

1. The Fall of the Qing Dynasty			2. The Rise of Mao and the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)		
1	What was the Qing Dynasty?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> It took power in 1636. It was controlled by Dowager Empress Cixi after 1865 who seized power for herself. It fell in 1911 after the Xinhai Revolution. 	1	What was the CCP?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The CCP was formed in 1911 to try and improve the lives of ordinary Chinese people. Many of its key figures studied at Beijing University and became involved in politics in the 1910s and 1920s. Mao Zedong emerged as the key figure after the Long March of 1934-36.
2	What internal problems did the Qing face?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> China was poor and many people struggled to live. China was so big and populous that the Qing could not really rule properly. China was economically backward and weaker than its rivals. China endured so much violence during the Taiping War that warlords ran huge parts of the country. Secret societies and political groups regularly criticised the Qing in public. 	2	What happened between 1911-1949?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> After the fall of the Qing many different groups competed for power. The Nationalist government were often blamed for the suffering of ordinary people. War with Japan after 1931 made the Nationalists look weak and allowed the Communists to gain support and become stronger. The Nationalists and Communists worked together in WW2 but the Communists won the Civil War in 1949 and took power.
			3	What allowed the CCP to be successful?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Nationalist government never had strong control and was seen as weak and violent. The Nationalists had to focus on the war with Japan, so the CCP could strengthen. Many people in China were poor and wanted a better life. The CCP had excellent propaganda and was able to look good during events such as the Long March. Key figures such as Mao were seen as inspirational and people wanted to think like him.
3. The Great Leap Forward 1958-1962					
			1	What was the Great Leap Forward?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> It was Mao's attempt to try and modernise China quickly and make the country self-sufficient. Mao tried to build up industry, redistribute land to ordinary people and make farming more efficient.
			2	What actually happened during the Great Leap Forward?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 40% of China's land was redistributed and 60% of people benefited from this. 1 million "landlords" were persecuted or executed. Steel, coal and electricity industries all grew. Communal dining halls were set up so everyone could share in the benefits of the policy.
			3	Was the Great Leap Forward a failure?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Yes: it caused famine and killed 20 million people. Yes: China did not become self-sufficient. No: Industry was boosted greatly. No: The status of women in society improved.
3	What external problems did the Qing face?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> China was militarily weak and was defeated in war three times in the 19th century. China's economy was weak and foreigners could sell better and cheaper goods. Foreign traders brought Christianity which was disruptive. Rivals such as Japan and Western nations had reformed and were much richer and stronger than China. 			

4. The Cultural Revolution 1966-1976

1	What was the Cultural Revolution?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> It was an attempt by Mao to change the culture of China to ensure his revolutionary ideas would continue. Mao tried to purge the country to remove enemies and to indoctrinate young people.
2	What happened during the Cultural Revolution?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mao's cult of personality was extended and loyalty to him was emphasised. Violence against enemies of the state was encouraged. Young people were its biggest supporters and many were desperate to take part. The Chinese peasant or worker was idolised and intellectuals, experts and Westerners were shunned.
3	How did the Cultural Revolution come to an end?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Although the policies stayed official till 1976, the pace of change slowed after 1969. Many party leaders did not like the policies and felt they were damaging and weakening China. China and the USSR became opposed and so China became friendlier with Western nations. Mao died in 1976 and many politicians were relieved.

5. The Road to Tiananmen Square 1976-1989

1	What happened after Mao died in 1976?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Many people that had been purged during the Cultural Revolution came back into power. Deng Xiaoping, a former rival of Mao, became head of state in 1978. Deng wanted to reverse a lot of Mao's actions.
2	How did Deng seek to modernise China?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Deng proposed the "Four Modernisations" to improve agriculture, industry, science/technology and defence. Some wanted democracy but this was not pursued and Deng cracked down on these people. Farmers were allowed to produce to sell their goods and entrepreneurship was encouraged all over China. The government sought to attract foreign investment and sent students all over the world to study science and technology.
3	How did protest develop by 1989?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Corruption became a huge problem and people lost trust in the government. Prices rose but state wages stayed the same and people's quality of living declined. Students wanted freedom and referred to the May 4th movement of 1919 in their protests. In spring 1989 a huge protest for "science and democracy" in Beijing was crushed by the government. After Tiananmen Square the Chinese government continued to reform the economy but introduced much harsher laws and encouraged Chinese nationalism.

Key Word	Definitions
CCP	The Chinese Communist Party, founded in 1911 and the government of China since 1949 after the Civil War.
Cixi	The Dowager Empress who controlled Qing politics from 1865 until her death in 1908.
Confucian beliefs	Values that are the basis of 2,500 years of Chinese culture.
Communist	The term for a government that controls everything but tries to act on behalf of ordinary people.
Cultural Revolution	Mao's attempt between 1966-1976 to change Chinese culture so his ideas would live on.
Deng Xiaoping	The former rival of Mao who came to power in 1978 and proposed the Four Modernisations.
Gang of Four	A group of four powerful politicians who were purged by Deng Xiaoping after 1978 and put on trial in 1981.
Great Leap Forward	Mao's disastrous attempt to modernise China in 1958-1962.
Kuomintang	The Nationalist government of China between 1912-1945.
Long March	The famous 4,000 mile journey of 80,000 Communists in 1934-36.
May Fourth Movement	A call for a 'new politics' in 1919 that became an iconic event.
Mao Zedong	The Communist who became a key figure after the Long March and was head of state 1949-1976.
Nationalist	The term for a government that tries to create a strong nation and encourages people to be patriotic.
Qing Dynasty	Rulers of China 1636-1911.
Tiananmen Square	A public square in central Beijing, most famous for being the site of the 1989 pro-democracy protests.
Warlords	Generals that rose to power in provincial China and controlled various regions in the early 20 th century.