

Bolingbroke Academy Sixth Form

History Bridging Project

Welcome new Bolingbroke A-Level History students.

As we prepare to begin our Key Stage 5 studies we would like to take the opportunity to share how you can prepare for beginning in September in order to hit the ground running. The first thing of which you should be aware is the 'Bridging Project' to be completed over the summer. This is an opportunity to explore some of the themes we will be covering throughout the course and will be assessed upon our return at the start of next term. This is important to prepare yourself for Year 12 study where the work will be broader and more challenging than you will have experienced at GCSE.

For this project, firstly you should purchase and read one of the following five books:

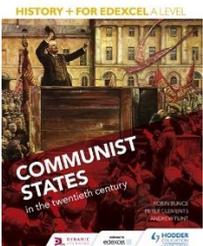
1. Communist manifesto – Karl Marx
2. Heaven on Earth: The rise, Fall and Afterlife of Socialism – Joshua Muravchik
3. Comrades: Communism: A World History. – Robert Service.
4. Russia - Dmitri Trenin.
5. The Rise and Fall of Communism - Archie Brown

You must then complete a 1000 word book review to show your understanding and comprehension of the material. This will be discussed and assessed in your first lesson back so must be ready for then.

Secondly, Attached to this document is a description of both the Russia and China A level topic. Following both descriptions, you will need to complete the list of key words and concepts in the glossaries. This will give you a foundational knowledge of both countries' histories and political structure during the 20th Century.

Thirdly, throughout the course we will make regular use of two books which you will

need to purchase. The first of these is: Communist States in the 20th Century, published by Hodder for Edexcel examining board.



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Bolingbroke Academy Sixth Form
History Bridging Project
Russia Glossary

Paper 1, Option 1E:
Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

Overview

This option comprises a study in breadth, in which students will learn about the key political, social and economic features of communist rule in Russia during the twentieth century, an era that saw its authority and influence rise to the status of a superpower, only to diminish and decline later in the century. The focus of study is on developments and changes over a broad timescale, and so the content is presented as themes spanning a significant duration: 1917–85. This option also contains a study in depth of historical interpretations on a broad question, which is contextualised by, and runs on from, the themes: reasons for the fall of the USSR, c1985–91.

1 Communist government in the USSR, 1917–85

- Establishing Communist Party control, 1917–24: the creation of a one-party state and the party congress of 1921; the nature of government under Lenin; the growing centralisation of power.
- Stalin in power, 1928–53: the elimination of opponents in government and party; the purges of the 1930s; Stalin's power over party and state.
- Government, 1953–85: changes in leaders' control of the state across the period; Khrushchev's attempts to reform government including de-Stalinisation; the return to stability under Brezhnev, 1964–82; growing political stagnation, 1982–85.

2 Industrial and agricultural change, 1917–85

- Towards a command economy, 1917–28: the nationalisation of industry; War Communism and the New Economic Policy; state control of industry and agriculture.
- Industry and agriculture in the Stalin era: the Five-Year Plans and industrial change; agricultural collectivisation and its impact; recovery from war after 1945.
- Changes in industry and agriculture, 1953–85, including: the promotion of light industry, chemicals and consumer goods; investment in agriculture and the Virgin Lands Scheme; the limited attempts at reform after 1964; economic decline.

3 Control of the people, 1917–85

- Media, propaganda and religion: state control of mass media and propaganda; attacks on religious beliefs and practices. The personality cults of Stalin, Khrushchev and Brezhnev.
- The secret police: attacks on opponents of the government; the roles of Yagoda, Yezhov and Beria; Andropov's suppression of dissidents, 1967–82; the continued monitoring of popular discontent, 1982–85.
- The state and cultural change: Proletkult, avant-garde and Socialist Realism, 1917–53; nonconformity from the 1950s; clashes between artists and the government to 1985.

4 Social developments, 1917–85

- Social security: full employment, housing and social benefits, 1917–53. Khrushchev, Brezhnev and the promotion of a stable society, 1953–85.
- Women and the family: the changing status of different groups of women in towns and countryside; changing government attitudes towards the family as a social unit.
- Education and young people: the growth of primary, secondary and higher education; the reduction of illiteracy; state control of the curriculum.

Historical interpretations

What explains the fall of the USSR, c1985–91?

- The significance of the economic weaknesses of the USSR and the failure of reform.
- The effects of Gorbachev's failure to reform the Communist Party and the Soviet government.

- The impact of the nationalist resurgence in the late 1980s in the Soviet republics and in the communist states of Eastern Europe.
- How far Gorbachev and Yeltsin can be seen as responsible for the collapse of the USSR in 1991.

Social Revolutionaries -

Mensheviks -

Highly Centralised -

Soviets -

All Russian Congress of Soviets -

Sovnarkom -

Constituent Assembly -

The Great Purges -

The show trials -

Command Economy -

State Capitalism -

Bartering -

Mir -

Nepman -

Nazi - Soviet Pact - 1939

The October Revolution - 1917

Treaty of Brest Litovsk - 1918

Cheka -

Creation of Red Army -

The Russian Civil War - 1918-21

New Economic Policy -

Gerontocracy -

Chistka -

Autocratic -

Dictator -

Oligarchy -

Authoritarian -

Democratic -

Tyranny -

Cold War -

policies during destalinisation -

The secret speech -

Cuban missile crisis -

Brezhnev political changes -

stability of cadres -

nationalisation of industry -

first five year plan - 1928-1932

second five year plan - 1933-1937

third five year plan - 1938

fourth five year plan - 1946-50

Seven Year Plan - 1959

death of Stalin -

ninth Five Year Plan - 1971-75

War Communism -

virgin lands scheme - 1954

kosygin reforms - 1965

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History Bridging Project

China Glossary

Paper 2, Option 2E. I: Mao's China, 1949–76

Overview

This option covers the period of Mao Zedong's rule in China, from the proclamation of the People's Republic in October 1949 until Mao's death in 1976.

The reasons for the triumph of communism in both Russia and China are very different. Lenin's seizure of power in Russia had many features of a *coup d'état* carried out in Petrograd and a few other cities. In China, however, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), founded in 1921, fought against the *Guomindang* for almost 30 years. Mao, leader of the CCP from 1935, rejected Marx's idea that revolution would come from industrial workers, and based his strategy on gaining the support of the peasantry, the overwhelming bulk of the population. This policy was a success, for the peasants gave vital support to the CCP during the civil war of 1946–49. Following their defeat, the *Guomindang* retreated to the island of Taiwan, where they remain to this day.

The CCP quickly established its power over China's territory and people. The People's Liberation Army (PLA), a major force in Chinese politics throughout Mao's rule, used force to bring Tibet and other outlying provinces under Beijing's control; and they were sent to the cities to wipe out the triad gangs and execute thousands of their members.

Mao followed many features of the USSR's economic model. Initially, land was confiscated from landlords and distributed to the peasants, but within a few years collective farms were being established. Soviet planning was imitated with the successful First Five-Year Plan. However, the Second Plan from 1958, known as the 'Great Leap Forward', ended in disaster thanks to a huge famine: some estimates suggest that this famine was the deadliest in history, perhaps claiming 30 million lives.

Wide-ranging social reforms improved educational and health provisions, and efforts were made to extend these throughout the countryside. Mao made real attempts to improve the status of women, including a Marriage Law in 1950 and the banning of the centuries-old practice of footbinding.

However, social reforms in China have to be assessed in the light of the Cultural Revolution of 1966–76, when terror and anarchy swept the country. Millions of young Red Guards, inspired by Mao's *Little Red Book*, abandoned their education and launched violent attacks on traditional customs and ideas, as well as torturing and executing huge numbers of innocent citizens. The Cultural Revolution was only brought to an end by the intervention of the PLA, and by Mao's death in 1976.

The judgement of historians on Mao's rule is a mixed one, especially in the light of subsequent developments. Deng Xiaoping, one of the CCP's leaders purged in the Cultural Revolution, returned to power in 1978 and began a programme of far-reaching economic reforms. Deng is credited with the dramatic expansion of the Chinese economy and with lifting hundreds of millions of Chinese people out of poverty. This helps to explain why, after 65 years in power, the CCP remains in control of China today.

The option is divided into the following four key topics. It is important to appreciate the linkages between topics, as questions may target the content of more than one key topic.

- Topic 1: Establishing communist rule, 1949–57**
- Topic 2: Agriculture and industry, 1949–65**
- Topic 3: The Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, 1966–76**
- Topic 4: Social and cultural changes, 1949–76**

Topic 1: Establishing communist rule, 1949–57

The topic covers the establishment of communist rule in the aftermath of the civil war, and the nature of the political system developed to 1957. While knowledge of the events of the civil war is not required, you should be aware of conditions within China in 1949, and the challenges these posed to the new communist government.

You are not required to know the details of the military campaigns within Korea in the years 1950–53, but you should understand both the benefits and the costs of intervention and the impact on the new government of China's involvement in the war.

Topic 2: Agriculture and industry, 1949–65

The topic covers the agricultural and industrial changes from the early years of communist control until the Cultural Revolution. Although agricultural and industrial changes are dealt with separately, you should be able to make links between the two policies. For example, the growing demand for labour in the towns, and the effects which the mass movement of people had on both agriculture and industry.

You will not be required to have detailed information on the economic reforms introduced by Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping after the failure of the Great Leap Forward, but should be aware of the extent to which they differed from Mao's policies.

Topic 3: The Cultural Revolution and its aftermath, 1966–76

The topic covers the years of the Cultural Revolution from the destructive anarchy of its early years, through the restoration of order within the country, to the death of Mao in 1976. You should have a detailed understanding of the activities of the Red Guards, the ways in which both Mao and Jiang Qing controlled young people, the growing anarchy in the years 1966–67, and the human, economic and cultural effects of their activities.

You should also understand the extent to which the PLA was responsible for the gradual restoration of order from 1968, and the extent to which the Cultural Revolution was brought to an end in the years before Mao's death in 1976.

Topic 4: Social and cultural changes, 1949–76

The topic covers the social and cultural changes which occurred alongside the political and economic developments outlined in Topics 1–3. You should understand the link between anti-religious policies and the government's attempts to impose ideological uniformity on the Chinese people.

You are not required to consider the youth movements in China during this period, though they will need to know the activities of the Red Guards in relation to Topic 3.

Complete the glossary provided to gain a strong, foundational knowledge of the topic:

Mao Glossary

Agronomists –

Ancestor worship –

Anti-Rightist movement –

Backyard furnaces –

Barefoot doctors –

Bourgeoisie –

Bride-price –

Buddhism –

Capitalism –

Central Cultural Revolution Group (CCRG) –

Central planning –

Chinese Communist Party (CCP) –

Collectivisation –

Command economy –

Communism –

Communes –

Concubinage –

Confucianism –

Conscript army –

Continuing revolution –

Cult of Personality –

Cultural Revolution –

Dalai Lama

Détente –

Dictatorship –

Dysentery –

Economy –

Expatriate Chinese –

Extended family –

Faction –

Feudal –

Foot binding –

Forbidden City –

Foreign embassies –

Free Market –

Gang of Four –

Genocide –

Guomindang (GMD) –

Great Helmsman –

Great Leap Forward –

Heavy industry –

Hundred Flowers Campaign -

Hong Kong –

Industrialisation –

Intellectuals –

Iron rice bowl –

Khampas –

Lama –

Laogai –

Lysenkoism –

Mandarin Chinese –

Marxism –

Ming Tombs –

Panchen Lama –Panmunjong truce –

Paper tigers –

Paranoia –

Party Congress –

Party line –

Patriarchal –

Patriotic health movements –

People's Liberation Army (PLA) –

People's Republic of China (PRC) –Pinyin –

Politburo –

Political terror –

Propaganda –

Pragmatist –

Proletariat –

Public utilities –

Purge –

Rectification campaigns –

Red guards –

Reunification campaigns

Sino-Soviet agreement of 1950 –

Soviet –

Sputnik –

The People's Daily –

Tsampa –

Urbanisation –

Yaks –

Zhongnanhai