



Daily Article (Bharath's Reading list) - Answers and Explanations 12.09.2023

Article link : <https://bit.ly/3RepniZ> (Xi's Age of Stagnation : The Great Walling-Off of China)

1. In the early months of 2023, many Chinese intellectuals assumed that Xi would be forced to loosen his iron grip over the economy and society due to all the following reasons except:

- A. The Chinese Communist Party's inflexible zero COVID strategy had triggered a backlash in 2022
- B. The government suddenly abandoning zero COVID without vaccinating more of the elderly or stockpiling medicine led to more than one million deaths
- C. While Chinese society is still filled with creative, well-educated, and dynamic people, the Chinese government is run by a highly incompetent bureaucracy
- D. China has had lost much of the dynamic growth that for decades has sustained the party's hold on power

Explanation : C

Based on the article, all options except C are true. Option C is false; the article says that the Chinese government is run by a highly competent bureaucracy.

2. Close observers of China as well as the Chinese people feel that they are in an era of neijuan as:

- A. China is embarking on a period of slowing economic growth due to demographic changes, government debt, and lower gains in productivity, as well as a lack of market-oriented reforms
- B. Political ossification and ideological hardening have left the country more isolated and stagnant than during any extended period since Deng launched the reform era in the late 1970s
- C. Foreign journalists, policy experts, and scholars are no longer welcome in the country while ever more pervasive restrictions on civil society have caused very many middle-class people to

emigrate

D. All the above

Explanation: B

Option B is clearly stated and is the central idea of the article. Option A is not related to the concept of neijuan or involution. Option C is factually incorrect, based on the article.

3. According to the article, China's rulers seem to be building and perfecting their own twenty-first-century version of the Berlin Wall in order to:

- A. Lock people in their own country
- B. Forestall an existential challenge
- C. Achieve technocratic progress and gain popular support
- D. Withstand the pressures of globalization

Explanation: B

Refer to the line, 'But like its East German counterpart, China's wall is intended to forestall an existential challenge.'