he drove, with his wife, directly to Berlin to witness the events for himself.

We arrived in Berlin at 4:30 am. We drove to Brandenburger Platz. Cars were abandoned everywhere, wherever there was space. Over 5,000 people were there. At the wall, West German police and military were lined up to prevent chaos. On top of the wall, stood East German soldiers with their rifles. No one knew what was going on.

At Potsdammer Platz perhaps 7,000 people were shouting, cheering, clapping. We pushed through the crowd. From the East German side we could hear the sound of heavy machines. With a giant drill, they were punching holes in the wall. At one place, a crowd of East German soldiers looked through a narrow hole. We reached through and shook hands. Someone lent me a hammer and I knocked chunks of rubble from the wall.

Everything was out of control. The crowd had swollen. There were fireworks, kites, flags, dogs, children. The wall was finally breaking. The cranes lifted slabs aside. East and West German police had traded caps. At the Berlin Wall itself, which is 3 metres high, people had climbed up and were sitting astride. The final slab was moved away. A stream of East Germans began to pour through. With all of the East Germans coming into West Berlin, we thought it was only fair that we should go to East Berlin. Looking around, I saw an indescribable joy in people's faces.

The Wall was down.

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