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| **QUESTION:** 1. How far did the **role** and **status** of women change in the period 1949-65?**This is a more difficult question than simply – how far did women’s lives improve – which is much easier.****I have included 4 suggested paragraph topics. See if you can think of a fifth one?** |
| **INTRODUCTION** | Set the scene:e.g. Before CCP came to power in 49 women had a subservient role within society etc. Arranged marriages were common, limited educational opportunities; so called ‘three obedience’s etc. |
| Attack the question: when the communists came to power Mao made bold claims about how the communists would transform the lives of women claiming that ‘women hold up half the sky’……. |
| Outline your argument: **For high level marks you could make 2 mini judgements: need to consider the extent of change in terms of the role of women and the extent of change in the status of women – you might make a nuanced line of argument – e.g. that their role changed considerably while their overall status didn’t change as much or something similar depending on your view. (I have planned to do 2 paragraphs on role and 2 on status)** |
| **PARAGRAPH 1** | Point: **To some extent the 1950 Marriage Law improved the status of women during the period.** |
| Evidence: |
| Explanation: |
| However: law not universally adhered to in remote areas of china such as Xinjiang province. |
| Link: |
| **PARAGRAPH 2** | Point: **Improvements to the education system improved the status of women during the Period** |
| Evidence:See p62 revision book |
| Explanation: |
| However: |
| Link: |
| **PARAGRAPH 3** | Point: **Collectivisation and the establishment of the Commune system during the glf considerably changed the role of women during the period.** |
| Evidence:E.g. now expected to take on a full economic role alongside men working in the fields etc. – see p60 revision book. Could also mention the famine |
| Explanation: |
| However: |
| Link: |

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| **PARAGRAPH 4** | Point: **To a limited extent women enjoyed a greater political role in China during the period** |
| Evidence: e.g. see weebly revision notes on women. Could also mention women’s association |
| Explanation: |
| However: women still denied positions in the higher echelons of the party. During Mao’s time women made up only 13% of the membership of the CCP. |
| Link: |
| **CONCLUSION****Self-assessment**www:EBI: | Signpost your conclusion: |
| Summarise your argument:E.g. some changes to both role and status. The role of women changed considerably particularly due to changes in the countryside with the collectivisation of agriculture. Many of these changes worsened the lives of women. Changes made to the legal status of women with the introduction of the marriages laws however not universally accepted |
| Consider significance:  |
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