The new republic in China faced problems. There was upheaval in 1912 when Sun Yixian stepped down as president. The new leader tried to rule like an emperor. When he died in 1916, warlords from the provinces fought for power.

On May 4, 1919, students protested Japanese control of colonies in China. This began the May Fourth Movement. Its supporters aimed to make China stronger through modernization. Other groups looked to the revolutionary ideas of Marx and Lenin for answers.

By 1921, Chinese Communists had formed their own party. Meanwhile, Sun Yixian had formed a Nationalist party, the Guomindang. At first, the two parties worked together to beat the warlords and unite China.

When Sun died in 1925, Jiang Jieshi, the new head of the Guomindang, saw the Communists as a threat. He began a fierce, 22-year war. A new Communist leader, Mao Zedong, turned to the peasants for support. He saw strength in their large numbers.

As the Nationalists and Communists waged civil war, Japan attacked. Until 1945, the Guomindang, the Communists, and the Japanese fought to control China.

**Graphic Summary: Struggle for Control in China, 1931–1945**

- Leader: Jiang Jieshi
- Forces Communists into northern China in 1934
- Loses capital city to Japanese in 1937; moves inland to new capital

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The Guomindang, the Communists, and the Japanese all struggled for control of China.

**Review Questions**

1. When did civil war begin in China? What two parties fought for control?

2. **Chart Skills** Why did the Nationalist Guomindang move their capital in 1937?
THE COMMUNIST REVOLUTION IN CHINA

I. Mao Zedong
   A. leader of the Communists
   B. wanted to adopt Marxism
      1. hoping to achieve industrialization
      2. share the benefits of economic development equally among the industrial workers and the farmers

II. Civil War
   A. After Japan’s surrender in WWII civil war resumed
      1. NATIONALISTS VS. COMMUNISTS
   B. Communists achieved control over most of the countryside
      1. won the support of the peasants
      2. promised land reform programs
   C. Two China’s
      1949 – Communists drove Chiang and the Nationalists from the mainland of China
      1. created 2 China’s
         a) Mao’s Communist China
         b) Chiang’s Nationalists China on Taiwan
I. Great Leap Forward
   A. During the 1950’s and 1960’s the Communists abolished private ownership of farms
      1. established communes
         a) huge cooperative farms
         b) as many as 20,000 people might collectively work the land
      2. peasants worked longer hours
      3. government owned the farms
         a) crops grown belonged to the government
Why Did The Chinese Communist Revolution Succeed?

The following is based upon the true story of *STONE WALL VILLAGE* in China.

Five men brought the Communist revolution to Stone Wall Village. Their job was to overturn the political, social, and economic life in the village. The first step in doing so was to "struggle" against the wealthy landowners and divide the land. The five men who came to the village to "overturn" it were called CADRES (officials). When they arrived in the village, they put up signs announcing that every village has the right to elect its own officials and that land rents and the interest rates that peasants were being charged should be established fairly. There was no response from most of the people. Then they called a meeting to explain their ideas but people still kept their mouths shut. The cadres then tried to talk to the villagers individually but without any success.

Under these conditions, the cadre could not carry out their work, so they tried talking to the poorest men in village in private. One peasant, Ma, revealed that his family had been poor tenant farmers for the past hundred years, renting land and never having any of their own. Every year, he raised 8 bushels of wheat and had to give 4 bushels to landlord Wang. Ma could not afford medicine for his wife who he feared was dying. Two years before, his father had died, and he had been too poor to afford a coffin, so he wrapped his father in straw. Now Ma was 35, and he was poor, and it looked as if he would always stay poor. "I guess I had a bad brain." replied Ma, explaining the reasons for his poverty. One of the cadres would ask: "Are you poor because you had a bad brain or because your father left you no land?" Ma-"I guess it is because my father left us no land," he replied. "Is that really the reason?" said the cadres. "You pay 4 bushels of wheat to the landlord every year. Your family has rented land for 100 years. That is 400 bushels of wheat; if you had not given this wheat to the landlord, you would be rich. The reason that you are poor is because you have been **EXPLOITED BY THE LANDLORD.**"

They would talk like this for hours, and Ma finally agreed that he was exploited. For 15 days, the cadres had 33 talks with Ma. Slowly, Ma began to convince other poor peasants to join the struggle against the landlord Wang. Then suddenly a villager named Fortune Lee was found murdered. It seemed that the landlord Wang had decided to draw first blood. At a lengthy meeting after Fortune Lee's funeral, the villagers told each other stories of how landlord Wang had caused them suffering. Then they decided: "Let's get him tonight." Using guns and hand grenades supplied by the cadres, they went to landlord Wang's home and found him scared and shaking in an underground room.

Now the time had come for revenge. One man slapped Wang across the face. A low animal moan came from the crowd and they leaped into action. The crowd was on him like beasts. A big farmer swung his pig knife and plunged it directly into the landlord's heart. His body quivered. Even the trees shook, and he slumped. But still the farmer drew his knife in and out again and again and again...

**THE VILLAGE OF STONE WALL HAS BEEN OVERTURNED**
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION;
DIRECTIONS: Use the word bank below to fill in the correct answers below.

THE VILLAGE OF STONE WALL HAD BEEN OVERTURNED


1. ______________ were poor farmers.
2. ______________ means to shake violently in fear.
3. ______________ is someone who rents land.
4. ______________ were people who tried to spread communism.
5. ______________ refers to a specific amount of crops.
6. To be __________ is to be taken advantage of.

Part II
Directions: Answer the following questions based on the reading.

1. Who owned most of the land in China before the Communist Revolution?

2. Why did Ma and his family live in poverty? (Use your own words)

3. How is communism similar to the deeds of Robin Hood?

4. Was the landlord a greedy lowlife or was he just trying to make a living? Explain your answer.
WHY DID THE CHINESE REVOLUTION SUCCEED?

Post World War II in Asia

Chinese Communist Revolution

A. Leader
   1. Mao Zedong successfully led communist rebels against the
      Chinese Nationalist government in 1949

B. Reasons for Communist Success
   1. Communist promised to distribute free land to China’s poor
      and landless peasant farmers (90% of the population) Most
      farmers supported the Communist rebels.
   2. The Soviet Union provided money, weapons, and training to
      the communist rebels.
   3. The Chinese Nationalist government was incompetent,
      corrupt, and too weak to stop Mao Zedong’s forces
The Ideas of Mao Zedong: Analyzing a Primary Source

The following selections are from the *Thoughts of Chairman Mao*. For many years, Chinese peasants and workers learned to read by studying the "Little Red Book," the name given Mao's sayings by westerners. Read the selections carefully and then answer the questions that follow.

1. Who are the "reactionaries" Mao refers to in the first selection? ________________

2. According to Mao, what is the goal of revolution? ________________

3. According to Mao, what should the relationship be between Communist leaders and the masses? ________________

4. To what people in China did Mao's ideas appeal most? ________________

5. Why were Mao's ideas popular among these people? ________________
Mao Zedong (1893–1976)

*Every Communist must grasp the truth, “Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.”*
—Mao Zedong in a speech delivered on November 6, 1938

As the head of the Chinese Communist party from 1931 until his death, Mao Zedong was one of the most powerful rulers of the 1900s. First as a guerrilla leader and later as the head of government, Mao transformed China from a country that had been ignored into one that was held in respect and even fear.

Mao Zedong was born in Shaoshan, a small village in Hunan province. Mao and his father often clashed, which may have been the source of Mao’s rebellious nature. Mao’s defiant attitude turned public when he was 18 years old. Influenced by the nationalistic ideas of the revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen, Mao enlisted in the revolutionary army during the Chinese Revolution of 1911, which overthrew the Manchu dynasty. In 1920 Mao’s disillusionment with the warlords and the Chinese republic led him to become a Marxist. The following year, he helped establish the Chinese Communist party. Since such activities were illegal, Mao and his fellow Communists worked in secret.

From 1927 to 1934, Mao trained and massed about 300,000 Communist guerrillas to defend his camps against General Chiang Kai-Shek’s Nationalist party. When these attacks intensified, Mao led his troops north in a retreat called the Long March. This proved to be a decisive point in Mao’s career. He spent 22 years in the countryside, winning it over. In 1949, Mao marched triumphantly into Beijing. He was the leader of the Chinese Communists—and the People’s Republic of China.

Mao’s attempt to create a Communist economy was not a success, and he retired from his role as the head of the republic in 1959. Mao regained his control of the country during the upheaval known as the Cultural Revolution, which began in 1966 and ended a decade later. During this time, he called on millions of young soldiers known as Red Guards to “rebel” and “strike out at anything old.” Schools and universities were destroyed. Foreign trade and industrial production fell off sharply. Mao also used this time to eliminate his enemies and elevate his third wife, Chiang Ching, to great power.

Mao was able to develop links between the United States and China in the early 1970s, but soon thereafter his power fell off sharply. After his death in 1976, many of his policies were rejected.

**Reviewing the Profile**

*Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.*

1. Why did Mao become a Marxist?

2. What was the Long March?

**Critical Thinking**

3. **Identifying Central Issues**  Why would the United States want to enter into diplomatic relations with China in the 1970s?

4. **Evaluating Information**  What do you think is Mao’s greatest accomplishment? Why?
DID MAO ZEDONG’S CULTURAL REVOLUTION HELP OR HURT CHINA?

In 1966, Mao Zedong encouraged Chinese high school students to join the Red Guards and help bring about changes in Chinese society.

Red Guard leader Wei: “My fellow Red Guards, today we are going to help our beloved country by investigating reports that the local politician, Lo Fat, is corrupt. Since Chairman Mao has encouraged us to expose this criminal, I am sure that will find plenty of evidence.

Red Guard Ying Lei: Yes, the Cultural Revolution has begun. Let us show that corrupt weasel, Lo Fat, that Chairman Mao will not stand for corruption in our beloved China. Let’s get him!!!

(Hundreds of Red Guards arrive at Lo Fat's residence, which occupied a large area. It had a fish pound, a little bridge, as well as a flower garden. They enter and find Lo Fat, trembling with fear)

Red Guard Leader Wei: Look at him, shaking with fear. Look at him, comrades. Have you ever seen someone that looked more guilty than him? (Everyone shouts No!! ! !)

Lo Fat: I am a loyal member of the Chinese Communist Party and a faithful Chinese citizen. Why have you come into my house?

Red Guard leader WEI: You are under arrest, you traitorous dog. You have betrayed Chairman Mao by stealing from the people. You are obviously guilty and will be taken out and shot along with your traitor wife and children.

Lo Fat: I have committed no crime. My family has worked very hard for everything here. We have never stolen from our beloved Chinese citizens and comrades.

Red Guard leader Wei: Liar!!! (Slaps Lo Fat). Chairman Mao warned us that we would find evil people like you. While you relax in your magnificent bathtub, or in one of your eight bedrooms, your fellow citizens live in one-room huts. YOU ARE A CURSE ON THE CHINESE PEOPLE AND WE RED GUARDS WILL MAKE YOU PAY!!!!!

Lo Fat: I repeat. I am not a criminal. Yes, in the past I have questioned whether Chairman Mao's policies and programs were good for China, but that is all. Is it a crime for we, the people, to question our leader?

Red Guard leader Wei: SCUM!!! (Slaps Lo Fat) How dare you even question Chairman Mao, hero of China!!! Most of China citizens have little or nothing. You have a huge house with many fancy decorations. Therefore it is obvious that your are a corrupt politician who steals from the people. You and your family will be immediately shot.
Lo Fat: You are making a terrible mistake. I have criticized Chairman Mao and the Communist Party in the past but I have not stolen from the people. You may kill me but I will die an innocent man.

1. According to Red Guard Wei, what was the purpose of the Cultural Revolution?

2. How did the Red Guards accomplish their goals?

3. Were the Red Guards qualified to judge whether Lo Fat was guilty or not? Why?

4. Why do you think Lo Fat was being arrested by the Red Guards?

5. Was there enough evidence to prove that Lo Fat was guilty of corruption? Why?

6. If Lo Fat was guilty of corruption, do you agree with the Red Guards' actions? Why?

7. What was Chairman Mao's "real" reason for starring the Cultural Revolution?

8. Would you have wanted to live in China during the Cultural Revolution? Why?

9. Would you have wanted to have belonged to the Red Guards? Why?
SECTION 2  FROM REVOLUTION TO REFORM IN CHINA

TEXT SUMMARY

After World War II, conflict in China continued. Mao Zedong led the Communists to victory over the Nationalists. Communists won control for several reasons. Mao won support from peasants by promising them land. Communism valued all workers, so most women also backed Mao. Finally, Mao's army was better than the Nationalists'. In 1949, Mao united the Chinese under communism and set up the People's Republic of China.

Mao ran a totalitarian state. He put all business in party hands. He urged peasants to join lands and make larger farms. Communist ideas replaced religion. New schools taught students to praise their leader. In 1958, Mao launched a program known as the Great Leap Forward. This program called for communes, groups of people who live and work together, to meet production quotas, or shares. The program failed. In 1966, the Cultural Revolution forced people to be loyal to Mao. Red Guards made sure people followed policies.

In 1976, Mao died. New Chinese leadership brought more economic freedom, but little political change. Deng Xiaoping introduced the Four Modernizations aimed at updating farming, industry, science, and defense. In 1989, the army fiercely crushed a rally for democracy. In the 1980s and 1990s, China has tried to control its birthrate. Chinese leaders face the challenge of providing food, homes, and jobs for more than one billion people.

THE BIG IDEA

Communists succeeded in unifying China in 1949. They carried out reforms while building a totalitarian state.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Programs in Postwar China

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Mao Zedong</th>
<th>Deng Xiaoping</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>The Great Leap Forward</td>
<td>The Cultural Revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Begun</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>1966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals</td>
<td>• Increase farm and factory output</td>
<td>• Renew communist loyalties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>• Communes</td>
<td>• Red Guards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Production quotas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td>• Program fails</td>
<td>• Economy slows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Two years of low production and hunger</td>
<td>• China closes to outside world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• People fear arrest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Civil war threatened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Give three reasons why communist forces won control of China.  
2. Chart Skills What was a goal of the Cultural Revolution?
CHINA AFTER MAO ZEDONG

DENG XIAOPING

Mao Zedong died in 1976. As is the case in all dictatorships, after the death of the leader, there is a struggle to determine who the new leader will be. In the case of China, the new leader was Deng Xiaoping.

Deng’s primary changes took place in economics and in the social structure of the nation. He planned to modernize agriculture, industry and defense. The production of food became the nation’s highest goal. In order to convince peasants to produce more food, Deng introduced incentives to peasants. Many communes were ended and families were given land to farm. In addition, small private businesses were permitted in the cities, which would be owned by individuals. This new freedom in economics led to ideas of freedom in government. In the spring of 1989, thousands of pro-democracy students demonstrated in Beijing’s Tiananmen Square. As the world watched, Premier Li Peng ordered tens of thousands of Chinese troops into the Square to break up the demonstrations. Many students were killed; others were executed after brief trials. Still other, were imprisoned or never heard from again. “The Tiananmen Square massacre” showed the world how brutal the Chinese government could be toward its people.

Questions for discussion.

Directions: Answer the following questions based on the reading.

1. Discuss how Deng Xiaoping tried to modernize China.

2. How did Deng’s policies differ from those of Mao Zedong?

3. Why was the world shocked by the Tiananmen Square Massacre?