



Class	Adm No

2015 Promotional Examination 2

Pre-University 2

CHINA STUDIES IN ENGLISH (HIGHER 1)
Paper 1

8817/ 01
1 September 2015

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your name and home tutorial group on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Use only the strings provided to fasten your work together.

Section A

Answer question 1.

Section B

Answer **two** questions. Answer **either** question 2 **or** 3 **and** either question 4 **or** question 5.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

2
Section A
Case Study
The Chinese Communist Party

1 Read the following sources and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A

Top CCP leaders have resolved to resist all forms of political reform. The result is, unfortunately, an increasingly sclerotic party, captured by special interests, and corrupt and decadent opportunists like the disgraced former Chongqing party boss Bo Xilai. It may have over 80 million members, but most of them join the party to exploit the pecuniary benefits it provides. They themselves have become a special interest group disconnected with Chinese society.

Confidence in the party's internal cohesion and leadership has already been shaken by the Bo affair, endemic corruption, stagnation of reform in the last decade, a slowing economy, deteriorating relations with neighbors and the United States, and growing social unrest. The questions on many people's minds these days are how long the party can hold on to its power and whether the party can manage a democratic transition to save itself.

That leaves the CCP with only one viable option: the Taiwan-Mexican path of self-renewal and transformation. The one-party regimes in Taiwan and Mexico are, without doubt, the most successful ones in transforming themselves into multi-party democracies in the last quarter century. Making the entire political system more democratic, mainly through competitive elections in cities and states, will provide the ruling elites an opportunity to learn a critical skill: seeking support from voters and winning elections. Such skills cannot be learned through the dubious exercise of inner-party democracy, which is simply another name for elite bargaining and manipulation.

From a current affairs periodical based in Tokyo, published in 2012.

Source B

The Communist Party of China is the vanguard of the Chinese working class as well as the Chinese people and the Chinese nation. It is the core of leadership for the cause of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The Party represents the development trend of China's advanced productive forces, the orientation of China's advanced culture and the fundamental interests of the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people (the Three Represents).

The Communist Party of China takes Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory and the important thought of Three Represents as its guide to action.

The basic line of the Communist Party of China at the primary stage of socialism is to lead the people of all ethnic groups in a concerted, self-reliant and pioneering effort to turn China into a prosperous, strong, democratic and culturally advanced modern socialist country by making economic development our central task while adhering to the Four Cardinal Principles and persevering in the reform and opening up.

From the official website of the Chinese Communist Party, published in 2013.

Source C

The ways in which the Communist Party of China is able to assert control over the government machinery are manifold. Put in the starkest terms, Xi Jinping is the most powerful man in China now, at least on paper — he heads the party and sits as number one on the Standing Committee. Li Keqiang, the premier and head of government, comes in at number two. This hierarchy tells us where the final power still really lies.

Defining the space where the party legitimately operates and where the government works is not an issue that will go away any time soon. There is a stark contrast in the ways the two bodies operate. The government, through its ministries and central and local bureaucracies, tries to perform its functions transparently, with fiscal accountability and to defined outcomes. But the party exists in a more nebulous space, and its lack of openness, the secrecy around how it governs itself and the ways in which it functions are increasingly problematic for effective governance of the Chinese state.

From an article by an Australian political scientist, published in 2013.

Source D

The Chinese Communist Party's 73-million membership makes it the biggest political party in the world. Its tight organisation and ruthlessness help explain why it is also still in power.

The party oversees and influences many aspects of people's lives - what they learn at school and watch on TV, their jobs and housing, even the number of children they are allowed.

It is an elite group made up largely of government officials, army officers and model workers. Business people are also now being invited to join its ranks.

Joining the party brings significant privileges, which explains why membership continues to rise. Members get access to better information, their children get better schooling, and many jobs are only open to members.

Most significantly in China, where personal relationships are often more important than ability, members get to network with decision-makers influencing their careers, lives or businesses.

From the website of the British Broadcasting Corporation, 2009.

Answer all the following questions.

- a) With reference to Source A, explain the challenges faced by the Chinese Communist Party in maintaining its authority in China today. [6]
- b) Using Sources B, C and D, evaluate the contributions of the Chinese Communist Party towards governance in China. [9]
- c) You are an advisor to the CCP on the effectiveness of its governance. Drawing on information in the sources and your knowledge, identify the **two** most significant challenges to governance and evaluate the current and future impact of these challenges. [15]

Section B

Answer **TWO** questions from this section.

Either

- 2 “There are more reasons for conflict than cooperation between China and the USA.” Discuss this view. [25]

Or

- 3 To what extent do relations between China and Taiwan continue to pose challenges to China’s national integrity? [25]

And either

- 4 ‘The main impact of the modernisation of China since 1978 has been changes to the family structure and values.’ Assess this view. [25]

Or

- 5 ‘The challenges caused by China’s economic development outweigh its achievements.’ Discuss. [25]

Copyright Acknowledgements:

- Source A Minxin Pei; <http://thediplomat.com/2012/10/is-chinas-communist-party-doomed/1/>; 1 October 2012..
 - Source B <http://english.cpc.people.com.cn>; 29 March 2013.
 - Source C K. Brown; <http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2013/08/12/the-challenge-of-chinas-governance>; 12 August 2013.
 - Source D http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/in_depth/china_politics/government/html/1.stm; 2009.
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