

History of International Politics (East Asia focus) – [E]

“Japan and the Four Little Dragons”

Class Discussion Questions from
“Mao’s China, Taiwan, and the Sino-Soviet Split”
Lecture.

1. How did Taiwan benefit from the Korean War?
2. Why was (is) Taiwan such an important strategic and political issue for the People’s Republic of China?
3. What were the First Taiwan Strait Crisis and the Second Taiwan Strait Crisis?
4. What was Taiwan’s diplomatic position in the UN from 1945 until 1971?
5. What was the Sino-Soviet Split (1959 to 1989)?
What factors contributed to the split?
6. What were some of the central effects of the Sino-Soviet Split?
7. Provide examples of foreign policy failures under the PRC leader, Mao Zedong (from 1949 to 1976).

8. What was the Hundred Flowers Campaign?

9. What was the Great Leap Forward? What were some of its major consequences?

10. What was the Cultural Revolution? Why did it occur? What were some of its consequences?

11. Why were the USA and the PRC motivated to repair bilateral relations in the 1970s?

12. What were the consequences of US-PRC friendship for Taiwan?

13. What were the consequences of US-PRC friendship for the Soviet Union?

14. What does the term “Realpolitik” mean?

15. In your opinion, what were some of the key lessons from the Mao Zedong era (1949 to 1976) learnt by Chinese leaders such as Deng Xiaoping (1978 to 1992)?