

Session 8 China part II

Activity 3

Man's Interventions

1. Read *Red China Eases Life in Communes to Meet Unrest*

<https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/library/world/asia/051759eases-communes.html>

- a. Define 'commune'
- b. Use the United Nations definitions found at this link <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml> Under which of these definitions would "less interference with family ties" being a concession, best fit?
- c. Put the concept of 'cause and effect' in your own words. How do you see evidence of cause and effect in paragraphs 2-5? Would you describe the 'effect' to be positive, negative, or neutral?
How do you see evidence of cause and effect in paragraphs 6, and 10-14? Would you describe the 'effect' to be positive, negative, or neutral?
- d. Based on the article, does the concept of a 'commune' come from a governmental philosophy that uses central planning for its economy and/or society? Assess the effectiveness of central planning based on this article

2. Read *China's 'Leap' Slowed by a Limp*

<https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/library/world/asia/011061leap-limp.html>

- a. What effects did The Great Leap Forward have based on paragraphs two and three?
- b. Why does the author use quotes around, "natural calamities" in paragraph 4 and suggests "unfavorable natural conditions are not" a good explanation in paragraph 7?
- c. Paragraph five describes drought, floods, typhoons, hailstorms, frost, insects, and plant diseases as reasons for a downtick in agricultural production. Search for each of the issues listed for 2020-2021

1. Drought
2. Flood
3. Typhoon
4. Hailstorms
5. Frost
6. Insects
7. Plant diseases

Are there similar occurrences in 2020-2021?

d. Paragraphs 8 and 9 address that China's grain production numbers for 1958 and 1959 as inflated. Compare grain production numbers in China for the between 2018 and today. In which direction is grain production heading? What is China doing to address this?

e. Paragraphs 11-14 discuss steel production. Is one of the effects of The Great Leap Forward an increase in steel production? Where does China rank today in that category?