Lesson 2 China

Focus question: How did Mao consolidate the Communist state (’49 to ’61)?

This consolidation happened through key policies, land reforms, rectification campaigns and the 100 Flowers campaign.

Use the Todd Paper 3 textbook on the PRC

Take one of the first 5 questions and find the answer (everyone will do Qus 6 and 7):

1. Were conditions favourable for the CCP and the consolidation of the Communist state?

To answer this question, read Source 2.1 on p39 and Source 2.3 on p42.

Y – Greater popular support – 80% of population were peasants, many were welcoming of the actions of Mao.

Y – Had already developed the structures needed to be rule.

N – Still had the

1. Why was the Common Programme seen as necessary to help consolidate the Communist state?

To answer this question, use Source 2.4. In answering this question, make sure you define the “Democratic Dictatorship” and The Common Programme, using p43.

* To ensure that all the reactionary elements of old China were eliminated – landlords, ex nationalist supporters and old feudal traditions e.g. forced marriage.
* Democratic dictatorship: Democracy for the majority of the population.
* Common Programme: Programme of reform for the creation of a socialist China.

1. Why were the Rectification campaigns seen as necessary to consolidate the Communist state? To answer this question use Source 2.6 on p50. make sure you define the Sanfan and Wufan campaigns in your answer.

* Mao concerned by influence of counter revolutionaries.
* Needed to control towns – take out influence of the petty bourgeoisie.
* Needed to eliminate some of the old issues of corruption among the middleclass.

1. Why was land reform seen as necessary to consolidate the Communist state? To answer this question, use pp58 to 61.

* Need to produce more grain – not enough to feed population in inefficient landlord system.
* Famine = unpopularity.
* Need to remove landlord class and begin to move towards socialism.
* More efficient agriculture means more grain for cities + more wokers = development of industry.
* Expropriation of land from landlords to middle class peasants meant more support.

1. Why was the 100 Flowers campaign seen as necessary to consolidate the Communist state? To answer this question use pp86 and 87 and Source 3.1 on p88.

* Believed as on the road to socialism revolution was secure – some criticism may help to develop.
* Clash of ideas would allow for a development of technology and Science.
* Help to drive industrial development.

1. What were the motivations for, and results of all of the above? For the 100 Flowers campaign use p94 and Source 3.2 on p96. For the others, use deduction and read around the pages already mentioned.
2. Draw up the results as a mind map on the board (as a group) or as a “colourful” mind map (individually) with shapes, colours, symbols and images, with each question from 1 to 5 as an arm. Question 6 will form an extra bubble off each arm.
3. Now, answer the focus question.