Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y317/01 China and its Rulers 1839–1989

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section A

Read the **two** passages and answer Question 1.

1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages.

Explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the nature and course of the Cultural Revolution. **[30]**

Passage A

© Michael Lynch, The People's Republic of China since 1949, pps 47-48, Hodder & Stoughton, 1998. From first line "The sheer enthusiasm of the Red Guards soon led the movement to turn in on itself." to last line "Army units travelled throughout China in a campaign to impress upon the people the inte

Passage B

© Jon Halliday; Jung Chang, Mao: The Unknown Story, pps 652-653, Vintage Books, 2007. From first line "The commander [in Wuhan] General Chen was deeply opposed to the Cultural Revolution," to last line "who took a fearsome beating." Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

Section B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* ‘Throughout the period from 1839 to 1989, changes to the nature of government in China were only possible through violence.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

3* ‘The most important change in the Chinese economy during the period from 1839 to 1989 was the growth of industry.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

4* ‘The Korean War (1950–1953) was the most important turning point in Chinese relations with the wider world during the period from 1839 to 1989.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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