

Name _____

Date _____



Modern China

"Don't Mess with the Dragon"

CHINESE VILLAGER:

So you want to understand where I'm from?

You want to understand this dragon?

All you got to do right now is listen up:

I won't lie, it's been a long road,
From days of dynasties up in the stronghold,
To today's China that's booming,
Let's take it back to the 1800's, shall we? Check it...
The British want to trade,
They like the tea we brew and silk we make.
Ok, but then they act like thugs,
Like, "Perhaps we can just pay you in drugs."
Nah, we don't like that, so we fight back,
It's the Opium Wars, but it's not a nice match,
'Cause our men are in the dens, addicted,
British warships blast us - win quick, kid.
And after wars, we're fed up with the West,
The treaties make us weak, and the country is a mess.
Sick of Christian missionaries, nah, we don't trust 'em,
Boxers go to Beijing and they bust 'em.
Boxer Rebellion to keep us Chinese,
It didn't succeed, but the dynasty's weak.
And Sun Yat-sen showed up on the street,
To end the streak and overthrow the dynasties. So...

Do you want to mess with the dragon?

Do you want to wrestle the dragon?

The West can't mess with the dragon.

We speed up! Y'all fall back: dragging.

(x2)

CHAIRMAN MAO:

Who's Mao? I'm a communist dude who knew how,

To organize peasants to power, boom pow!

I show strength, move now, Long March,

Diss the Japanese, who came into our parts.

I'm a communist just like Karl Marx,

I'm the Chairman, crafty like some card sharks.

Whose face gets pasted all over?

I'm bigger than Superman, soup or supernovas.

Wrap your mind around that like moo shu,

Time to take a Great Leap, let's move dude.

Melt down the steel, that's what y'all need to do,

So we got a lot of steel but not a lot of food.

Oops! I guess I started a famine,

30 million died, then I started banning

Any thought that was not like mine,

Teachers got killed if they didn't toe the line.

We call this the Cultural Revolution,

Do you know young spies? I could use some.

The Red Guard youth will report you if you don't do

Exactly what you're supposed to.

I wrote a Little Red Book, I'm not lying,

The second most read book of all time.

People wanted freedom even after I died,

Tiananmen Square massacre in '89.

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