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# AS HISTORY

The Transformation of China, 1936–1997

Component 2P The emergence of the People's Republic of China, 1936–1962

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Wednesday 25 May 2016    Afternoon    Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

## Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

## Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2P.
- Answer **two** questions.  
In **Section A** answer Question 01.  
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

## Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

## Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
  - 50 minutes on Section A
  - 40 minutes on Section B.

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**Section A**

Answer Question 01.

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**Source A**

An account of the discussion between Zhou Enlai and Jiang Jieshi during the Xi'an Incident of December 1936. This account is adapted from a record in the diary of Jiang Jieshi.

Zhou:

For one year the Communists have tried to avoid fighting the Nationalists in order to preserve the national strength. We have not taken advantage of the Xi'an incident. Now we want your personal assurance to join with the Communists to fight Japan.

Jiang:

You must know that I cannot say this. You have to know that I have devoted my whole life to achieve national unification and the centralised command of the armed forces. If the Communists will not undermine national unity, obey my Government, and fully accept my command as part of a united army, I will not seek to destroy you.

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Zhou:

The Red Army will accept Jiang's command and will support unification under the Central Government.

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**Source B**

An extract from a statement issued by Mao Zedong in December 1936, after Jiang Jieshi had been released from captivity in Xi'an.

Jiang should remember that he owes his safe departure from Xi'an to the mediation of the Communist Party, as well as to the efforts of General Zhang, the leader in the Xi'an Incident. Throughout the incident, the Communist Party stood for a peaceful settlement and made every effort to that end, acting solely in the interests of national survival.

Jiang was set free upon his acceptance of the Xi'an terms. From now on the question is whether he will fulfil all the terms for saving the nation. The nation will not permit any further hesitation on his part. If he wavers on the issue of resisting Japan or delays in fulfilling his pledge, then the nation-wide revolutionary tide will sweep him away.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining why co-operation between the Guomindang and the Communists in the war against Japan was difficult to achieve?

**[25 marks]**

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**Section B**

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

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**Either**

**0 2** 'The Communist Party had successfully consolidated its power in China by 1953 because it won the support of the peasants.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**or**

**0 3** 'The failure of the Great Leap Forward was disastrous for Mao's authority over the Chinese Communist Party in the years 1958 to 1962.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

**[25 marks]**

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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