

**CHAPTER 14 Section 3 (pages 448–452)**

# Imperial China Collapses

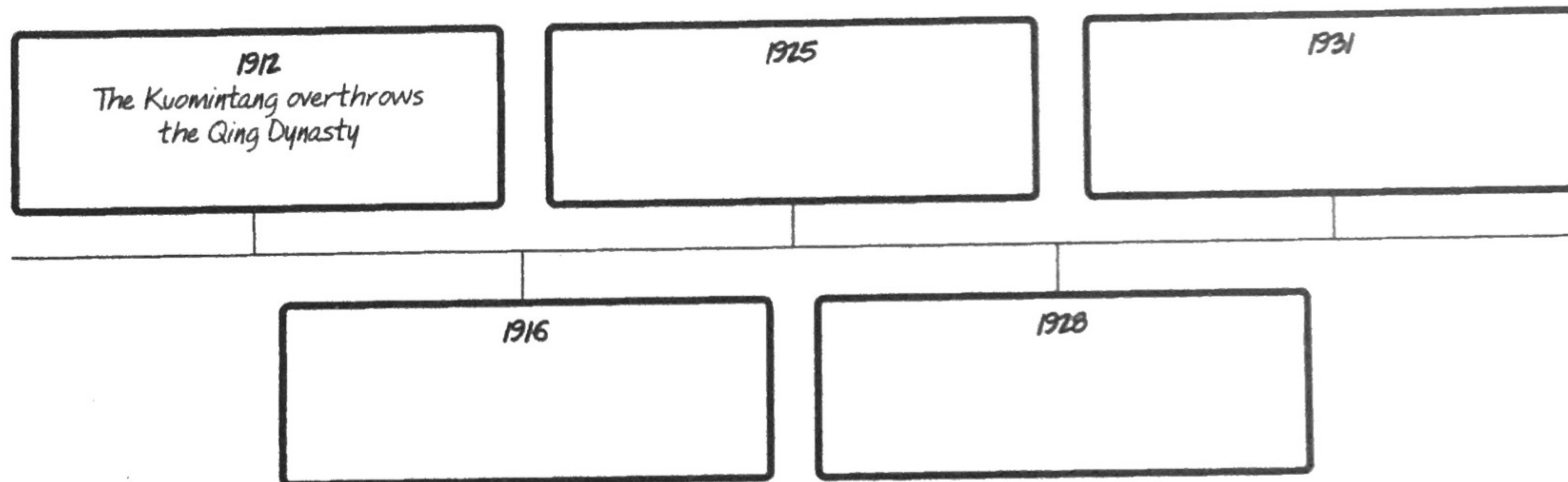
## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about totalitarianism in the Soviet Union.

In this section, you will learn about the overthrow of the Qing dynasty and the beginnings of the Communist party in China.

## AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on the changes that occurred in China in the early decades of the 20th century.



## TERMS AND NAMES

**Sun Yixian** One of the first leaders of the Kuomintang; “father of modern China”

**Kuomintang** Nationalist Party of China that overthrew the Qing Dynasty

**May Fourth Movement** Chinese nationalist protest against China’s fate as decided by the Treaty of Versailles

**Mao Zedong** Leader of the Communist revolution in China

**Jiang Jieshi** Leader of the Chinese Nationalist Party

**Long March** Escape of Communists to safety after being surrounded by Nationalist forces

## Nationalists Overthrow Qing Dynasty (pages 448–449)

### Who was Sun Yixian?

The early 20th century was a time of change in China. Many Chinese resented the great control that foreign nations had over their economy. Some wanted to modernize China. They hoped it could regain power.

One of the leaders of this push was **Sun Yixian**. His group was called the **Kuomintang**, or Nationalist Party. In 1912, he led a revolt that overthrew the Qing Dynasty. A republic was established, and he was made the president.

Sun wanted political and economic rights for all Chinese people. He also wanted an end to the foreign control of China. But Sun did not have the

support of the military. Six weeks later, he turned over his presidency to Yuan Shikai, a powerful general. Yuan became a military dictator. After he died in 1916, civil war broke out. The people suffered terribly from famine and brutal attacks.

China’s leaders hoped to win the support of the Allies during World War I. They declared war on Germany. When the war ended, though, they were disappointed. The Treaty of Versailles did not give China freedom from foreign influence. It only changed masters. The parts of China that had been controlled by Germany were handed over to Japan.

Angry Chinese protested during the **May Fourth Movement**. Protesters included **Mao Zedong**. He later became the leader of China’s Communist revolution.



### 1. What did China's Nationalists want?

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## The Communist Party in China

(pages 449–450)

### *What happened to the Communist Party?*

In the 1920s, revolutionaries began to look to Marxism and the Russian Revolution for a solution to China's problems. Meanwhile, Sun Yixian became disappointed in the Western democracies. They refused to support his struggling government. He decided to become allies with the newly formed Communist Party. Sun sought Soviet help, too. He died in 1925. **Jiang Jieshi** became leader of the Kuomintang.

At first, Jiang Jieshi joined with the Communists to try to defeat the warlords. These warlords ruled as much of the Chinese countryside as their armies could conquer. Together the Nationalists and Communists successfully fought the warlords.

Many in the Kuomintang were business people. They now feared Communist ideas about government control of economic life. In 1927, Jiang began fighting the Communists. The Communists were forced into hiding. In 1928, Jiang became president of China. Soon China was torn by a civil war between the remaining Communists and Jiang's forces.

### 2. What role did Jiang Jieshi play in creating the civil war?

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## Civil War Rages in China

(pages 450–452)

### *Who fought the civil war?*

Jiang had promised democracy and political rights to all Chinese. But his government had become less democratic and more corrupt. Nothing was done to improve the life of the rural peasants. Many of them gave their support to the Chinese Communist Party.

Communist leader, Mao Zedong, built an army of peasants. In 1933, Jiang's army surrounded them. But the Communists got away. They began the famous **Long March** of 6,000 miles to the north. Thousands died. The Communists settled in caves in Northwest China.

At the same time, China had other problems. In 1931, Japan *invaded* the part of China called Manchuria. Japan took control there and six years later began invading other areas. With this new threat, Jiang and the Communists agreed to unite temporarily to fight the Japanese.

### 3. What finally united Communist and non-Communist forces?

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**CHAPTER 17** Section 2 (pages 538–541)

# Communists Take Power in China

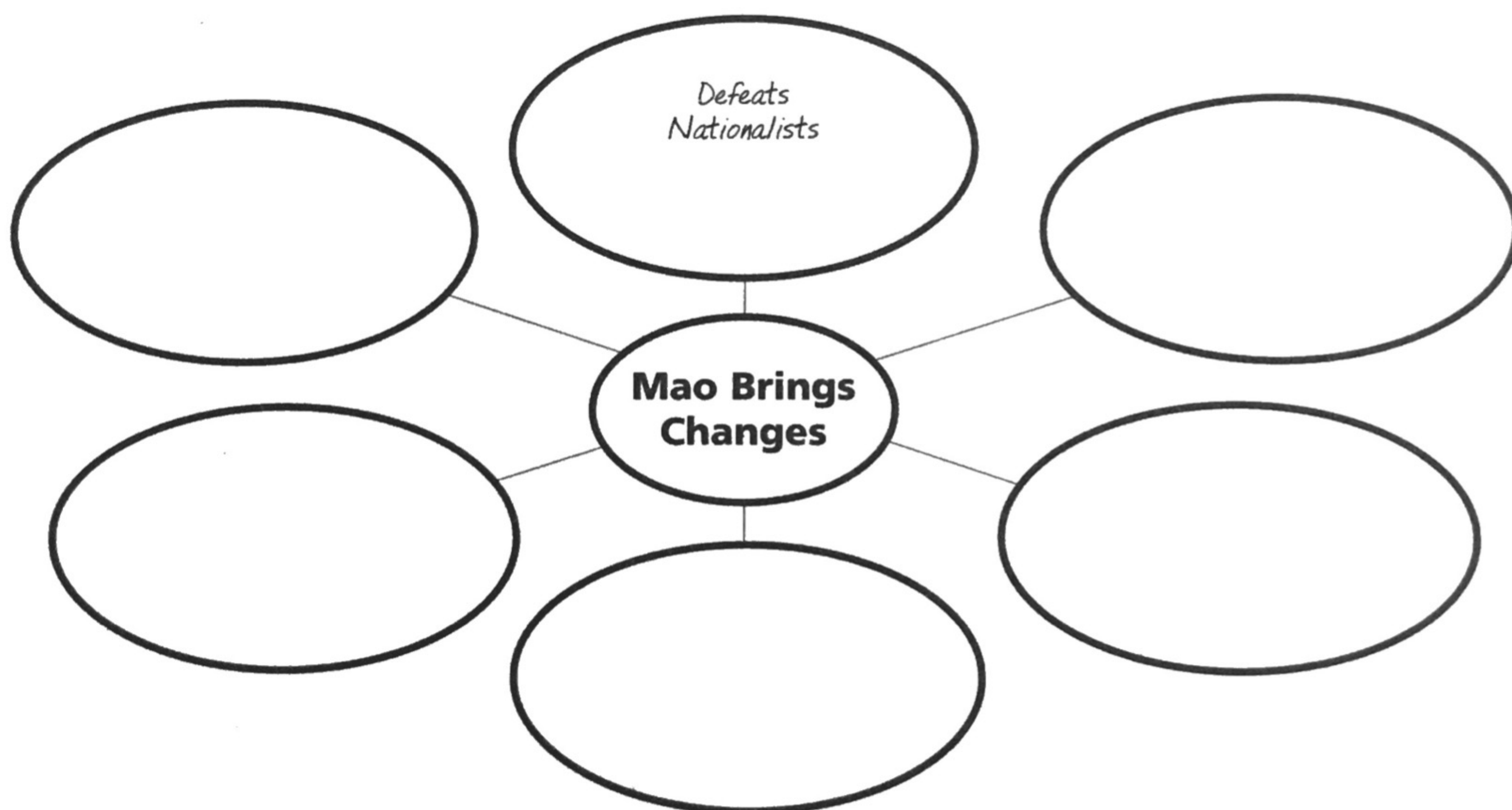
## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about tensions between the superpowers.

In this section, you will read about civil war and the rise of communism in China.

## AS YOU READ

Use the chart below to take notes on changes in China.



## TERMS AND NAMES

**Mao Zedong** Communist leader who defeated the Nationalists and led the People's Republic of China

**Jiang Jieshi** Nationalist leader who set up a new government in Taiwan

**commune** Large farm setup in China in which many families work the land and live together

**Red Guards** Young Chinese students who carried out the Cultural Revolution

**Cultural Revolution** Uprising in China between 1966 and 1976 that aimed to establish a society of peasants and workers in which all were equal

## Communists vs. Nationalists

(pages 538–539)

### Who fought the civil war?

Nationalists and Communists fought for control of China in the 1930s. During World War II, they joined forces to fight against the Japanese. The Communists, led by **Mao Zedong**, organized an army of peasants in northwestern China. From there they fought the Japanese in the northeast.

The Nationalists, led by **Jiang Jieshi**, controlled southwestern China. The Nationalists

were protected from the Japanese by mountains. The United States sent the Nationalists large amounts of money and supplies, but corrupt officers took much of it. The Nationalists built a large army, but they only fought a few battles against the Japanese.

After the Japanese surrendered, the Communists and Nationalists resumed their civil war. The war lasted from 1946 to 1949. The Communists won because their troops were well-trained in *guerrilla war*. They also enjoyed the backing of the peasants to whom they had



promised land. In 1949, Jiang Jieshi and other Nationalist leaders fled to the island of Taiwan.

1. What two groups fought the civil war, and who led them?

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## The Two Chinas Affect the Cold War (pages 539–540)

### *How did the two Chinas participate in the Cold War?*

The United States helped the Nationalists set up a new government. The Nationalists called their land the Republic of China. Meanwhile, the Soviets helped Mao Zedong and his government, the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese and the Soviets promised to help defend each other if either country were attacked. The United States responded by trying to halt Soviet expansion in Asia. Communist China also tried to expand its power. The Chinese invaded Mongolia, Tibet, and India.

2. How did the superpowers take sides with the two Chinas?

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## The Communists Transform China (pages 540–541)

### *How did Mao change China?*

Mao set out to rebuild China. He seized land and gave it to the peasants. But he also forced the peasants—in groups of 200 to 300 households—to join *collective farms*, or **communes**. On these farms, the land belonged to the group. Mao also took control of China's industries. Under Mao's plan, production of industrial products went up.

With this success, Mao launched the "Great Leap Forward." He wanted to make the communes larger and more productive. The plan failed. People did not like strong government control. The government did not plan effectively. Between 1958 and 1961, famine killed millions.

In 1966, Mao tried to revive the revolution. He encouraged young people to revive the revolution. Students formed groups called **Red Guards**. This was the beginning of the **Cultural Revolution**. The Red Guards struck at teachers, scientists, and artists. They shut down schools and sent intellectuals to the country to work on farms. They killed thousands of people who resisted. China was in chaos. Factories shut down and farm production dropped. Eventually, Mao put an end to the Cultural Revolution.

3. What are three changes Mao made?

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**CHAPTER 19** Section 5 (pages 625–629)

# China: Reform and Reaction

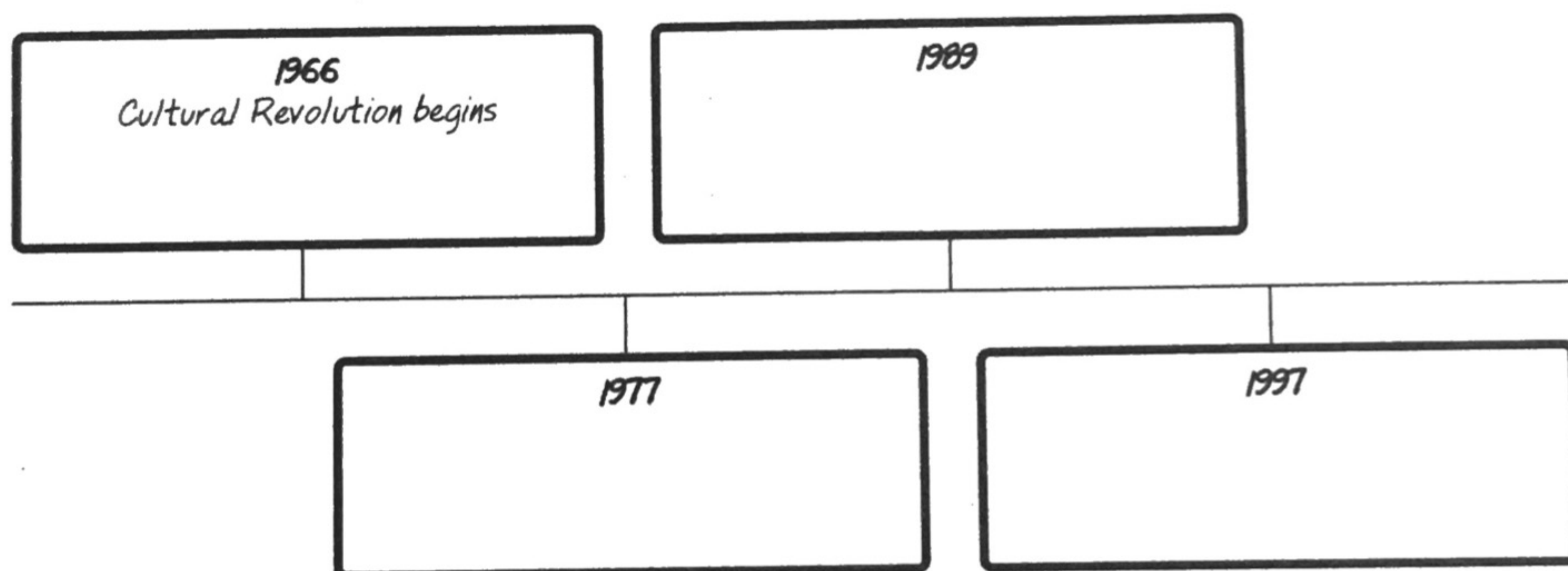
## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the collapse of communism and other changes in Central and Eastern Europe.

In this section, you will learn about the recent history of China.

## AS YOU READ

Use the time line below to take notes on the key events in recent Chinese history.



## TERMS AND NAMES

**Zhou Enlai** Chinese leader who worked with President Nixon to improve U.S.–Chinese relations

**Deng Xiaoping** Chinese leader after Zhou Enlai

**Four Modernizations** Goals of Deng Xiaoping that called for progress in agriculture, industry, defense, and science and technology

**Tiananmen Square** Square in the capital of Beijing; scene of a student demonstration and massacre

**Hong Kong** Island that became part of China again in 1997

## The Legacy of Mao

(pages 625–626)

### How did Mao change China?

Mao Zedong had tried to build a China on the ideas of equality, revolutionary spirit, and hard work. But his policies failed to create a strong economy. He reduced incentives for higher production. The Great Leap Forward helped cause an economic disaster.

During Mao's rule, China had little role in world affairs. **Zhou Enlai**, another Chinese leader, worried about this. He worked with U.S. President Richard Nixon to improve U.S.–Chinese relations.

### 1. How successful were Mao's economic programs?

## China and the West (page 626)

### How did Deng Xiaoping change China?

After Mao and Zhou died in 1976, *moderates* took control of the government. The most powerful leader was **Deng Xiaoping**. He tried to modernize the economy. Deng had goals known as the **Four Modernizations**. These called for progress



in agriculture, industry, defense, and science and technology. He ended farming communes and allowed farmers more to sell part of their produce for a profit. Farm production increased greatly.

Deng made similar changes to industry. People's incomes began to rise. They began to purchase appliances and other goods that were once scarce.

**2. What were the results of Deng Xiaoping's changes?**

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**Massacre in Tiananmen Square**

(pages 627–628)

***What caused the protest at Tiananmen Square?***

Deng's new plan caused problems. The gap between rich and poor grew wider, which caused unrest. Western political ideas spread throughout the country. In 1989, thousands of Chinese students gathered in **Tiananmen Square** in the capital of Beijing. They called for democracy and freedom. Deng responded by sending army troops and tanks to put down the rally. Thousands were killed or wounded. China has continued to stamp out protests since then.

**3. What happened to the protesters at Tiananmen Square?**

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**China Enters the New Millennium** (pages 628–629)

***What happened to Hong Kong?***

Another major issue for China was the status of **Hong Kong**. The island became part of China again in 1997 when the British gave it back after 155 years of colonial rule. China promised to respect Hong Kong's freedom for 50 years. But many worried that China would take away Hong Kong's freedoms.

**4. Why do people worry about Hong Kong's new rule?**

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**China Beyond 2000** (page 629)

***What is the connection between political and economic reform in China?***

Liberal economic reforms in China did not immediately lead to political reforms. China has been successful in reducing poverty, in part because it has been cautious in privatizing the economy. China managed to maintain economic growth in the early 21st century.

As economic and social conditions in China improve, the political situation may improve as well. An important sign of China's engagement with the world is its successful campaign to be chosen as the site for the 2008 Summer Olympics.

**5. Which came first in China—political or economic reform?**

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**CALIFORNIA CONTENT  
STANDARD 10.9.4**

## *Transformation in China*

**Specific Objective:** Analyze the Chinese Civil War, the rise of Mao Tse-Tung, and the subsequent political and economic upheavals in China (e.g., the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, and the Tiananmen Square uprising).

**Read the summary to answer questions on the next page.**

### **The People's Republic of China**

Between 1946 and 1949, civil war raged in China between Nationalist and Communist forces. In October 1949, the Communists were victorious. Their leader, Mao Tse-Tung, renamed the country The People's Republic of China. The communists promised a number of changes:

- Price controls to prevent inflation
- Redistribution of land from owners to workers
- Large-scale industrial development
- A simplified system of Chinese writing, to increase literacy

It was the first time in decades that China was free of Japanese domination. Some of these changes improved life for many in China. But others were disastrous.

### **The Great Leap Forward**

One of Mao's most ambitious programs was the **Great Leap Forward** (1958), which created group farms known as **communes**. At each commune, thousands of people farmed together and lived together in dormitories.

Mao envisioned the Great Leap Forward as a new economic model—China's alternative to the industrial emphasis of Russian communism. Instead, poor planning and severe droughts brought widespread starvation. The program ended in 1960.

### **The Cultural Revolution**

In 1966, Mao launched the **Cultural Revolution** (1966)—a campaign to create an equal society of peasants and workers by purging China of intellectuals, capitalists, and other alleged "counterrevolutionaries." The purge was carried out by militia units of young people, mostly teenagers, known as **Red Guards**.

Chaos followed. The Red Guards imprisoned, tortured, and executed civilians—and destroyed art, antiquities, and other materials of China's heritage. The campaign ended around the time of Mao's death in 1976.

### **Tiananmen Square**

Tiananmen Square, a public plaza in the city of Beijing, has been the site of many political events—but none as well known as the protests of 1989. Students began the protests for **democratic reform**, and in the six weeks that followed were joined by more than a million Chinese from every walk of life. The government crackdown was brutal. Tanks and troops entered Beijing to suppress the protest, killing and injuring thousands of protesters.