

# China and the Cultural Revolution Web Quest

## VOCABULARY

Write the meaning of the following words *IN YOUR OWN WORDS* (No copy and paste!)

1. bourgeoisie -
2. proletariat -
3. communism -
4. capitalism -

## Chaos and Civil War (Background Information)

- Following several years of problems/conflict, the end of the Qing dynasty finally came (and Puyi lost his throne) → China entered a period of unrest.
- Between 1911 and 1919, China continued to be influenced by foreign powers.
- China also experienced attempts at:
  - democratic government led by a revolutionary leader named Sun Yixian
  - dictatorship
  - and even an attempt to return to dynastic rule under Yuan Shikai.
- The conditions of the 1919 Versailles Treaty (ending World War I) gave Japan Chinese territory which led to...

## May 4th Movement

<http://chinese posters.net/themes/may-fourth-movement.php>

1. What was the May 4th Movement?
2. What sparked/caused the May 4th Movement?
3. What resulted from the May 4th Movement?

Two important groups emerged from the May 4th Movement:

- the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)
- a reorganized Nationalist Party, also known as the Kuomintang.

## Nationalists

Sun Yixian (Sun Zhongshan) → <http://history.cultural-china.com/en/46History7084.html>

1. Who was Sun Zhongshan, and what did he want?

Three Principles of the People → <http://history.cultural-china.com/en/34H7104H12353.html>

2. In your own words, what are Sun Yixian's Three Principles of the People?

Jiang Jieshi (Chiang Kai-shek) → <http://history.cultural-china.com/en/46History7126.html>

3. What were Jiang Jieshi's beliefs in dealing with the future of China?

## Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

Mao Zedong → [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/mao\\_zedong.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/mao_zedong.shtml)

1. Who were the leaders and co-founders of the CCP?

Initially, the Kuomintang and the Communists fought alongside each other to bring peace to China. In particular they worked to rid the nation of the warlords who had split China into many warring factions.

First United Front → <http://history.cultural-china.com/en/34History7274.html>

2. Why did Mao and the communists ally themselves (join together) with the Nationalists?

## Shanghai Massacre

[http://www.askbiography.com/bio/Shanghai\\_massacre\\_of\\_1927.html](http://www.askbiography.com/bio/Shanghai_massacre_of_1927.html)

1. What was the Shanghai Massacre?
2. How did the Communists react?
3. Why would being in the rural areas allow them to build their following?

## Long March

<http://morningsun.org/living/longmarch/index.html>

<http://www.history.com/topics/long-march>

1. What was the Long March?
2. How many died?
3. How did Mao use the Long March to cement (make stronger) his leadership of the Chinese Communists?

## Second United Front

<http://history.cultural-china.com/en/34H7274H12446.html>

1. Why did the Nationalists and Communists band together for the Second United Front?

## Communist Victory in 1949

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1TOP3316JXY>

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/10/02/ap/asia/main5357505.shtml>

1. What tactics (military strategy) did the Communist forces prefer to use?
2. 16. Why did the peasants support Mao and the Communists?

Despite significant amounts of economic aid from the United States, Jiang Jieshi and the Nationalists are unable to defeat the CCP. Finally, in 1949, they are forced to flee to the island of Taiwan, where they set up the Republic of China in opposition to the new, communist People's Republic of China.

## The Great Leap Forward

Five Year Plan → [http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/china\\_five\\_year\\_plan.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/china_five_year_plan.htm)

1. What was the purpose of the Five Year Plan?
2. What year did this occur?
3. Using stats from the chart, how successful was the Great Leap?

Great Leap Forward → <http://chinese posters.net/themes/great-leap-forward.php>

1. Who was China trying to surpass with the Great Leap?

Impact / Importance → <http://asianhistory.about.com/od/asianhistoryfaqs/f/greatleapfaq.htm>

1. What effect did the Great Leap actually have on steel and food production?
2. How many people died in the resulting famine?

### Overview of the Cultural Revolution

<http://www.wellesley.edu/Polisci/wj/China1972/timeline.html>

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/static/special\\_report/1999/09/99/china\\_50/cult.htm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/static/special_report/1999/09/99/china_50/cult.htm)

1. When did the Cultural Revolution start and end, and why did it start and end?
2. Sum up the roles of (who were they and what did they do):
  - a. Lin Bao
  - b. Deng Xioping
  - c. Zhou Enlai
3. Who were the Red Guard, and what were their goals?
4. What was the Gang of Four (who were in it and what did they do)?
5. What was the Little Red Book, and why was it important?
6. Who/what were the “enemies” of the Cultural Revolution?

## Propaganda

Propaganda was an important part of the Cultural Revolution and can tell us something about its values. Furthermore, propaganda can be a great way to mobilize people and get them to support your ideas. Here are some songs from the Cultural Revolution → what are they trying to tell you?

### [Little Ping Pong Ball](#)

What does the sign say in the picture, and how is this different than what would be taught in America under a capitalist system?

### [Sailing the Seas Depends on the Helmsman](#)

Who is being praised in the song?

### [The People of the World Will Surely Be Victorious!](#)

Who is singled out as the enemy of the revolution?

Posters → <http://chinese posters.net/themes/cultural-revolution-campaigns.php>

1. Identify a common color in the posters. Why might this be important?
2. What types of people are commonly portrayed in these posters?

## The Importance of the Cultural Revolution

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIrUHVfkm9A&feature=related>  
[http://gcsehistory.org.uk/modernworld/maos\\_china/culturalrevolution\\_impact.htm](http://gcsehistory.org.uk/modernworld/maos_china/culturalrevolution_impact.htm)

1. What effects did it have on students / Red Guards (up to and including college)?
2. What were the larger impacts of the Cultural Revolution on the economy?
3. ***In your opinion***, was the Cultural Revolution a good or bad move by Mao? Why?