**What was Maoism?**

Mao’s position as Chairman of the Communsist Party was largely due to his role as the leading theorist. Maoism or Mao Zedong Thought was the official ideology of the Communist Party and was a set of ideas that changed and adapted over time. Much of his ideology was based on Marxism but he adapted Marxism to Chinese conditions and added some ideas that were very much his own.

1. Read p. 126-128 in Authoritarian Rulers. Use this and the Maoism PowerPoint to identify at least five of the key influences on the development of Mao Zedong’s thinking from his early years.

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| **Differences between Mao and Marx in regards to Revolution** | | | |
| **Marxist Revolution** | Progress would come through a revolution led by the industrial workers (proletariat). Emphasis on building a Communist Party membership in the cities among the workers in factories, transport industries and mines. | **Maoist Revolution** |  |
| **Key Elements of Mao Zedong Thought** | | | |
| **Two stage revolution** |  | | |
| **Mass Mobilisation and Voluntaryism** |  | | |
| **Continuous Revolution** |  | | |
| **Self-criticism & rectification** |  | | |
| **Ruthless determination** |  | | |
| **The primacy of Mao** |  | | |