# Chapter 7 Study Guide: THE TURBULENT 1950s AND 1960s

## **VOCABULARY**

Be sure that you understand these key terms from Chapter 7. Provide a brief definition or use in a sentence that reflects its context in the reading.

commune system	agrarian	paper tiger	backyard furnace
counterrevolutionary	proletarian	Red Guard	Little Red Book
megalomaniac	propaganda	lost generation	scar literature

Table 1 Vocabulary

## **COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. What were some of the problems facing China at the time of its founding in 1949? What solutions did the government provide for some of these problems?
- 2. In what ways did the Korean War help to demonstrate China's resilience?
- 3. How did the Agrarian Reform Act set the stage for the Great Leap Forward?
- 4. What events lead up to the "three lean years" from 1959-1961, and what were the consequences of those actions?
- 5. Who was the Red Guard and what role did they play in the Cultural Revolution?
- 6. What were some of the propaganda tools used by Mao during the Cultural Revolution?
- 7. What impact did Nixon's 1972 visit to China have on US-China relations?

## **KEY FIGURES**

Mao Zedong	Chiang Kai-shek	Liu Shaoqi	Jiang Qing
Deng Xiaoping	Henry Kissinger	Richard Nixon	Gang of Four

Table 2 Key Figures

## **KEY EVENTS**

Agrarian Reform Law	Hundred Flowers Campaign	The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution	Down to the Countryside Movement
Korean War	Great Leap Forward	Anti-Rightist Campaign	Shanghai Communique

Table 3 Key Events

## **ACTIVITY CHOICE BOARD**

## **Create a Graphic Organizer**

Select one of the following events from the 1950's or 1960's.

Use the information from Chapter 7 of *Modern Chinese History* to briefly summarize the event and identify one positive and one negative result from each event.

- New currency
- Agrarian Reform Law
- Korean War
- Hundred Flowers Campaign
- Cultural Revolution
- Great Leap Forward

#### Art of the Era

Explore some of the propaganda posters produced during the Cultural Revolution.

Outline what you See, Think, and Wonder about those posters (Project Zero Thinking Routine).

## **Beyond the Book**

Investigate the history of *The Little Red Book* and compare it to contemporary artist Ai Weiwei's *Weiwei-isms* (Little Black Book). Select a quote from one of these two books and explain why that quote in particular stands out to you.

#### **Stories that Survive**

Select one of the following (or another) books written about the Cultural Revolution from the perspective of children: Red Scarf Girl; Bronze and Sunflower; Dragonfly Eyes; Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean. Create a comic-strip style summary of the key characters and events of this book.

#### Three Keys

Examine the eight Key Events listed in this Study
Guide and select the three that you feel had the
greatest impact on the history of China.
Rank those three from the most significant to the
second and third most significant, providing not only
a brief summary of the event but also your
justification for that ranking.

Table 4 Activity Choice Board

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Graphic Organizer Activity Slides (slides to copy)
- Red Scarf Girl
- Bronze and Sunflower
- Dragonfly Eyes
- Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean
- BBC Report on The Little Red Book
- The Cultural Revolution: Asia for Educators
- Ai Weiwei's Weiwei-isms
- Project Zero Thinking Routine

This guide is available online for classroom use worldwide and can be accessed at EASC's Resource page.

Source: Kenley, D. (2020). *Modern Chinese History* (2nd ed., Ser. Key Issues in Asian Studies). Association for Asian Studies.