

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Friday 23 January 2026

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI04/1D**

History

International Advanced

PAPER 4: International Study with Historical Interpretations

Option 1D: The Cold War and Hot War in Asia, 1945–90

You must have:
Extracts 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 Question 1 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 Question 1. Write your answer in the space provided.

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** How far do you agree with the view that the leadership of Communist China made the decision to enter the war in Korea in 1950 in order to gain prestige in China for the new communist regime?

Explain your answer using Extracts 1 and 2 and your knowledge of the issues related to this controversy.

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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 far do you agree that, in the years 1954–60, the USA became increasingly involved in South Vietnam mainly due to President Eisenhower's belief in the 'domino' theory?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3 How far do you agree that a period of rapid and significant economic growth was experienced throughout South-East Asia in the 1980s?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

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



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Extracts Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Extracts for use with Section A.

Extract 1: From T R Fehrenbach, *This Kind of War: The Classic Korean War History*, published in 1994.

In the autumn of 1950, the leadership of Communist China was ready and eager for war over Korea.

The newly-established Communist Government in China was fervent in its revolutionary desire to confront the 'evil' enemies it believed surrounded it. Most importantly it needed to become involved in a conflict such as that in Korea to secure its power in China. The Communist Party's hold over the millions of people spread across the vast regions of China was not yet consolidated. The Communist Party leadership believed that success in a controlled, limited war in Korea would consolidate the Chinese people behind them in a way that nothing else would.

Millions of people in China might be lacking in enthusiasm for the new Communist Government, but the Chinese were a very proud people with a resentment against the 'western world'. Even those Chinese who detested Communism would be delighted if China could show its power in the world again. The men who led the Chinese Communist Party understood this. If Communist China could challenge the 'West' in Korea – by defeating it or even just fighting to a standstill – they would gain more prestige than any Chinese rulers had for generations.

In September, Chinese forces began to march to the border with North Korea. When the 'western imperialists' advanced north to the Yalu River, the UN-US forces had a severe shock waiting for them.



Extract 2: From P C Roe, *The Dragon Strikes, China and the Korean War: June–December 1950*, published in 2000.

As early as August 1950, the Communist Chinese leadership indicated that US-UN action in Korea was a threat to Chinese security. It claimed that 'North Korea's enemy is our enemy. North Korea's defence is our defence'.

On 30 September, a statement from Communist China claimed that the Chinese people would not tolerate foreign aggression, nor would they tolerate their neighbours being 'savagely invaded by imperialists'. 25

As UN-US forces were preparing to move north, Kim Il Sung made a personal and urgent plea for help. Mao brought the Chinese leaders together on 2 October to consider Kim's request. Mao announced that there was no question of whether China would or would not send troops, just who would be in command and when troops would be sent. Mao informed Stalin that the Chinese had decided to send 'volunteers' to fight a defensive war in Korea. 30

Defence of the Chinese border was a major consideration. Communist China did not fear the presence of the South Korean army on the border, but Mao pointed out that US troops on the border would pose a real threat. The Chinese border with Korea would be very difficult and very costly to defend against a continued US military presence. 35

A telegram was sent to Kim Il Sung communicating the decision to support North Korea and the Chinese People's Volunteer force was established. 40

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Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: This Kind of War: The Classic Korean War History By T R Fehrenbach © Brassey's, 1994

Extract 2 from: The Dragon Strikes, China and the Korean War: June-December 1950 By P C Roe © Presidio Press, 2000

