In the late 1940s, communism made advances in East Asia. With their victory in China in 1949, the Communists gained control of one fifth of the world’s people.

### China’s Communist Revolution

By the end of World War II, the Chinese Communists had gained control of much of northern China. After Japan’s defeat, Communist forces led by Mao Zedong (Mao Tse-tung) fought a civil war against Nationalists headed by Jiang Jieshi (jiang jeh shur). Battles raged until Mao’s forces swept to victory and set up the People’s Republic of China. The defeated Nationalists fled to the island of Taiwan, off the Chinese coast. After decades of struggle, China was finally under Communist control.

#### How the Communists Won

Mao’s Communists triumphed for several reasons. Mao had won the support of China’s huge peasant population. Peasants had long suffered from brutal landlords and crushing taxes. The Communists redistributed land to poor peasants and ended oppression by landlords.

While support for the Communists grew, the Nationalists lost popularity. Nationalist policies had led to widespread economic hardship. Many Chinese people also resented corruption in Jiang’s government and the government’s reliance on support from Western “imperialist” powers. They hoped that the Communists would build a new China and end foreign domination.

Widespread support for the Communists in the countryside helped them to capture rail lines and surround Nationalist-held cities. One after another, these cities fell, and Mao’s People’s Liberation Army dominated over much of China.

The “little red book” of quotations from Mao Zedong

**WITNESS HISTORY**

**Communist Victory in China**

On September 21, 1949, at a rally in the Chinese capital, Beijng, the victorious communist leader Mao Zedong said:

“We have closed our ranks and defeated both domestic and foreign oppressors through the People’s War of Liberation and the great people’s revolution, and now we are proclaiming the founding of the People’s Republic of China.”

**Focus Question**

What did the communist victory mean for China and the rest of East Asia?

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### Prepare to Read

**Build Background Knowledge**

Ask students to recall the essential conflicts of the Cold War, and how these conflicts affected the nations of China and Korea. Based on their previous reading, ask them to predict ways that China and Korea might change during the Cold War era.

**Set a Purpose**

- **WITNESS HISTORY**
  - Read the selection. Ask **What emotions do you hear in Mao Zedong’s words?** (pride and defiance) Based on Mao’s words and the photo, what was the nature of China’s revolution? (a mass movement backed by military force)

- **Focus**
  - Point out the Section Focus Question and write it on the board. Tell students to refer to this question as they read. (Answer appears with Section 3 Assessment answers.)

- **Preview**
  - Have students preview the Section Objectives and the list of Terms, People, and Places.

- **Note Taking**
  - Have students preview this section using the Structured Read Aloud strategy (TE, p. T20). As they read, have students fill in the chart summarizing effects of communism and the Cold War on China and Korea.

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### Vocabulary Builder

Use the information below and the following resources to teach the high-use word from this section.

**High-Use Word**

**commune (p. 800)**

**Definition**

A commonly owned and operated farm or community

**Sample Sentence**

We visited several communes where I was impressed by the cooperation I saw.
From 1958 to 1960, Mao led a policy known as the Great Leap Forward. Its goal was to purge the country of “bourgeoisie,” particularly during the Cultural Revolution. A typical communist nation was established under a centralized government and economy. Its people endured great suffering because of the government’s brutal policies and poor decisions.

Quick Activity Have students read the biography of Mao Zedong on this page and review the visuals in this section. Discuss what qualities or characteristics enabled Mao to capture a nation’s support and allowed him to carry out extreme policies.

Teach

Instruct

Introduce Have students read the introductory paragraph and the black headings under China’s Communist Revolution. Have students predict what challenges China will face during its Communist Revolution. Then have students read to find out whether their predictions were accurate.

Teach Review the key events of China’s Communist Revolution. Discuss the revolution’s goals and its methods. Then ask How did China change as a result of its Communist Revolution? (It became a communist nation with a centralized government and economy. Its people endured great suffering because of the government’s brutal policies and poor decisions.)

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Independent Practice

Remind students of Chinese efforts to identify and eliminate “counterrevolutionaries,” particularly during the Cultural Revolution. Using the Think-Write-Pair-Share strategy (TE, p. T23), have students write a paragraph on whether this policy was in the nation’s long-term interest.

Monitor Progress

Ask students to reread the black headings and summarize the content under each one.

Answer

BIOGRAPHY He executed anyone who threatened his power and sent critics to the countryside for forced labor.

BIography

Mao Zedong During the mid-1950s, divisions arose within the Communist Party in China. In response, Mao Zedong (1893–1976) launched a campaign under the slogan “Let a hundred flowers bloom, let a hundred thoughts contend.” Mao hoped that by offering people the opportunity to openly express their views he would gain more support. When people began to criticize the Communist Party, however, Mao ended the campaign. Of the nearly 550,000 Chinese who had spoken out, thousands were executed and hundreds of thousands were exiled to the countryside to “rectify their thinking through labor.” What methods did Mao use to keep power for himself?

Teach

China’s Communist Revolution

Instruct

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BIOGRAPHY He executed anyone who threatened his power and sent critics to the countryside for forced labor.

Less Proficient Readers

Have students identify each change in China mentioned in the text and give examples of how those changes led to upheaval in that country. Then ask students to draw a flowchart of the events of the Chinese Communist Revolution.

Use the following resources to help students acquire basic skills.

Adapted Reading and Note Taking Study Guide

Adapted Note Taking Study Guide, p. 278

Adapted Section Summary, p. 279
In response, teenagers formed bands of Red Guards. Waving copies of the "little red book," Quotations From Chairman Mao Tse-tung (Zedong), Red Guards attacked those they considered bourgeois. The accused were publicly humiliated or beaten, and sometimes even killed. Skilled workers and managers were forced to leave their jobs and do manual labor on rural farms or in forced labor camps. Schools and factories closed. The economy slowed, and civil war threatened. Finally, Mao had the army restore order.

Checkpoint What were the main successes and failures of the Chinese Communist Revolution?

China, the Cold War's "Wild Card"

In 1949, the triumph of the Communists in China had seemed like a gain for the Soviet Union and a loss for the United States and its democratic allies. The number of people under communist rule had more than tripled. China's role in the Cold War, however, proved to be more complex than a simple expansion of communist power.

Split With the Soviet Union The People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union were uneasy allies in the 1950s. Stalin sent economic aid and technical experts to help China modernize, but distrust between the two countries created tensions. Some of these tensions dated back to territorial disputes between tsarist Russia and dynastic China. By 1960, border clashes and disputes over ideology led the Soviets to withdraw all aid and advisors from China. Western fears of a strong alliance between the Soviet Union and China had proved unfounded.

Ping-Pong Diplomacy The rise in relations between the United States and China was a gradual process. The first tentative communications were sent via Yahya Khan, the president of Pakistan, who was friendly with both governments. In the first public sign of improved relations, Mao's regime invited the U.S. Ping-Pong team to visit China. The team toured the Great Wall and the Summer Palace and played exhibition games against their host. The trip became known as Ping-Pong Diplomacy. Soon after, presidential advisor Henry Kissinger secretly traveled to China to meet Premier Chou En-lai, paving the way for Nixon's historic visit.

Promoting the Cultural Revolution The Cultural Revolution poster above shows soldiers and citizens holding "little red books." The photo to the left shows Chinese soldiers waving their "little red books" during this same period. What do these images suggest about freedom of speech and freedom of thought during the Cultural Revolution in China?

History Background

Ping-Pong Diplomacy The rise in relations between the United States and China was a gradual process. The first tentative communications were sent via Yahya Khan, the president of Pakistan, who was friendly with both governments. In the first public sign of improved relations, Mao's regime invited the U.S. Ping-Pong team to visit China. The team toured the Great Wall and the Summer Palace and played exhibition games against their host. The trip became known as Ping-Pong Diplomacy. Soon after, presidential advisor Henry Kissinger secretly traveled to China to meet Premier Chou En-lai, paving the way for Nixon's historic visit.

China's main successes were improved public infrastructure and somewhat improved public hygiene. The Revolution's main failures were the purges of intellectuals, the failure of the Great Leap Forward, and inadequate progress in improving productivity.

Caption that the government tried to control all thought and expression, and that Mao Zedong was the ultimate authority.
Independent Practice
Tell students to suppose they are a team of specialists assigned to prepare a briefing for the U.S. president, so he can stay abreast of events. Have them prepare a brief but thorough report on relations with China and Taiwan during the Cold War, including the pros and cons of the current situation. Ensure that students understand the inherent compromises in the U.S. position.

Monitor Progress
As students fill in their charts, circulate to make sure they understand how China's Communist Revolution affected the nation. For a completed version of the chart, see Note Taking Transparencies, 191

Washington Plays the China Card
Relations between China and the United States were even more complex. After Jiang Jieshi (Chiang Kai-shek) fled to Taiwan, the United States supported his Nationalist government as the rightful representative of China. Washington refused diplomatic recognition of the mainland People's Republic of China, which American leaders saw as a communist threat to all of Asia.

As the Cold War dragged on, however, the United States took a second look at the People's Republic. From the American point of view, there were strategic advantages to improving relations with Communist China after its split with the Soviet Union. By "playing the China card," as this strategy was sometimes called, the United States might isolate the Soviets between NATO in the west and a hostile China in the east.

The United States allowed the People's Republic to replace Taiwan in the United Nations in 1971. A year later, U.S. President Richard Nixon visited Mao in Beijing. Finally, in 1979, the United States set up formal diplomatic relations with China.

Taiwan and the Nationalists
Jiang Jieshi's government continued to rule Taiwan under martial law as a one-party dictatorship. Not until the late 1980s did Taiwan's government end martial law and allow opposition
Korea was an independent kingdom until Japan conquered it in the early twentieth century. After Japan’s defeat in World War II, Soviet and American forces agreed to divide Korea temporarily along the 38th parallel of latitude. However, North Korea, ruled by the communist government insisted that Taiwan be rejoined with China. Taiwan’s government resisted such pressure.

Checkpoint How did China’s relationships with the Soviet Union and the United States change during the Cold War?

War Comes to Korea

The nation of Korea occupies a peninsula on China’s northeastern border. Like East and West Germany, Korea was split in two by rival forces after World War II. And like other divided lands, the two Koreas found themselves on opposite sides in the Cold War.

A Divided Nation

Korea was an independent kingdom until Japan conquered it in the early twentieth century. After Japan’s defeat in World War II, Soviet and American forces agreed to divide Korea temporarily along the 38th parallel of latitude. However, North Korea, ruled by the

Map Skills In June 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea. U.S. troops made up the bulk of the UN force that aided South Korea. When UN troops reached the Chinese border, communist China sent troops to aid North Korea.

1. Locate (a) the 38th parallel (b) Pusan (c) Inch’on (d) Yalu River
2. Movement Which nation gained new territory by the end of the war?
3. Draw Conclusions How might UN forces have avoided war with China?

UN Fights Back

Fall 1950 UN forces land at Inch’on, break out of the Pusan Perimeter, and advance to the Yalu River.

China Enters the War

Late Fall–Early Winter 1950–1951 Chinese and North Korean forces push UN forces back to the 37th parallel.

Stalemate

1951–1953 UN forces advance to the 38th parallel in January 1951. A ceasefire in June 1953 ends a long stalemate.

Link to Geography

Frostbite in Korea U.S. troops in Korea were not only fighting Communism; they also fought frostbite. The troops first landed in Korea during the summer, when the temperature was high, the air humid. The military was not prepared for the Korean winters, when Siberian air masses flowed south over the country; the temperature typically dipped below zero. Soldiers camped outside during the harsh conditions. During one battle at the Chosin Reservoir, the temperature reached 40 degrees below zero, yet the troops still wore summer uniforms. In the first year of battle alone, an estimated 5,300 troops suffered some form of frostbite. By war’s end, the number would be in the tens of thousands.

War Comes to Korea

Instruct

• Introduce Explain that in the post-war years, Koreans fought a civil war over political and ideological control of their nation. Ask students what, given the Cold War climate of the period, they think the central issues might be in that war.

• Teach Write the headings North Korea and South Korea on the board. Ask students to supply details describing the two nations. Write their answers on the board. Then ask What role did the United Nations and China each play in the conflict between the two Koreas? (The United Nations sent mostly American military aid to support South Korea, and China sent military aid to support North Korea.)

• Quick Activity Ask a volunteer to define the word stalemate and explain how this word applies to the Korean War. Then ask student groups to discuss and explain why each side in the Korean War fought so hard and how living in this divided land might have affected the Korean people.

Independent Practice

Have students access PearsonSchool.com/WorldHist to take the Geography Interactive Audio Guided Tour and then answer the map questions in the text.

Monitor Progress

Check answers to map skills questions.

Answers

• China’s relationship with the Soviet Union deteriorated during the Cold War because of rivalries over ideology and borders. China’s relationship with the United States improved as the Cold War progressed, because the United States saw China as a useful partner in its conflict with the Soviet Union.

• Map Skills 1. Review locations with students. 2. Both the North and South gained and lost territory during the war, but ultimately the border was restored to a position close to the 38th parallel. 3. by avoiding the Chinese border
Two Koreas

Instruct

- **Introduce** Tell students that the text compares a divided Korea to a divided Germany. Ask them to predict how these nations would be similar, politically and ideologically. What roles were these areas likely to play in the Cold War conflict?

- **Teach** Draw a Venn diagram on the board, labeled Korea, Germany, and Both. Have students supply facts to compare and contrast the two divided nations. Ask In what ways were divided Korea and divided Germany similar? (Both were divided into communist command economies and capitalist market economies. In both cases, capitalists thrived and communists struggled.) How did they differ? (South Korea was not democratic, while West Germany was. North Korea had one dictator, while East Germany had many leaders. Korea remained divided after the Cold War while Germany was unified.)

- **Quick Activity** Invite students to suggest reasons why command economies seem to stagnate, while market economies seem to thrive.

Independent Practice

Have students use the Venn diagram on the board to write a paragraph comparing and contrasting the economies and the postwar developments of North Korea and South Korea.

Monitor Progress

As students work on their paragraphs, circulate to ensure that they understand the differences between a market economy and a command economy.

Answers

**Caption** relative safety and a better vantage point

China got involved in the Korean War when it felt threatened by UN forces on its borders. China wanted to help the Communist North Koreans.

**Differentiated Instruction Solutions for All Learners**

- **Less Proficient Readers**
  
  In small groups, have students create a Venn diagram to record the comparisons made in the section between the Two Koreas and the Two Germanys during the Cold War. This will help them organize the information and make connections across regions. Then discuss with students what might account for the differences between these divided nations (Sample: geography, culture, history, economics).

- **Gifted and Talented**
  
  Have students research the current state of affairs of North and South Korea. Ask them to answer the following questions: How does each country’s current situation compare to that of the 1950s? What is the United States’ current relationship with each country? How have events from the Cold War influenced these relations?
Two Koreas

Like the two Germanys, North and South Korea developed separately after the armistice—North Korea as a communist command economy, South Korea as a capitalist market economy. As in Germany, the capitalist portion of the country had an economic boom and rising standards of living, while the communist zone went through economic stagnation and decline. Also as in Germany, the United States gave economic and military aid to capitalist South Korea, while the Soviets helped the communist north.

Unlike democratic West Germany, however, South Korea was governed by a series of dictators and military rulers during much of the Cold War. Unlike East Germany, where a series of officials led the communist government, a single dictator controlled North Korea throughout the Cold War. Whereas Germany was reunited at the end of the Cold War, Korea remained divided.

South Korea Recovers After the war, South Korea slowly rebuilt its economy. By the mid-1960s, South Korea's economy had leapt ahead. After decades of dictatorship and military rule, a prosperous middle class and fierce student protests pushed the government to hold direct elections in 1987. These elections began a successful transition to democracy. Despite the bloody Korean War, most South Koreans during the Cold War years wanted to see their ancient nation reunited, as did many North Koreans. All Koreans shared the same history, language, and traditions. For many, this meant more than Cold War differences.

North Korea Digs In Under Kim Il Sung, the command economy increased output for a time in North Korea. However, in the late 1960s, economic growth slowed. Kim's emphasis on self-reliance kept North Korea isolated and poor. The government built a personality cult around Kim, who was constantly glorified as the "Great Leader" in propaganda. Even after its Soviet and Chinese allies undertook economic reforms in the 1980s, North Korea clung to hard-line communism.

Checkpoint How did North Korea's economic performance compare to South Korea's?