Revolutions and Rule

Trace how Communist governments gained and kept power

TOT.C.9.3 "Trace the rise of Communist influence in other regions of the world including, Communist leadership (e.g., Che Guevara, Fidel Castro, Mao Zedong, and Kim Il Sung), establishment of the North Korean dictatorship, Cuban Missile Crisis..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Number the three regions as you find them: North Korea, China, and Cuba. Underline actions leaders took to gain or keep power, and circle consequences for people or international relations.

Different Paths to Communist Power

1. After World War II, Communist parties gained power in several places, but not by one single route. Soviet forces occupied northern Korea, where Kim Il Sung became the leader of a new Communist state in 1948. His government eliminated political opposition and built a dictatorship that later passed power within his family. In China, Mao Zedong's Communist forces won a civil war in 1949 and created a one-party state. The government took control of land and industry and sent many perceived opponents to forced-labor prisons called laogai. These changes turned revolutionary victories into lasting systems of state control.

2. China's army invaded Tibet in 1950. Its conquest and later crackdowns killed many Tibetans and attacked Tibetan religion and culture. Tibetan leaders have called this genocide. In 1956 and 1957, Mao's Hundred Flowers Campaign invited criticism, but the Anti-Rightist Campaign that followed punished many critics. Beginning in 1958, the Great Leap Forward pushed farms into collectives and demanded rapid industrial growth. Disastrous policies helped cause a famine that killed millions. In 1966, Mao launched the Cultural Revolution: youth groups attacked perceived enemies, schools closed, and cultural sites were damaged. These campaigns used state power to remake society and silence opposition.

3. Communism spread through a different path in Cuba. In 1959, Fidel Castro's revolutionary forces overthrew Cuba's government; Che Guevara was a leading commander. Castro established a one-party state and strengthened ties with the Soviet Union. In 1962, Soviet nuclear missiles placed in Cuba triggered a confrontation with the United States called the Cuban Missile Crisis. Both sides backed away from war, and the missiles were removed. After Mao died in 1976, Deng Xiaoping became China's dominant leader. Starting in 1978, he loosened economic controls and allowed some private business, while the Communist Party kept its monopoly on political power.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did Communist leaders come to power in North Korea and China, and what kind of rule did each establish?

2. Trace two steps Mao's government took between 1950 and 1958 to extend or enforce its power. What was one consequence of each step?

3. Trace the events that connected Cuba's 1959 revolution to the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962.

4. How did Deng Xiaoping's approach to China's economy differ from Mao's Great Leap Forward, and what did not change about political power?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write an 80 to 100 word museum label comparing how Communist leaders gained or held power in two regions from the passage. Include one similarity, one difference, and at least three accurate details with dates or named policies.

ANSWER KEY

Revolutions and Rule

HIGH SCHOOL · TOT.C.9.3

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Number the three regions as you find them: North Korea, China, and Cuba. Underline actions leaders took to gain or keep power, and circle consequences for people or international relations. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did Communist leaders come to power in North Korea and China, and what kind of rule did each establish?	**Kim Il Sung led a Communist state established in Soviet-occupied northern Korea in 1948 and built a dictatorship. Mao's forces won China's civil war in 1949 and established a one-party state.**
2	Trace two steps Mao's government took between 1950 and 1958 to extend or enforce its power. What was one consequence of each step?	**China invaded Tibet in 1950; its conquest and crackdowns killed many Tibetans and attacked their culture. After inviting criticism in the Hundred Flowers Campaign, the government punished many critics in the Anti-Rightist Campaign.**
3	Trace the events that connected Cuba's 1959 revolution to the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962.	**Castro's forces overthrew Cuba's government, and he established a one-party state with stronger Soviet ties. Soviet nuclear missiles in Cuba then triggered a confrontation with the United States.**
4	How did Deng Xiaoping's approach to China's economy differ from Mao's Great Leap Forward, and what did not change about political power?	**The Great Leap Forward pushed collective farming and rapid industrial growth. Deng loosened economic controls and allowed some private business, but the Communist Party kept its monopoly on political power.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Communist rule grew through different paths in China and Cuba. In China, Mao Zedong's forces won a civil war in 1949 and created a one-party state. The Great Leap Forward later pushed farms into collectives, and disastrous policies contributed to famine. In Cuba, Fidel Castro's forces overthrew the government in 1959, and Castro also established a one-party state. Both leaders used revolution to gain power and limited political competition. Unlike China's Great Leap Forward, Cuba's closer ties to the Soviet Union led to a nuclear confrontation with the United States in 1962.

For question 2, also accept the Great Leap Forward and its resulting famine as one step and consequence. Museum labels may compare any two regions if they meet the length, comparison, and evidence requirements.