

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

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|-------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Candidate surname |  |  |  |  | Other names      |  |  |  |  |
| Centre Number     |  |  |  |  | Candidate Number |  |  |  |  |
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**Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level**

**Wednesday 20 May 2026**

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI02/1B**

**History**

**International Advanced Subsidiary**

**PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation**

**Option 1B: China, 1900–76**

**You must have:**  
Sources 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 **ALL** questions 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 ►

P79230A

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P:1/1/1/1



  
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## SECTION A

**Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.**

**Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.**

- 1** (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the changes introduced for women in the new Marriage Law of 1950?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

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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 accurate is it to say that, in the years 1900–19, foreign influence in China was strengthened?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

### OR

- 3 How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1949–76, Mao's policies towards agriculture were a complete failure?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

### OR

- 4 How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1949–76, the role played by Deng Xiaoping in the Government of China was more significant than the role played by Liu Shaoqi in the Government of China?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒      **Question 3** ☒      **Question 4** ☒

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



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**Wednesday 20 May 2026**

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper  
reference

**WHI02/1B**

## **History**

**International Advanced Subsidiary**

**PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation**

**Option 1B: China, 1900–76**

**Sources Booklet**

**Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.**

*Turn over* ►

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### Sources for use with Section A.

**Source 1:** From a report published in an Australian newspaper, 13 May 1950. Here it comments on the Marriage Law passed by the new Communist Government in China.

Red China has a radical new marriage and divorce law. It gives women full legal equality with men, plus special protection as mothers. It frees both men and women from bossy parents and in-laws, who have dominated Chinese marriages for centuries.

The new law was passed by the Communist Government in Beijing. It outlaws the old 'feudal' marriage system, which for thousands of years has tolerated polygamy, the sale of women and their lifelong subjugation to men in most of China. 5

Polygamy, concubines, child marriage and child betrothals are banned. So is interference in the right of a widow to remarry. Getting married will simply be a matter of mutual consent with registration by the local government that issues a certificate. China's news organisation does not explain how the new law is going to be enforced in a society that has been practising pretty much the opposite system. 10

**Source 2:** From Jung Chang, *Wild Swans*, published in the West in 1991. Jung was born in 1952. Her parents were leading Communist Party officials. She was an enthusiastic Communist but later rejected Maoism after the imprisonment of her parents and left China in 1978. Here she reflects on what she learned about the 1946–49 civil war.

The Guomindang position deteriorated and not only because of military action. 15  
Corruption caused chaos. Inflation had risen to the unimaginable figure of just  
over 100,000 per cent by the end of 1947. Inflation increased to nearly  
3 million per cent by the end of 1948 in the Guomindang areas. For civilians,  
the situation was becoming more desperate every day. Increasingly, any  
available food went to the army and much of it was then sold by local 20  
commanders on the black market.

It was Communist policy not to execute anyone who surrendered, and to treat  
all prisoners well. This helped win over the ordinary Guomindang soldiers, most  
of whom came from poor peasant families. The Communists did not run prison  
camps. They kept only middle- and high-ranking officers and released the rest 25  
almost immediately. The Communists held meetings for the captured soldiers,  
at which they were encouraged to speak up about their hard lives as landless  
peasants.

The Communists said the revolution was all about giving peasants land. The  
Guomindang soldiers were given a choice: either they could go home, or they 30  
could stay with the Communists to help wipe out the Guomindang. Most  
willingly stayed and joined the Communist army.

Another thing that gained the goodwill of the locals was the discipline of the  
Communist soldiers. Not only was there no looting or rape, but many went out  
of their way to demonstrate exemplary behaviour. This was in sharp contrast 35  
with the Guomindang troops.

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**Acknowledgements**

**Source 1 from:**

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/63467281>

**Source 2 from:**

<https://alphahistory.com/chineserevolution/jung-chang-ccp-public-support-1986/>

