WORLD

LEADERS 1945-PRESENT

- Mao Zedong
- Deng Xiaoping
- Nelson Mandela
- Mikhail Gorbachev
- Ho Chi Minh
Mao Zedong, one of the original founders of the Chinese Communist Party, became its undisputed ruler during the **Long March** of 1935, a 6000 mile journey to escape Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist troops.

Mao won the support of the peasants because he promised to redistribute land by creating **communes**. He believed that this would lead to economic fairness and prosperity. During WW II Mao and Chiang Kai-shek temporarily joined forces to fight the Japanese, but after World War II, Mao defeated Chiang Kai-shek's nationalist forces in the Chinese Communist Revolution of 1949-1950. As a result, China was unified as a communist nation. Although he was a good revolutionary, his economic policies proved disastrous during the **Great Leap Forward** in which twenty million people died. To eliminate criticism of his economic failures, Mao established the **Cultural Revolution**. This led to a severe crackdown on freedom of speech. Under Mao’s influence, **Red Guards**, students of Mao, quit attending classes. They staged marches and rallies where critics of Mao were turned in to government authorities. These officials would humiliate, torture, and even execute the teachers who were critical of Mao. Rejecting the family values of Confucianism, the Red Guards drew their inspiration from Chairman Mao’s **Little Red Book**. It was only after his death in 1976 that China began to recover.

1) Which political party did Mao help establish? ___________________________________________________________________________

2) After which event did Mao become the head of the Chinese Communist Party? ___________________________________________________________________________

3) Why did Mao and his supporters go on the Long March? ___________________________________________________________________________

4) Which foreign nation attacked China during WW II? ___________________________________________________________________________

5) Who did the Communists temporarily join forces with in WW II? ___________________________________________________________________________

6) When was the Chinese Communist revolution fought? What was the result ___________________________________________________________________________

7) Which class of Chinese people supported Mao? Why? ___________________________________________________________________________

8) Describe the Great Leap Forward. ___________________________________________________________________________

9) Why did Mao start the Cultural Revolution? ___________________________________________________________________________

10) During the Cultural Revolution, what role did the Red Guards play? ___________________________________________________________________________

11) Evaluation: In which ways was Mao very successful? ___________________________________________________________________________

In which ways was he very unsuccessful? ___________________________________________________________________________
After Chinese Communist Party Chairman Mao Zedong died in 1976, Deng Xiaoping became the most influential political official in China. He initiated a series of reforms known as the Modernizations which had a positive impact on China. Under this policy farming was mechanized and the unpopular system of communes (large collective farms) was discontinued. Farmers could now grow and sell crops for a profit after they had reached a quota established. China's industry was expanded and private businesses were established. Today almost half of China's gross domestic product (GDP) is produced by private businesses. Deng improved China's military and defense systems as well.

In order to develop China's technology, Deng allowed Chinese students to study in Western nations. This is where problems developed. When students returned to China from their overseas studies, they not only brought back technological ideas, they brought back notions of democracy. After students gathered in Tiananmen Square in 1989 to demand democratic reforms, the government warned them to disperse. When they didn't the military was ordered to break up the demonstration with tanks and weapons. Over 2000 people were killed in this event. Protest leaders were tried for one day and executed the next. The Tiananmen Massacre left a stain on Deng Xiaoping's legacy.

Due to China's alarming population increase, the Chinese government developed the One Child Policy which led to the deaths of millions of unwanted babies, who wasted away in orphanages that became known as Dying Rooms. Although he was a successful economic reformer, Deng Xiaoping clearly gets low marks for his human rights record.

1) Which leader replaced Mao Zedong? When? __________________________
2) What was Deng Xiaoping's series of reforms known as? ________________
3) Give two examples of how farming improved under Deng
   a. _____________________________
   b. _____________________________
4) Which other areas did the Four Modernizations improve? _______________
5) Why did students gather at Tiananmen Square in Beijing? _______________
6) What happened? ______________________________________________________
7) What tragedy occurred due to the One Child Policy? _____________________
8) Evaluate Deng Xiaoping
   Positive Impact: ______________________________________________________
   Negative Impact: ______________________________________________________
Nelson Mandela: Champion of Human Rights in South Africa

In the 1940s, Nelson Mandela became involved in the political struggle against apartheid, an oppressive form of racial discrimination practiced in South Africa. During this time he became increasingly involved in the African National Congress (ANC). This group sought to bring about democratic political change in South Africa. In 1948, the policy of apartheid was made law in South Africa. Apartheid was a strict regime of racial segregation, instituted by the Afrikaners when they gained power. Under apartheid, native Africans were ruled by the white minority and had little personal rights or freedoms. They couldn't vote and they were often forced to work in gold and diamond mines for very low wages. Dissent was crushed; dissidents were punished. Native Africans were not allowed to live in the cities; instead they were forced to live in bantustans, decrepit townships located miles from urban areas. Educational opportunities and health facilities were minimal. Those who worked in the cities were forced to carry passes. In some cases people were immediately killed for not having passes.

To put an end to apartheid, Nelson Mandela and the ANC organized only nonviolent protests and demonstrations at first. But in 1960, after the Sharpsville massacre where about 100 protestors were slaughtered, the ANC turned violent. Until that event, nonviolence was a part of Mandela's philosophy, but after the massacre, he decided that violence was necessary to bring change. He helped organize and became the leader of the ANC's military wing, Spear of the Nation. Mandela was arrested in 1964 for sabotage and sentenced to life imprisonment. He became a symbol of the struggle against apartheid to people in South Africa, and around the world. In 1990, under international pressure, South Africa's President de Klerk released Mandela from jail.

In 1991, apartheid was abolished, and in 1993, Mandela helped write a new constitution for South Africa which allowed everyone to vote. The following year, the country held its first multiracial, democratic elections. Mandela won by a landslide and became the first black president in the history of South Africa.
Nelson Mandela Questions:

1) Which country was Nelson Mandela from?

2) What did he become involved in during the 1940s?

3) What was the name of his political organization?

(Note: When writing an essay, write out the whole name of the organization the first time, then just use the capital letter abbreviation such as ANC or PLO).

4) Who were the Afrikaners?

5) Describe how the human rights of native South Africans were violated under Apartheid vis a vis (with relation to):
   a) jobs
   b) voting
   c) where they lived
   d) health & education
   e) pass laws

6) How did the Sharpeville massacre change Mandela's approach to fighting Apartheid? He switched from ________ to ________.

7) After his arrest for ________ in 1964, Mandela was sentenced to ________ in prison. He wasn’t ________ until 1990.

8) In 1991, ________ was abolished.

9) According to the new ________ written in 1993, South Africa became a multi-racial democracy which allowed everyone to ________.

10) In 1994, Mandela became the first ________.
Mikhail Gorbachev led the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He instituted an economic policy known as perestroika, which allowed small amounts of free enterprise for the first time in the Soviet Union since Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP). He also initiated glasnost, a policy which allowed free speech and dissent against the government. Along with glasnost, Gorbachev instituted the policy of democratization which allowed more voting rights in the Soviet Union. Instead of creating more stability, these reforms backfired. Many regions of the USSR began to demand swift changes and soon they broke away. As a result the Soviet Union collapsed (circa 1990), and Russia changed from a totalitarian dictatorship to a more democratic form of government, although Vladimir Putin, Russia's most powerful leader in the post-communist still rules with autocratic policies. The collapse of the Soviet Union, along with the fall of the Berlin Wall (1989) marked the end of the Cold War (1945-1990).

1) When did Gorbachev lead the Soviet Union? ____________________________

2) State the name of his economic policy and describe it

______________________________________________________________

3) Describe glasnost:

______________________________________________________________

4) Explain Gorbachev's policy of democratization:

______________________________________________________________

5) Explain the effect that Gorbachev's policies had on the Soviet Union. Did they do what was intended, or did they backfire?

______________________________________________________________

6) How did the Russian government change after the Soviet Union collapsed?

______________________________________________________________

7) Name the most powerful Russian leader in the post-communist era. Describe his ruling style in one word.

______________________________________________________________

8) When was the Cold War? ____________________________ Which two events mark the end of the Cold War? ____________________________
Ho Chi Minh was president of North Vietnam from 1945 to 1969. He spent his entire adult life devoted to removing French and American domination in Vietnam. He took the name “Ho Chi Minh” (which means he who enlightens) in 1940 while he was in China forming the Indo-Chinese Communist Party. In 1941 Ho founded the Vietminh (League for the Independence of Vietnam).

By the 1940s, the Japanese had defeated the French colonial powers in Vietnam. In 1945 the U.S. defeated Japan by dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After WWII, Ho Chi Minh asked the U.S. for helping in keeping foreign colonial powers out of Vietnam. The U.S. however, refused this request because Ho Chi Minh was a communist. Helping him would have violated the Truman Doctrine which sought to contain the spread of communism. At this French reestablishment their colonial control of Vietnam.

In 1954, however, the French were defeated at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu. After the French left, Vietnam was divided into a communist North and non-communist South. The United States then came in to help South Vietnam stop the spread of communism but this led to the Vietnam War. After a stalemate had been reached, a peace treaty was signed in 1973, and the U.S. began to pull out most of its troops. During the Watergate Scandal in 1974, President Nixon resigned. Soon after this, the North Vietnamese conquered South Vietnam and proclaimed Vietnam a unified communist country.

1) When was Ho Chi Minh president of North Vietnam? ________________

2) What was his adult life devoted to? ___________________________________________

3) What does Ho Chi Minh mean? When did he take on this name? ____________________

4) What organization did Ho Chi Minh establish in 1941? ___________________________

5) By the 1940s, which country had defeated the French colonial powers in Vietnam? ____________ Next, who defeated Japan in 1945? ________________ How? ________________ bombs were dropped on ____________ and Nagasaki.

6) Whose help did Ho Chi Minh seek in order to keep out colonial rule? Due to the Truman Doctrine, what happened? ________________________________________________________________


8) After the French left what happened to Vietnam? __________________________________

9) Which country came in to help South Vietnam stop the spread of communism? ________________

10) The U.S. didn’t help Ho Chi Minh because this would have violated the idea behind the ____________ Doctrine, which sought to stop the spread of ________________

11) What happened after Ho Chi Minh died in 1969?
   a) 1973 ________________
   b) 1975 ________________
• Mao Zedong:

• Deng Xiaoping

• Nelson Mandela:

• Mikhail Gorbachev:

• Ho Chi Minh:

• Jomo Kenyatta:

• Mustafa Kemal Ataturk
World Leaders Vocabulary

➢ Mao Zedong: China, communist, Great Leap Forward, Red Guards
➢ Deng Xiaoping: China, ‘elements of capitalism’, Tiananmen Square, one child policy
➢ Nelson Mandela: South Africa, fought against Apartheid, Jail for almost 30 years, released president
➢ Mikhail Gorbachev: Soviet Union (USSR) [Russia] communist but also put in elements of capitalism: perestroika and elements of democracy: Glasnost
➢ Ho Chi Minh: communist leader of Vietnam
➢ Jomo Kenyatta: African countries gained independence in the 1960s. Kenyatta—important leader of the Pan African movement
➢ Mustafa Kemal ataturk: westernized and modernized Turkey; women gained the right to vote and didn’t have to wear the veil (Westernized clothing and alphabet; modern military and industry)