

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Wednesday 14 January 2026

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI02/1B**

History

International Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Option 1B: China, 1900–76

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ALL** questions in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the development of communications in China in the years 1900–27?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(10)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

- 2 How accurate is it to say that the status of women in China improved in the years 1900–49?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3 How accurate is it to say that the leadership of Mao Zedong was the main reason for the survival of the Communists in the years 1927–49?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

OR

- 4 How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1950–76, Mao's economic policies achieved many positive results?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source 1: From an article in *The Times* newspaper by its reporter in Peking, published 4 January 1923. *The Times* was a British newspaper. Here the reporter comments on the construction of railway and telegraphy in China since 1900.

One result of the commercial competition between the Great Powers in China is seen in the Chinese railways. The railways are immensely profitable. However, the terms on which some railways were constructed are so disadvantageous that serious financial difficulties have resulted. If the Great Powers had worked together to develop railways on a good financial basis, the mileage in China would be twice what it is today. Then the whole system would be a tremendous Chinese national asset, with great benefit to foreign trade. 5

The lessons learned from railway development could be applied to the introduction of telegraphy. The introduction of telegraphy has led to the revival of international rivalry, and this rivalry is likely to have negative consequences for China. Whoever controls telegraphy will have a substantial advantage. It is relevant, therefore, to ask whether it is in China's interests for foreign powers to obtain such an advantage. Is it fair that foreign powers have imposed the heavy cost of telegraphy stations on China when these stations are, in reality, controlled by foreigners? 10 15



Source 2: From a big-character poster, 'Ignite the Cultural Revolution in the universities', written by Nie Yuanzi, 25 May 1966. Nie was a female academic at Beijing University when she displayed the poster. She became a leader of the Red Guards during the Cultural Revolution. Her poster was later published in the Communist Party newspaper and broadcast on the state radio.

At present, the people of the whole nation, in a revolutionary spirit, are making a great Cultural Revolution. They are demonstrating boundless love for the Party and Chairman Mao, and their hatred for the sinister anti-Party anti-socialist gang. They are struggling to smash the attacks of the reactionary sinister gang in defence of the Central Committee and Chairman Mao. 20

But here at Beijing University, the strong revolutionary desire of the vast number of the faculty staff and students is being suppressed. We, the masses, are being stopped from taking part.
What is the reason for this suppression?
There is something suspicious going on! 25

By 'guiding' the masses not to hold big meetings and not to put up big-character posters, aren't you suppressing the revolution?
Aren't you opposing their revolution?
We will never permit you to do this!
The revolutionary people must be incited to denounce enemies of the Party. 30

Revolutionary intellectuals – now is the time to go into battle! Let us unite, holding high the great red banner of Mao Zedong Thought.

Unite round the Central Committee and Chairman Mao and crush the plots of the revisionists.

Carry the socialist revolution through to the end. 35

Defend the Central Committee!

Defend Mao Zedong Thought!

Defend the dictatorship of the proletariat!

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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 based on: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/archive/article/1924-01-04/9/1.html#start%3D1900-01-01%26end%3D1927-12-01%26terms%3Dchina%20telegraphy%26back%3D/tto/archive/find/china+telegraphy/w:1900-01-01%7E1927-12-01/1%26prev%3D/tto/archive/frame/goto/china+telegraphy/w:1900-01-01%7E1927-12-01/7%26next%3D/tto/archive/frame/goto/china+telegraphy/w:1900-01-01%7E1927-12-01/9>

Source 2 from: <https://alphahistory.com/chineserevolution/ignite-cultural-revolution-1966/>

