

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 recall China lost the _____ in the 19th century, resulting in European domination, spheres of influence, 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 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 **three principles** of the people: _____, Democracy, and the People's _____.
6. **Localism** reasserted itself with large-scale _____ with small-scale _____ ruling all the parts of China that weren't controlled by foreigners.
7. 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 reform China into a nation state was the Guomindang (Kuomintang)** but after 1920 the Chinese _____ Party (CCP) was also in the mix.
8. An alliance between Communists and _____ formed to reunify China. But then Sun Yat Sen died in 1925 and the alliance fell apart in 1927.
9. 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.
10. Even though _____ Zedong emerged victorious, he and the communists were almost wiped out in 1934 except that they made a miraculous and harrowing escape.
11. For much of the time the Guomindang was trying to crush the CCP, significant portions of China were being occupied and/or invaded by _____.
12. 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.

13. 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 _____.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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."
17. The PRC promised equal rights for _____, rent reduction, _____ redistribution, new heavy industry and lots of freedoms.
18. **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.
19. Between October 1950 and August 1951 **28,332 people accused** of being spies or counter-_____ were **executed** in Guandong city alone.
20. Mao and the CCP set out to turn China into an _____ powerhouse by **following the Soviet model**.
21. 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.
22. 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.

23. For _____ workers, living standards improved and China's population grew to 646 million.
24. There was no way that China could keep up that growth, especially without some backsliding into _____. So Mao came up with the _____.
25. 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,
26. 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**.
27. 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.
28. 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.
29. 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.
30. 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.

#39—Crash Course World History Video Notes Cold War

1. The **Cold War** was a rivalry between the _____ and the _____ that played out **globally**.
2. _____, at least **as Marx constructed it**, wanted to take over the world, and many Soviets saw themselves in a conflict with bourgeois capitalism itself. The **Soviets saw American** rebuilding efforts in _____ and _____ as the U.S. **trying to expand its** markets.

3. The **U.S. feared that the USSR** wanted to destroy _____ and capitalist institutions. And the **Soviets feared that the US** wanted to use its money and power to dominate Europe and eventually destroy the _____ system. Both parties were right to be worried.
4. Of all the geopolitical struggles between major world powers this time there was the special added bonus that war could lead to the _____ of the human species.
5. Immediately after World War II, the **Soviets created a sphere of influence** in Eastern _____, **dominating the countries where the Red Army had pushed back the Nazis**, which is why Winston Churchill famously said in 1946 that an “_____” had descended across Europe.
6. While the dates of the **Cold War** are usually given between **1945 and 1990**, a number of historians will tell you that it **actually started during World War II**. _____ distrust of the U.S. and Britain kept growing as they refused to invade Europe and open up a second front against the Nazis. And some even say that the decision to drop the first Atomic Bombs on _____ was motivated in part by a desire to intimidate the Soviets.
7. The **Soviets would develop atomic bombs** of their own—they successfully tested their first one in _____.
8. From the beginning, the **U.S had the advantage** because it had more _____ and _____ and could provide Europe protection what with its army and one of a kind nuclear arsenal while Europe rebuilt. The USSR had to rebuild itself.
9. Europe was the first battleground of the Cold War, especially _____, which was divided into 2 parts with the former capital, **Berlin**, also divided into 2 parts. In 1948, the Soviets tried to cut off West Berlin, by closing the main road that led into the city, but the Berlin _____ stopped them.
10. Then in **1961**, the Soviets tried again & this time they were much more successful building a _____ around West Berlin, although it's worth noting that it was up for less than 30 years.
11. The **U.S. response** to the Soviets was a policy called _____. In Europe this meant spending a lot of money. First the _____ Plan spent \$13 billion on **rebuilding Western Europe** with grants and credits that Europeans would spend on American consumer goods and on construction.
12. **The US also tried to slow the spread of communism by founding _____.**

13. Probably the most important part of the Cold War that people just don't remember these days is the nuclear _____. Both sides developed nuclear arsenals, the Soviets initially with the help of spies who stole American secrets. Eventually the nuclear arsenals were so big that the U.S. and USSR agreed on a strategy appropriately called _____, which stood for "**mutually assured destruction.**"
14. We were close to nuclear war during the 1962 _____ **Missile Crisis.**
15. There was plenty of **hot war in the Cold War.** The _____ War saw lots of fighting between communists and capitalists, as did the _____ War. The USA feared "_____ " after Korea and especially China became communist, Vietnam's movement toward communism seemed very much a threat to Japan, which the U.S. had helped re-make into a vibrant capitalist ally.
16. But it wasn't just Asia: The **U. S. attempted to stabilize governments** in _____; **which led to some very unstable Latin American governments,** and quite a lot of violence.
17. And then there were the lukewarm conflicts, like The _____ Crisis where British and French paratroopers were sent in to try to stop Egypt from nationalizing the Suez Canal. Or all the American covert operations by the _____ to keep various countries from "falling" to communism.
18. The **Soviets used force to crush popular uprisings** in _____ in 1956 and in Czechoslovakia in 1968.
19. Almost every part of the globe was involved in some way with the planet being divided into **three "worlds."** The **first world** was the U.S., Western Europe and any place that embraced _____ and a more or less democratic form of government. The **second world** was the _____ and its satellites, mostly the Warsaw Pact nations, China and Cuba. The **Third World** was everyone else.
20. During the Cold War, the Soviets were the first to put a _____, a man, and a dog into **space.**
21. Soviet socialism did not finally prove to be a viable alternative to industrial capitalism. Over time, _____ - _____ economies just generally don't fare as well as private enterprise, and people like living in a world where they can have more stuff.
22. More importantly, **Soviet policies were just bad:** collectivized _____ stymied production and led to famine; suppression of dissent and traditional _____ **made people angry.**

23. But **why the Cold War ended when it did is one of the most interesting questions of the 20th century.** It probably wasn't Ronald Reagan bankrupting the Soviets, despite what some politicians believe. The USSR had more _____ states that it needed to spend more to prop up than the U.S. had to invest in its Allies. And the Soviet system could never keep up with economic growth in the West.
24. Probably the individual most responsible for the end of the Cold War was **Mikhail Gorbachev.** **Perestroika and Glosnost opened up the Soviet political and economic systems** with contested local _____, less restricted civil society groups, less censorship, more autonomy for the Soviet Republics, more non-state-run businesses and more autonomy for state-run farms.
25. **Glasnost** or “_____” led to more information from the west and less censorship led to a flood of criticism as people realized how much poorer the second world was than the first.
26. One by one, often quite suddenly, **former communist states collapsed.** In Germany, the _____ came down in 1989 and East and West Germany were reunited in _____.
27. In **Poland**, the Gdansk Dockworkers Union Solidarity turned into a mass political movement and won _____ of the 100 seats it was allowed to contest in the 1989 election.
28. **Hungary** held _____ elections in 1990. The same year, mass demonstrations led to elections in **Czechoslovakia.** In _____, that country split up into Slovakia & the Czech Republic.
29. Of course **sometimes the transition away from communism was violent** and painful. In _____, for instance, the communist dictator Ceaucescu held onto power until he was tried and put before a firing squad at the end of 1989. It took until 1996 for a non-communist government to take power there. In Yugoslavia, well, not so great...
30. Just twenty years later, it's hard to believe that the world was once dominated by two _____ held in check mutually assured destruction.