

ANGLAIS

CONFUCIUS GOES TO MARKET

China, you know before you arrive, is gigantic and in the middle of the world's greatest economic experiment. But nothing can prepare you for the reality. From my window the skyscrapers of Shanghai stretch to the horizon in a view rivalled only by Manhattan or Tokyo. Each building is different, a celebration of the modern, outdoing its neighbour for
5 extravagance of style and ambition.

Shanghai may be China's showcase, but the capital, Beijing, is not to be outdone. Now constructing its sixth motorway ring, the city is cross-cut by multi-lane motorways so it feels like a Chinese Los Angeles. Hotels and office blocks on an American scale abound. I asked Communist Party intellectuals how all this could be squared with Marxism. We were meeting
10 in a new hotel with enormous columns modelled on the most extravagant Ming tomb and exquisite paintings of Chinese traditional life stretching in a vast panel to the gilded ceiling. 'With difficulty,' came the wry reply.

But then it was Deng Xiaoping who famously declared that it was glorious to be rich – and that is what the Communist leadership has set out to do. Some 150 million fewer people now
15 live on subsistence wages in an economy that has trebled in size in 20 years, courtesy of an embrace of market economics that would have Marx and Mao turning in their graves. The landlords, entrepreneurs, and small businessmen who were once damned as class enemies are today celebrated as the vanguards of wealth creation; the top rate of income tax is set at 45 per cent, not to deter their energies.

20 The Communist Party has moved from grudging acceptance to enthusiastic embrace of private enterprise; without it, there is no prospect of the economy generating the 10 million jobs a year needed to soak up migration from the desperately poor countryside to the cities – the minimum to head off social unrest.

The Central Committee is terrified of a repeat of the 1989 Tiananmen riots; the military
25 parades held symbolically in front of the entrance gate to Beijing's Forbidden City have dried up – the committee fears that one of its members could be the victim of a sniper's bullet. The scars of oppression and continued human-rights violations run deep.

Prosperity is thus a political necessity. State enterprises have to be subjected to market disciplines, private property rights partially recognised and business in all forms welcomed in
30 order to win the jobs to offer the regime a minimum degree of legitimacy. The strategy has worked spectacularly; retreat is inconceivable. China is to become a capitalist economy with a difference; it is to be governed by the Communist Party, a prospect that baffles as much as it bewilders. [...]

35 The new 'market socialist' ideology is being constructed under the rubric of 'The Three Represents' (the Chinese love of talking in riddles makes hiding the retreat from Marxism rather easier). In essence, communism is stone-dead. Instead, the party will aim to represent first, advanced economic forces (the new business elite); second, the national culture

(embracing Confucian commitment to social harmony and, amazingly, even democracy and basic human rights, I was told); and, third, all the emerging new social constituencies. In short, the party is to transmute itself into a national party that embraces all the elements of China's national discourse. [...]

The party will slowly democratise itself – ‘feeling the stones as it crosses the river’, in Deng’s words – even as it tries to open itself up to every element in Chinese society. It may not be Western-style democracy, but the party believes it may be the only way of keeping 1.3 billion enormously disparate people together in political unity while permitting some genuine political pluralism.

But if political change is glacial, economic change is so fast it is hard to keep pace. China now has an emerging body of company law that requires annual shareholder meetings complete with votes, German-style supervisory boards that are to set long-term corporate goals and American-style levels of financial disclosure with independent audits. So far, only a few companies with overseas share quotations and some of the more visible state-owned enterprises comply with the law. [...]

The faster growing companies, like the Shanghai Automotive Industry Corporation, which aims to build a million cars in 2006, want to be above reproach and meet international standards from the environment to corporate governance. Moreover, China’s tough regulators of the financial markets and environment alike intend to make sure everybody ultimately behaves, even if at the moment you can smell both.

Nobody knows whether the experiment will succeed, although the self-confidence and integrity of ordinary Chinese can only make you optimistic. It could not be more fascinating, or more important.

**Adapted from Will Hutton
The Observer, Sunday September 21, 2003**

I. COMPREHENSION

En vous référant au texte, choisissez la réponse qui vous paraît la plus adéquate.

1. According to the first sentence:

- (A) China is considered as the world's greatest economic centre.
- (B) China is experimenting great economic changes.
- (C) China is considered as the geographic centre of the world.
- (D) China is such a famous country that you know it even before visiting it.

2. According to § 2:

- (A) The country's American-like type of development fits in well with Marxist ideas.
- (B) As is shown by the economic expansion of a few cities, China is reaching the goals set by the communist ideology.
- (C) The way of life in some Chinese megapoles is a good illustration of what Marxist ideals put into action can achieve.
- (D) As is obvious when considering the way of life in some big cities, it is not so easy to match Chinese current economic policy with Marxist theories.

3. According to § 3, lines 14-16:

- (A) 150 million people are currently unemployed in China.
- (B) Much fewer people than before now live on minimum salaries in China.
- (C) Only 150 million people now receive financial help from the state for their subsistence.
- (D) 150 million people now receive decent wages.

4. According to § 3, lines 16-19:

- (A) To favour entrepreneurship, the Chinese government uses tax incentives.
- (B) To promote the growth of private business, tax-cuts as high as 45% are set.
- (C) To encourage private enterprise the government has set the lowest tax-rate at 45%.
- (D) To encourage private enterprise, the minimum percentage of their income entrepreneurs have to pay in taxes is 45%.

5. According to § 4:

- (A) A communist system only could have the economy generate enough jobs to prevent social unrest.
- (B) Owing to the current economic system, businessmen create 10 million private enterprises every year.
- (C) Every year in China 10 million people migrate from the countryside to the cities.
- (D) Only the current economic system can annually create the necessary 10 million jobs.

6. According to § 5:

- (A) Military parades are held in front of the entrance gate to Beijing's forbidden city in order to prevent riots.
- (B) Military parades are held in front of the Forbidden City because the Central Committee fears one of its members might be shot down.
- (C) The military parades in front of the Forbidden City have stopped as the Central Committee fears terrorist actions.
- (D) The military parades that used to be held symbolically in front of the Forbidden City are now held in the upper part of the town.

7. According to § 6:

- (A) The Chinese economy has to become commercially competitive for the regime to keep its legitimacy.
- (B) If China becomes a capitalist country, the Communist Party will lose its legitimacy.
- (C) Things have now gone too far in China and the prospect of the country adopting a capitalist economy is inconceivable.
- (D) China is facing the political necessity of choosing between a capitalist economy and a communist government.

8. According to § 9:

- (A) At the moment economic change in China cannot keep pace with political change.
- (B) At the moment the largest part of the Chinese companies do not respect strict management rules.
- (C) Most Chinese companies have now adopted German- or American-like management systems.
- (D) Most Chinese companies now meet international standards as far as management laws are concerned.

II. LEXIQUE

Choisissez la réponse qui, en fonction du contexte, vous paraît la plus appropriée.

9. “outdoing” (*line 4*) means:

- (A) destroying
- (B) surpassing
- (C) defeating
- (D) throwing out

10. “squared” (*line 9*) means:

- (A) multiplied
- (B) opposed
- (C) linked
- (D) matched

11. “wry” (*line 12*) means:

- (A) wicked
- (B) dry
- (C) ironic
- (D) indifferent

12. “has trebled” (*line 15*) means:

- (A) is 3 times less important
- (B) is one third as important
- (C) has become 30 times more important
- (D) has increased threefold

13. “grudging” (*line 20*) means:

- (A) reluctant
- (B) uninspiring
- (C) passive
- (D) sullen

14. “soak up” (*line 22*) means:

- (A) clean up
- (B) absorb
- (C) put an end to
- (D) increase

15. “scars” (*line 27*) means:

- (A) traces
- (B) fears
- (C) echoes
- (D) tools

16. “baffles” (*line 32*) means:

- (A) disarms
- (B) disconnects
- (C) puzzles
- (D) distrusts

17. “genuine” (*line 45*) means:

- (A) false
- (B) unifying
- (C) sophisticated
- (D) authentic

18. “comply with” (*line 52*) means:

- (A) twist
- (B) disobey
- (C) circumvent
- (D) respect

III. GRAMMAIRE

Parmi les quatre solutions proposées, choisissez, pour chacun des énoncés lacunaires suivants, celle qui vous paraît le compléter correctement.

- 19.** He knew it before he
(A) arrives.
(B) arrived.
(C) he would arrive.
(D) he has arrived.
- 20.** China will be powerful country the world.
(A) the more / in
(B) the most / of
(C) the more / of
(D) the most / in
- 21.** are friendly and welcoming.
(A) The Chinese
(B) Chinesemen
(C) The Chinamen
(D) The Chinesemen
- 22.** China is adopting
(A) a driven-market economy.
(B) a market-driven economy.
(C) a driven-economic market.
(D) an economically driven-market.
- 23.** It is said that communism
(A) will soon be died.
(B) will soon have dead.
(C) will soon be dead.
(D) will have soon died.
- 24.** Chinese prosperity is now depending economic competition.
(A) of
(B) out of
(C) on
(D) from
- 25.** He in Asia until he died.
(A) will live
(B) has lived
(C) would live
(D) lived
- 26.** is becoming liberalised.
(A) Chinese national discourse
(B) China's national discourse
(C) The national Chinese discourse
(D) The national China discourse
- 27.** When they in Shanghai, they amazed.
(A) arrive / will be
(B) will arrive / will be
(C) arrived / would be
(D) had arrived / were
- 28.** Even today, young people study Lenin's theories at the university.
(A) had to
(B) have had to
(C) have to
(D) had had to
- 29.** We were amazed his knowledge of Confucius philosophy.
(A) with
(B) at
(C) by
(D) of
- 30.** In a speech he gave last week, Deng Xiaoping that Chinese economy should be commercially competitive.
(A) has declared
(B) had declared
(C) will have declared
(D) declared
- 31.** China is considered as a communist country by a large number of people.
(A) no longer
(B) not longer
(C) not more
(D) no any longer

32. it is not China's capital, Shanghai is its showcase.
(A) Whether
(B) Even then
(C) Although
(D) Yet
33. Beijing now a big American town.
(A) look like
(B) looks as
(C) looks as if
(D) looks like
34. The Chinese love strangers.
(A) of receiving
(B) to receiving
(C) receiving
(D) receive
35. In China, the industrial companies want to meet international standards.
(A) fast grower
(B) growing-faster
(C) growing-fast
(D) faster-growing
36. The Communist Party is now ready itself.
(A) to democratise
(B) democratising
(C) to democratising
(D) for democratise
37. China's economic situation is thriving ever.
(A) not so / as
(B) more / as
(C) more / than
(D) so / as
38. We are look.... visit.... China.
(A) -ing for / -ing
(B) -ing at / -ing
(C) -ing forward at / -ing
(D) -ing forward to / -ing
39. the 1989 riots lots of students were put in jail.
(A) While
(B) During
(C) Since
(D) Meanwhile

Fin de l'énoncé