A Tale of Two Revolutions

The Chinese and the Russian Revolutions
Pre-Revolutionary Russia

• Ruled by Tsar Nicholas II
  – Member of Romanov Dynasty
    • Ruled Russia for over 300 years
  – Absolutist ruler
  – Last Tsar of Russia
Problems with Pre-Revolutionary Russia

- Loss of Wars
  - Russo-Japanese War
  - World War I

- Governmental Problems
  - Push for Liberal Reforms
    - All denied
      - Bloody Sunday
      - Pyotr Stolypin
      - Duma
World War I

- War goes very badly for Russians
  - Germans pushing towards capital
    - Captured Riga
  - Leads to unrest in Russian army
    - Caused by famine and displeasure with state of war
February Revolution

- Feb 28, 1917
- Russian people upset with war
- Duma calls for Tsar to abdicate
  - Monarchy replaced by Provisional Government
    - Led by Alexander Kerensky
October Revolution

- Oct 24, 1917
- Workers of Petrograd begin rebellions
  - Under leadership of V.I. Lenin
- Bolsheviks rose up and occupied Petrograd
Russian Communist Party

- Appealed to workers
- Split into two factions
  - Bolsheviks and Mensheviks
- Highly organized command structure
  - Red Army – Leon Trotsky
  - Secretary – Joseph Stalin
Russian Civil War

• Bolsheviks fought with “Whites” for control of country
  – Whites trying to reinstate Tsar
    • Executed July 17, 1918

• Bolsheviks win
  – Better public relations than whites
Pre-Revolutionary China

- Ruled by Emperor P’u Yi
  - Only 3 years old when he took reign in 1908
  - Member of Qing dynasty
  - Highly privileged life
  - Last Emperor of China
Problems with Pre-Revolutionary China

• Extensive foreign control
• Loss of Wars
  – Opium Wars
  – Sino-Japanese Wars
• Governmental Problems
  – Attempts for liberal reforms
  – Push for a republic
    • Lead by Sun Yat-sen
Nationalist Revolution

• Jan 1st, 1911
  Parliamentary republic formed
  – Sun Yat-Sen elected provisional president
  – Royal family formally abdicates in 1912
  – Republic not fully formed until 1928
Japanese (allies) invade German holdings in eastern China
- Japan laid claim to large portion of China
- Anti-Japanese riots all over country
- May 4th, 1919 massive riot in Peking
Post World War I

• China re-unified and government re-established in 1928
• Government led by Kuomintang
  – Elected Chang Kai-Shek
    • Anti-Modernization
    • Pro Confucius
Chinese Communist Party (CCP)

- Established in 1921
  - With help of Russian advisors
- Attempting to establish communist state
  - Emphasis on farmers instead of workers
  - Led to split between Chinese and Russian Communists
Chinese Civil War

• Openly warred against KMT
  - 1927-1937 & 1945-1949
    • KMT winning from 1927 to 1937
    • CCP won 1945-1949
      - KMT no longer with western support

• Communists led by Mao Tse-Tung
  - Became first leader of PRC
  - KMT flee to Taiwan