

China's Nationalist Turning Points

Trace how nationalism, war, and revolution changed China.

10.7d "Nationalism in China influenced the removal of the imperial regime, led to numerous conflicts, and resulted in the formation of the communist People's Republic of China."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one cause of political change in each paragraph. Circle the names of the two rival governments remaining after 1949.

From Empire to Two Governments

- ① Many Chinese nationalists opposed the Qing dynasty as weak against foreign powers and unable to reform effectively. The 1911 Xinhai Revolution led to the emperor's abdication in 1912, ending imperial rule. Sun Yat-sen helped establish the Republic of China and promoted national independence and unity. Yet the republic did not bring stability. Regional military leaders, called warlords, controlled territories and fought one another. Overthrowing the dynasty did not settle who would govern China.
- ② In the 1920s, the Nationalist Party, or Guomindang, cooperated with the Chinese Communist Party in a United Front against warlords. Chiang Kai-shek became the leading Nationalist commander after Sun's death. In 1927, attacks on Communists by Nationalist forces helped destroy the alliance and launch civil war. Both parties claimed to defend China from foreign domination, but they disagreed over political power and social change. Nationalism could inspire cooperation without overcoming these conflicts.
- ③ Japan seized Manchuria in 1931; full-scale war spread in 1937. Nationalists and Communists formed a second United Front, but rivalry and clashes continued. After Japan's defeat in 1945, civil war expanded again. Communist rural organizing and military victories, alongside Nationalist corruption and economic crises, helped decide the outcome. In 1949, Mao Zedong proclaimed the communist People's Republic of China on the mainland. The Nationalist-led Republic of China government retreated to Taiwan. Two rival governments remained, with competing claims that the military outcome did not resolve.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 Why did many nationalists oppose the Qing government, and what happened to the emperor in 1912?

2 How did warlords affect China after the Republic of China was founded, and how did the two parties respond in the 1920s?

3 What happened in 1927, and what happened after Japan's defeat in 1945?

4 What two governments existed after the Communist victory in 1949, and where was each located?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write four sentences tracing change from the end of imperial rule to two rival governments. Use at least four events from the passage and explain cause-and-effect connections.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one cause of political change in each paragraph. Circle the names of the two rival governments remaining after 1949. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Why did many nationalists oppose the Qing government, and what happened to the emperor in 1912?	They viewed the Qing dynasty as weak against foreign powers and wanted a stronger, independent China. The Qing emperor abdicated, ending imperial rule.
2	How did warlords affect China after the Republic of China was founded, and how did the two parties respond in the 1920s?	Warlords controlled different regions and fought one another, creating instability. The Nationalists and Communists formed a United Front to defeat warlords and unite China.
3	What happened in 1927, and what happened after Japan's defeat in 1945?	Nationalist attacks on Communists in 1927 helped destroy their alliance and launch civil war. After Japan's defeat in 1945, civil war expanded again.
4	What two governments existed after the Communist victory in 1949, and where was each located?	The communist People's Republic of China was on the mainland. The Nationalist Republic of China continued in Taiwan.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Opposition to the Qing helped bring revolution in 1911 and abdication in 1912. Warlord conflict encouraged Nationalist-Communist cooperation, but their 1927 split brought civil war. War against Japan produced another uneasy alliance, while full civil war expanded after Japan's defeat in 1945. Communist victory in 1949 left the People's Republic on the mainland and the Republic of China government in Taiwan.

Accept accurate causal sequences connecting revolution, warlord conflict, party rivalry, war with Japan and the 1949 outcome. Cooperation against Japan did not end all Nationalist-Communist fighting.