

Section A

You must answer Question 1.

THE KOREAN WAR

- 1 Read the sources and answer the questions which follow.

Source A

I kept thinking and thinking about the war situation in Korea. America occupied Korea across the [Yalu] River, threatening Northeast China. It also controlled Taiwan, threatening Shanghai and East China. It could launch a war to invade China with any excuse anytime it wanted. The tiger always eats people, and the time when it wants to eat depends on its appetite... Since America came to invade us, we had to resist its invasion. It would be very difficult to build up our Socialist country without challenging the American imperialists.

Moreover, we should send our troops [to Korea] in consideration of the future of our nation's reconstruction. It was always said that our Socialist camp, headed by the Soviet Union, was much stronger than the capitalist camp. How could [we] show our power and strength if we did not send our forces to aid and save Korea?

I therefore believed that sending our forces to assist Korea was an absolutely correct decision.

From the memoirs of a general who commanded the Chinese military forces in Korea, 2001.

Source B

Our homes, our Nation, all the things we believe in, are in great danger. This danger has been created by the rulers of the Soviet Union.

For 5 years we have been working for peace and justice among nations. We have helped to bring the free nations of the world together in a great movement to establish a lasting peace. Against this movement for peace, the rulers of the Soviet Union have been waging a relentless attack. They have tried to undermine or overwhelm the free nations one by one. They have used threats and treachery and violence.

In June the forces of Communist imperialism burst out into open warfare in Korea. The United Nations moved to put down this act of aggression, and by October had all but succeeded.

Then, in November, the Communists threw their Chinese armies into the battle against the free nations.

By this act they have shown that they are now willing to push the world to the brink of a general war to get what they want. This is the real meaning of the events that have been taking place in Korea.

Speech by Harry Truman, 15 December 1950.

Source C

I am firmly convinced that right now is the psychologically most suitable moment to take aggressive steps and unite with our loyal army in the North in order to eliminate the remaining part of it. We will drive away part of the people of Kim Il Sung into a mountainous region and exhaust them there with hunger; then our line of defense should be created along the Tumen and Yalu Rivers.

The value of our situation will be 100 percent better.

From a letter by Syngman Rhee to his American advisor, September 1949.

Source D

The American gangsters are still invading Korea in an attempt to colonise our country and enslave our 30 million people. The US imperialists have sustained hard blows and heavy losses of strength but are nevertheless launching a large-scale offensive by mobilising all their Pacific forces.

Our People's Army has thus been compelled to undertake a strategic retreat while still fighting the enemy. Today our frontline situation is serious. Our country is in great danger.

The most important task confronting us today is to defend every inch of the homeland at the cost of our blood and prepare ourselves fully to deal a fresh, decisive blow to the enemy. We should wipe out the foreign interventionists and the Syngman Rhee clique from our land once and for all.

From a radio address by Kim Il Sung, 11 October 1950.

Source E

Text reads:

"It was four years ago that Kim Il Sung and his group established the puppet government for Russia. Kim Il Sung is a devil dancing for the Kremlin's future."

An American leaflet distributed during the Korean War.

Source F

During this period, Kim Il Sung and other Korean leaders were firmly determined to unify the country by military means. In the DPRK, a people's army was created which in manpower and equipment significantly surpassed the armed forces of South Korea. By 1 January 1950, the total number of DPRK troops was 110,000; new divisions were hastily being formed.

Calculating that the USA would not enter a war over South Korea, Kim Il Sung persistently pressed for agreement from Stalin and Mao Zedong to reunify the country by military means.

Stalin at first treated the persistent appeals of Kim Il Sung with reserve, noting that "such a large affair in relation to South Korea . . . needs much preparation," but he did not object in principle. The final agreement to support the plans of the Koreans was given by Stalin at the time of Kim Il Sung's visit to Moscow in March-April 1950. Following this, in May, Kim Il Sung visited Beijing and secured the support of Mao.

At Stalin's order, all requests of the North Koreans for delivery of arms and equipment were quickly met.

From a Soviet report on the Korean War, 1966.

Now answer the following questions:

- (a) Compare and contrast the evidence provided in Sources A and B regarding views about Chinese involvement in the Korean War. [10]
- (b) How far do Sources A-F support the argument that the Korean War was a struggle for reunification? [30]

Section B

You must answer **two** questions from this section.

EITHER

- 2 'Protectionism was the greatest challenge to the development of the global economy from 1970 to 2000.' How far do you agree? [30]

OR

- 3 Which of these was more important in the economic transformation of South Korea from 1970 to 1990: domestic or international developments? [30]

AND EITHER

- 4 Assess the view that the political effectiveness of the United Nations during its first 45 years depended on the United Nations Security Council. [30]

OR

- 5 How far do you agree that United Nations peacekeeping operations were more successful after the end of the Cold War in 1989? [30]