1. Why were the Bolsheviks able to ride the Russian Revolution to power?
2. What was the appeal of communism in China before 1949?
3. What changes did communist regimes bring to the lives of women?
4. How did the collectivization of agriculture differ between the USSR and China?
5. What were the achievements of communist efforts at industrialization? What problems did these achievements generate?
6. Why did communist regimes generate terror and violence on such a massive scale?
7. How did the Soviet Union and China differ in terms of the revolutions that brought communists to power and in the construction of socialist societies? What commonalities are also apparent?
8. What were the strengths and weaknesses of the communist world by the 1970s?
9. How did the end of communism in the Soviet Union differ from communism’s demise in China?

**End of Chapter: Big Picture Questions**

1. Why did the communist experiment, which was committed to equality, abundance, and a humane socialism, generate such oppressive, brutal, and totalitarian regimes and failed economies?
2. In what ways did communism have a global impact beyond those countries that were governed by communist parties?
3. What was the global significance of the cold war?
4. “The end of communism was as revolutionary as its beginning.” Do you agree with this statement?