**How accurate is it to say that Chinese industry underwent a major transformation in the years 1949–62?**

**Arguments and evidence that Chinese industry underwent a major transformation in the years 1949-62:**

Relevant points may include:

• Access to loans and technology from the Soviet Union in 1950 with further aid offered by Khrushchev on his 1955 visit enabled industrial expansion to progress and provided a basis for transformation to proceed

• The First Five-Year Plan targeted essential raw materials, heavy industry and infrastructure thus initiating a period of change and development

• Most targets were achieved in the First Five-Year Plan e.g. steel production rose 400%

• An annual growth rate of over 8% was claimed for the First Five-Year Plan

**Arguments and evidence Chinese industry did not undergo a major transformation in the years 1949-62:**

Relevant points may include:

• The split with the Soviet Union in 1960 meant that there were no further loans available to finance industrialisation, thus limiting China’s ability to change by contributing to a lack of capital investment in the process

• During the Great Leap Forward, Mao was worried about the use of technical experts as he feared this might create a class that was not revolutionary; this hindered technical progress being made

• Problems were caused by the backyard blast furnaces campaign, including the quality of the product

• Factories were inefficient

• The Great Leap Forward had political priorities rather than economic ones and thus did not aim to transform Chinese industry