**# 37-Crash Course World History Video Notes:**

**Communists, Nationalists, and China's Revolutions**

1. The 20th century was pretty big for China because it saw not one but two revolutions: one in 1911 and the more famous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ revolution of 1949.
2. So as you know doubt recall China lost the Opium wars in the 19th century, resulting in European domination, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, et cetera, all of which was deeply embarrassing to the Qing dynasty and led to calls for reform.
3. One strand of reform that called for China to adopt European military technology and education systems was called \_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and it was probably would have been a great idea, considering how well that worked for Japan. But it never happened in China--
4. Instead, China experienced the disastrous anti-Western \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rebellion of 1900, which helped spur some young liberals, including one named Sun Yat Sen, to plot the overthrow of the dynasty.
5. Sun Yat Sen, helped establish the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of China based on three principles of the people: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Democracy, and the People’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. So the 1911 revolution led to the end of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dynasty when the emperor (Puyi) abdicated and a new government was created.
7. Localism reasserted itself with large-scale \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with small-scale \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ruling all the parts of China that weren’t controlled by foreigners.
8. So the period in Chinese history between 1912 and 1949 is sometimes called the Chinese Republic, although that gives the government a bit too much credit. The leading group trying to re-form China into a nation state was the Guomindang (Kuomintang) but after 1920 the Chinese \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Party (CCP) was also in the mix.
9. An alliance between Communists and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ formed to reunify China. But then Sun Yat Sen died in 1925 and the alliance fell apart in 1927.
10. This turned out to be a bad break up for a bunch of reasons, but mainly because it started a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_between the Communists and the Nationalists.
11. Even though \_\_\_\_\_\_ Zedong emerged victorious, he and the communists were almost wiped out in 1934 except that they made a miraculous and harrowing escape, trekking from southern China to the mountains in the north in what has become famously known as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
12. For much of the time the Guomindang was trying to crush the CCP, significant portions of China were being occupied and/or invaded by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
13. In spite of the fact that Chiang Kai Shek had extensive support from the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ each time the Nationalists failed against the Japanese, their prestige among their fellow Chinese diminished. It wasn’t helped by Nationalist \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or their collecting onerous taxes from Chinese peasants, or stories about Nationalist troops putting on civilian clothes and abandoning the city of Nanking during its awful destruction by the Japanese army in 1937.
14. Meanwhile, the Communists were winning over the peasants in their northwestern enclave by making sure that troops didn’t pillage local land and by giving peasants a greater say in local \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
15. In a preview of things to come, in 1942 Mao initiated a “rectification” program. Which basically meant students and intellectuals were sent down into the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to give them a taste of what “real China” was like in an effort to re-educate them.
16. Within \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years of the end of World War II the Communists routed Chiang Kai Shek’s armies and sent them off to Taiwan and these military victories paved the way for Mao to declare the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of China on October 1, 1949.
17. So once in power, Mao and the PRC were faced with the task of creating a new, socialist state. Mao declared early on that the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ class in China would be the leaders of a “people’s democratic dictatorship.”
18. The PRC promised equal rights for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, rent reduction, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ redistribution, new heavy industry and lots of freedoms.
19. Land redistribution and reform meant destroying the power of landlords, often violently. But centralizing power and checking individual ambition proved difficult for the government, and it was made harder by China’s involvement in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ War, which helped spur the first mass campaign of Mao’s democratic dictatorship.
20. Between October 1950 and August 1951 28,332 people accused of being spies or counter-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were executed in Guandong city alone.
21. Mao and the CCP set out to turn China into an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ powerhouse by following the Soviet model.
22. Under the Soviet system, Russia was able to accomplish massive industrialization--not to mention tens of millions of deaths from starvation--through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ planning and collectivization of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, following what were known as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Year Plans.
23. The Chinese Five Year Plans began in 1953 and the first one worked even better than expected, with industry increasing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more than projected. In order for this to work though, the peasants had to grow lots of grain and sell it at extremely low prices which kept inflation in check.
24. For \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ workers, living standards improved and China’s population grew to 646 million.
25. There was no way that China could keep up that growth, especially without some backsliding into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. So Mao came up with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
26. Mao essentially decided that the nation could be psyched up into more industrial productivity. He famously ordered that individuals build small steel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their backyard to increase steel production.
27. The worst idea was to pay for heavy machinery from the USSR with exported \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This meant there was less for peasants to eat—and as a result, between 1959 and 1962, \_\_\_\_\_ million people died,
28. By the middle of the sixties, Mao was afraid that China’s revolution was running out of steam, and he didn’t want China to end up just a bureaucratized \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state like most of the Soviet bloc…so, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Revolution was an attempt to capture the glory days of the revolution and fire up the masses, and what better way to do that than to empower the kids.
29. Frustrated students who were unable find decent, fulfilling jobs jumped at the chance to denounce their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, employers, and sometimes even their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and to tear down tradition, which often meant demolishing buildings and art.
30. The ranks of these “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” swelled and anyone representing the so-called “\_\_\_\_ olds” —old culture, old habits, old ideas, and old customs—was subject to humiliation and violence. Intellectuals were again sent to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as they were in 1942; millions were persecuted; and countless historical and religious artifacts were destroyed.
31. But the real aim of the Cultural Revolution was to consolidate Mao’s revolution, and while his image still looms large, it’s hard to say that China these days is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ state.
32. Many would argue that Mao’s revolution was extremely short-lived, and that the real change in China happened in 1911. That’s when the Chinese Republic ended \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_years of dynastic history and forever broke the cyclical pattern the Chinese had used to understand their past.