

Research Package #3

(Junior and Senior High)

Jr: "Be It Resolved That the 21st Century will be China's Century"

Sr: "This House Believes That The 21st Century will be China's Century"



Regional & Provincial Topic (Feb/Mar) 2011-2012

We no longer differentiate topics as "policy" or "values". Use a model if it is helpful, but both practical and values arguments are accepted at all levels of debate.



“When China awakes it will shake the world” – Napoleon Bonaparte

“Once China becomes strong enough to stand alone, it might discard us. A little later it might even turn against us, if its perception of its interests requires”

– Henry Kissinger

“THBT the 21st Century will be China’s Century”

The Proposition Team supports the resolution and will say “YES”

The Opposition Team opposes the resolution and will say “NO”

Both Proposition and Opposition Teams will try to pick about 3 or 4 good reasons to support their position and try to develop each by going through 4 steps:

1. State your point.
2. Explain your point.
3. Provide evidence in support of your point (give an example).
4. Explain how that evidence proves your point (tie it back to your theme).

Each argument will look like this:

Point #1: _____

Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Tie point to theme: _____

Point #2: _____

Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Tie point to theme: _____

Point #3: _____

Explanation: _____

Example: _____

Tie point to theme: _____

PROPOSITION TEAM

The job of the Proposition in any debate is to persuade the judges that the resolution should be supported. In order to accomplish this, there are a number of steps that the Proposition team must go through.

- 1) Define the resolution (Make sure everyone is clear upon what the Proposition is debating).
- 2) Present criteria (halfway between a model and definition: clearly outline what would constitute the century being China's ie. Replacing the USA as a world policy leader)
- 3) Present arguments in favor of the resolution.
- 4) Refute Opposition attacks on the Proposition case. (Show why the Opposition is wrong and the Opposition is correct).

Owing to time restrictions, the Proposition's duties are normally divided up between the first and second Proposition speakers. It is customary for the first proposition speaker to present two arguments followed by the second speaker who presents the final argument.

AN EXAMPLE OF A PROPOSITION STATEMENT

Having easily weathered the economic downturn, China has emerged as a force to be reckoned with. Its economic growth has long outpaced the west, its military dwarves the civilian population of many countries, and strategic trade has allowed it to monopolize key industries. Even now it has begun replacing the USA as the key trade and diplomatic partner with much of Africa. It should be clear this century is destined to belong to China.



Here are some arguments that the Proposition can use in developing their case that the 21st Century will be China's century.

- China has seen tremendous economic growth over the past two decades.
- China emerged from the current economic turmoil much faster than other nations such as the USA.
- China has increasingly become more involved on the global stage over the past decade exerting a "soft influence" strategically more powerful than the USA in countries across Africa Asia and South America.
- Reception in many countries has become more positive towards Chinese Diplomacy while American diplomats are viewed coldly.
- Militaristically, China is no slouch with a larger standing army than the USA, its own nuclear arsenal, and technological prowess to match any rival.
- China has become significantly more assertive on the global stage recently, it seems clear they intend to take a leading role.
- Events like the shooting down of an old satellite, show the world that China is not afraid of military challengers, while protection of Sudan show its foreign policy will not balk. Both these acts show its intention to be a world leader.

OPPOSITION TEAM

The job of the Opposition is to be disagreeable! Whatever the Proposition believes, generally, the Opposition counters. The more you disagree, the better! The Opposition has to convince the judges not to accept the Proposition resolution.

The Proposition wants to convince the judges that their proposal should be adopted.

The Opposition wants to convince you that the Proposition proposal should not be accepted for one or more reasons.

The steps that the Opposition should use are:

- 1) Either agree with the Proposition definition or propose a definition of your own. (Only disagree if absolutely necessary. These make for messy debates.)
- 2) Rebut the Proposition arguments in favor of the resolution.
- 3) Attack the Proposition Model and sometimes propose a counter model
- 4) Present reasons (arguments) to oppose the resolution.
- 5) Refute Proposition attacks on the Opposition case (show why the Proposition is wrong and Opposition is right).

Owing to time restrictions, the Opposition duties are divided between the first and second opposition speakers.

It is the custom for the First Opposition Speaker to present two arguments and the second opposition speaker to present the final argument. (This is flexible!)

AN EXAMPLE OF AN OPPOSITION STATEMENT

The instability of its current economic growth aside, China has shown a reluctance to take a leading role on the international stage. Though in a key position to influence the Sudanese government in Darfur, China was loath to act and risk its own economic interests in the area. The Chinese government may hold hegemony over domestic territory, but has shown no interest or ability to take on the leadership role necessary if this century is to be called theirs.

Some of the arguments that the Opposition can use in developing their case that the 21st Century will NOT be China's century:

- Economic prowess in China has been exaggerated.
- China's powerful position is due primarily to its unwillingness to engage the rest of the world. It has shown reluctance to become involved militarily for any purpose and its reluctance to exert influence. Without a willingness to become a world leader, and not just world maverick, it can never truly be a superpower.
- Catching up and leading are very different. China's growth, though faster than much of the West, is slowing, while its current economic size is still nowhere near the USA. India, still behind China in many ways, is now seen to be growing faster. Its fast growth is just a factor of it being behind and is not sustainable.
- China's development is not universal. While parts of the country have developed, large rural areas remain underdeveloped.
- The restrictive government of China and poor intellectual property rights present problems to innovation. China is capable of exploiting and expanding current technology, but still lags in introducing novel developments.

THE ARTICLES HERE HAVE BEEN EDITED, REPHRASED & ANNOTATED

RESEARCH

This Research booklet is not complete. It is only an overview of information and good debaters will use this booklet as a basis for their thinking and move on to other ideas and research. As well, the best foundation for any research into a topic begins with some basic reading on the ideas. Follow this with an interview with someone who is knowledgeable, can suggest ideas and can direct you to other ideas and research. Although you cannot quote this person unless he/she is published in print or on video, a human being can always explain issues better than an article.

EYE ON CHINA

China: A world leader in many ways

By Brian Wingfield

Published: Wednesday, March 19, 2008

WASHINGTON — China's a big-number nation. The world's largest population (1.3 billion people); the world's most valuable company (PetroChina); the fastest-growing economy (9.7% rate annually since the 1970s), which will probably surpass Germany as the world's biggest merchandise exporter in 2008.

What's more, when researchers at Georgia Tech recently graded the high-tech competitiveness of 33 countries on a 100-point scale from 1996 to 2007, China skyrocketed to the top ranking while the U.S. fell from its 1999 peak. If this trend continues, China could soon replace the U.S. as the main engine of the world's economy, the study suggests.

Small wonder pundits have long said the 21st century belongs to China. And perhaps there's no better way of getting a sense the country's size and ambitions than by looking at the numbers. Viewed through this lens, you see that China already leads the world in a host of critical categories.

China has \$1.53 trillion in foreign exchange reserves, about \$500 billion more than Japan, the next largest holder. It produces more clothing, cement, gold and steel than any other country. In 2006, it had 2.4 million university graduates, more than the United States, Japan and France combined. By 2011, China is expected to become the world's largest energy consumer, a title now held by the United States.

According to government statistics, China manufactured 8.8 million autos in 2007, a 22% increase from the previous year. That's still far behind the U.S., but one analyst estimates China could catch the United States in auto production by 2012.

The industrial boom has put China on pace to surpass the U.S. in energy consumption shortly after 2010, according to the Paris-based International Energy Agency. In addition, a 2007 report by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency found that China is now the world's leading producer of harmful carbon dioxide emissions.

Need more examples of China's headlong growth? According to official statistics from the Chinese government, last year economic growth increased by 11.4%, China's state-owned companies posted a 32% rise in profits and foreign direct investment in China amounted to \$11.2 billion - a 110% increase from the previous year.

All this, and the World Bank recently reported that the country's growth is actually slowing down, albeit gradually. In January, Beijing announced that consumer inflation rose by 7.1% in 2007, the highest level in 11 years, due largely to rising food prices. And China's worst winter in two decades is causing blackouts, highway closures and crop destruction - so far, the economy has taken a \$15 billion hit, the government says.

The Chinese would probably welcome a mild slowdown. Since 2004, China has tried with little success to rebalance its economy by promoting more consumption at home and less investment and export-led growth. The best way for China to adjust, experts say: Spend more, save less.

Despite occasional spats over trade and the exchange rate between the dollar and the Yuan, Washington and Beijing are working together to help China manage its growth and to become a more integrated member of the world economy. In 2006, the U.S. and China began their "strategic economic dialogue," which has become the centerpiece of U.S.-China relations. On the U.S. side, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson Jr. - who traveled to China frequently when he was chairman of Goldman Sachs - has led the effort.

In spite of its impressive gains, China still has a long way to go before it becomes a full-fledged market-based economy. According to Wing Thye Woo, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institute, China needs to take a more assertive role in international trade negotiations. There is concern that the Chinese bureaucracy could stunt growth of its industries. And with rapid growth always comes social change, which China is keenly aware of.

"The Chinese have to set up social and political institutions that could mediate competing interests," Woo says. "Unless they can do that, the economic growth might not be sustainable."

Analyst: U.S. 'Practically Owned' By China

By Newsroom America Staff at 30 Sep 2010

A financial services chief executive is advising gold ownership over the U.S. dollar because the world's top economy will end sooner than most people think, CNBC.com reported earlier this week.

Tom Winnifrith, CEO at financial services firm Rivington Street Holdings, told the financial news Web site that "America is practically owned by China," and that as lawmakers in Washington continue to prefer to print more money rather than address root problems of debt and deficit spending, the U.S. economy will continue to tank.

Winnifrith said that in 1900, the British sterling was the world's reserve capital, but that ended in about 1948 as the British empire receded then vanished.

"America is doing what Britain did," Winnifrith told CNBC. "America spends much more than it can afford and it's not addressing the issue."

He noted that in 1832, China and India were the world's top economies - a status they will regain by 2032.

"The decline of empires has happened much faster than folks think. I believe that gold will be a far better bet in 20 years than the dollar," he said.

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Excerpt from:

Democracy v China

What China challenges

The communist parties of Vietnam and China are very different from the relatively flimsy and short-lived governing parties of most single-party dictatorships, usually constructed around a single personality and his relatives and cronies. Since the late 1970s, they have managed transitions to new generations of leadership every five years with very little disruption. In part this is due to mechanisms and traditions within these parties that provide for some level of internal democracy, or at least of peaceful factional competition. But the ability to recruit new cadres, allow them to rise through the system, assume top leadership positions, and then push them into retirement, without being overwhelmed by nepotism or personality cults, makes this type of autocracy markedly different from the weak family-run shell parties or military fronts that have run or are

running autocratic shows in Indonesia, South Korea, Syria, Iraq, Chile, Spain, Burma and so on. And, obviously, China and Vietnam no longer have to worry about the great weakness that doomed single-party rule in most of the ex-communist world, ie pointless and crippling state-socialist economic policies.

The combination of smooth political succession and strong economic growth helps explain why China is more stable than the USSR was at a similar level of development. In 1990, just before its collapse/democratic transition, the USSR had a PPP-adjusted per-capita GDP of just under \$7,000 (in 1990 Geary-Khamis international dollars), according to Angus Maddison, whose research everybody seems to use on this. Mr Maddison put China at \$4,800 (same units) in 2003; since then its economy has grown by 8-10% a year, suggesting it's now richer than the USSR ever was. Having spent a few months in the USSR in 1990, I wouldn't be surprised if this were the case. (Though Chinese PPP conversions are controversial. IMF and World Bank figures put Chinese incomes lower than Mr Maddison's. But others warn the IMF/WB figures are based on 2005 price surveys that were too high, which would mean current Chinese per capita GDP is 21% of America's, and China will become the world's largest economy in 2012, not 2016 as the IMF estimates. This ADB paper suggests China is now as rich as the USSR was even as a percentage of contemporaneous US per-capita income, but it puts that figure at almost 30%, which seems absurdly high.) Anyway, China appears to be hitting income levels where other countries have experienced democratic transitions without any sign of a plausible challenge to CPC rule.

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Chinese Influence In Sudan Is Subtle, Complicated

by Gwen Thompkins

As an economic giant with huge investments in Sudan's oil industry, China could use its friendly influence to sway the government in Khartoum on a variety of issues. But many Sudanese say China's hand in their affairs is so soft it is almost imperceptible.

Ghazi Suleiman, a lawyer and economist in Khartoum, talks about China like a lover, describing economic investment in terms of kisses.

"If someone is exchanging with you kisses," Suleiman says, "you don't like him?"

In the inferno of summer in Khartoum, Suleiman appears to be a lion in winter. In his office, a fan purrs. He wears a crisp, white suit to match a full head of soft, white curls. He also wears the smile of a single man half his age.

Suleiman says China became Sudan's most important trading partner, when the West turned away. "Chinese are exchanging with us kisses and the Americans are keeping their face away from us. It's very simple," he says.

But the story of the relationship between Sudan and China is hardly simple at all. It is a story of a long courtship, complete with rival attractions and expensive gifts.

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While economic reforms have revolutionized China into a major world power, Sudan's growth has been hampered by years of civil war, agricultural decline, military coups and spats with the West. And then, of course, there is Darfur.

"Actually, we have been talking to the government of Sudan," says Liu Guijin, China's envoy to Darfur, speaking last year at peace talks in Libya.

"We have maintained a very close contact and consultations with the government of Sudan. Me, myself, when I was nominated the special representative to Darfur, I went to Darfur myself," Liu says.

At the United Nations, China has abstained from voting on most measures designed to entice or force Sudan to protect human rights there.

"Of course, we are against the idea of using sanctions to solve the problem," Liu says, "because there is only one way to solve the problem in Darfur, and that's through dialogue, consultation."

With the exception of China's support for peacekeepers in Darfur, Safwat Fanous, who teaches political science at Khartoum University and is in Parliament as a member of the ruling National Congress Party, has seen no effort by China to help resolve the region's underlying issues.

"Usually in Sudan there are very few secrets," Fanous says. "If China was playing a mediator role, or putting [on] pressure, we should have seen the results of it."

What is even more curious, Fanous says, is that China has kept such a low profile during recent fighting in Sudan's Abeyei region between government forces and the army of semi-autonomous southern Sudan. The two sides are fighting over control of the nation's oil supply.

"China has been silent. Completely silent," Fanous says, noting it has "a lot at stake. So you really wonder how the Chinese are just watching these partners fighting each other, which affects their own investment."

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Excerpt from:

Will China Become the No. 1 Superpower?

Robert Roy Britt
LiveScience.com

As the world focuses on China during the Olympics and keeps a watchful eye on Russia's military moves in Georgia, there is an underlying expectation — and for some, fear — that China is poised to become the world's new No. 1 superpower.

In fact, a good number of people in many countries believe the torch has already been passed.

In Japan, 67 percent of the people think China will supplant the United States as the world's premiere superpower, according to a recent Pew Research Center survey. Fifty-three percent of Chinese see that as their fate.

"Most of those surveyed in Germany, Spain, France, Britain and Australia think China either has already replaced the U.S. or will do so in the future," according to the Pew report released in June.

In the United States, hope reigns: 54 percent of Americans doubt China will win out.

Segal, of the Council on Foreign Relations, is skeptical that the Chinese will emerge as a superpower. He does not think they'll have the economic, military, political or cultural might to go for the gold anytime soon. They have no aircraft carriers and no ability to extend their military reach beyond the Pacific, he points out. And while their economy is growing rapidly, the focus is largely on domestic development, he said.

America's open, democratic society, and the fact that other nations sought to emulate it, was an important factor in the U.S. becoming a superpower, other historians say.

China lacks the sort of transparent political system that Segal sees as necessary to achieving superpower status.

"China's behavior during the SARS epidemic, when it hid what was going on and lied to the international community, suggests that it is not ready for that type of leadership," Segal said. "We saw more openness after the Sichuan earthquakes, but the fundamental system remains the same."

"No other country seeks to emulate China's political model," Miller argues. Culturally, Miller points out that Chinese is unlikely to supplant English as the language of international politics anytime soon.

Some analysts think the Olympics could mark a turning point for China.

The goal of Chinese leadership in hosting the Olympics was to "signal to the rest of the world that China has arrived," said Jeffrey Bader, director of the John L. Thornton China Center at the Brookings Institution.

"China will enter a new era after the Olympics," said Cheng Li, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. The country will become "more open, more transparent and more tolerant. But this will not be achieved overnight. It will take time." If China is to become a major power, the government has to deal with minority issues, such as Tibet, in more sensitive ways than simply cracking down, he said. He does not think the Chinese government nor its people recognize that yet, "but I hope the Olympics serve as a wake-up call."

Economic juggernaut?

By one economic measure, China falls short of global domination for now. The country's gross domestic product — the value of goods and services it produces annually — is about \$7 trillion, second place to the United States (\$13.8 trillion).

Miller acknowledges that China is becoming the manufacturing hub of the world. But if the aim is superpower status, there remains much to be done.

"China is nowhere close to becoming a world financial center," Miller says. And to become a superpower, China's "dramatic economic growth must continue indefinitely, a prospect about which there are grounds for skepticism."

Still, there's that increasingly common "Made in China" label that gives many Americans the impression of a country aiming to take over. A lot more labels would be required.

"China's rise further depends critically on the continuation of such [economic] growth rates, and there are reasons to wonder how long the spectacular rates of the past 25 years can continue," Miller says. "The high proportion of China's economy occupied by its exports makes it sensitive to the ups and downs of the international economy generally and to the engine of American consumption in particular."

Other say there's no reason, however, to expect a significant slowdown anytime soon.

"The U.S. isn't going to disintegrate into a backwater economy," said Porter, the Georgia Tech analyst. "But if you scan the contributing factors to technology-driven economic prominence, the Chinese upside is far greater. They are educating more scientists and engineers. Their government puts a high priority on technical capability and entrepreneurial activity. If you look at our educational system (especially K-12), our investment (savings rate), debt, and so on — prospects are scary."

Other Electronic Resources:

<http://www.idebate.org/>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook>

"China the emerging superpower" -

<http://www.fas.org/nuke/guide/china/doctrine/0046.htm>

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/china/index.html>