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Edexcel - GCSE (Grade 9-1)

STUDY GUIDE



Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917-41

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Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917–41

Edexcel - GCSE





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contact@cleverlili.com

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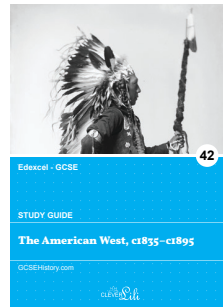
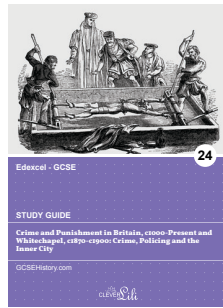
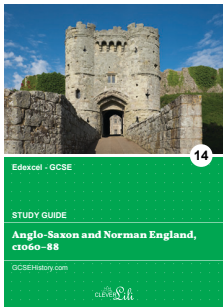
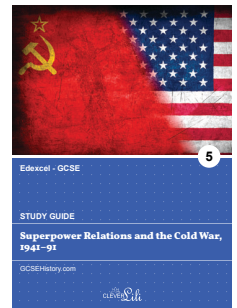
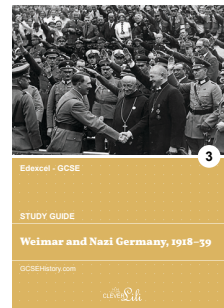
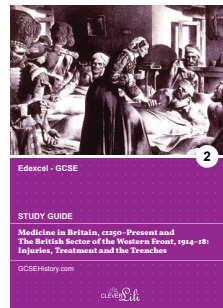
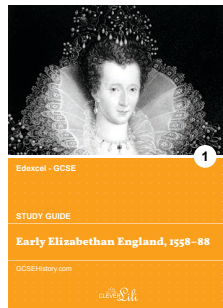
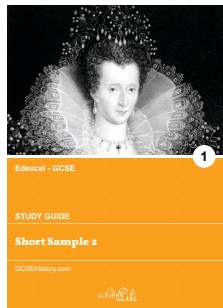
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Lev Kamenev	0
Fanya Kaplan.....	0
Alexander Kerensky	0
Sergei Kirov	0
General Kornilov	0
Vladimir Lenin	0
Prince Lvov	0
Grigori Rasputin	0
Joseph Stalin.....	0
Leon Trotsky.....	0
Genrikh Yagoda - NKVD.....	0
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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

In this study guide, you will see a series of icons, highlighted words and page references. The key below will help you quickly establish what these mean and where to go for more information.

Icons

-  **WHAT** questions cover the key events and themes.
-  **WHO** questions cover the key people involved.
-  **WHEN** questions cover the timings of key events.
-  **WHERE** questions cover the locations of key moments.
-  **WHY** questions cover the reasons behind key events.
-  **HOW** questions take a closer look at the way in which events, situations and trends occur.
-  **IMPORTANCE** questions take a closer look at the significance of events, situations, and recurrent trends and themes.
-  **DECISIONS** questions take a closer look at choices made at events and situations during this era.

Highlighted words

Abdicate - occasionally, you will see certain words highlighted within an answer. This means that, if you need it, you'll find an explanation of the word or phrase in the glossary which starts on **page 17**.

Page references

Tudor (p. 7) - occasionally, a certain subject within an answer is covered in more depth on a different page. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can go directly to the **page indicated**.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917-41 is the modern depth study that investigates why and how Russia was transformed from the autocratic tsarist government to a communist dictatorship between 1905 and 1941. You will study the role key individuals played in the revolutions, as well as how the communist dictatorship radically changed the lives of ordinary people. You will focus on crucial events during this period, and study the different social, cultural, political, economic and military changes that occurred.

Purpose

This study enables you to understand the complexities and challenges of a nation undergoing radical change. You will investigate themes such as democracy, revolution, dictatorship, government, propaganda, censorship, economy and society. This course will enable you to develop the historical skills of causation and consequence, and encourage you to analyse and evaluate contemporary sources as well as interpretations of the time period.

Topics

Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917-41 is split into 4 key enquiries:

- 🗒 Enquiry 1 looks at the revolutions of 1917. You will also study the threats to Tsar Nicholas II's autocratic government, the reasons for the outbreak of both the February and October Revolutions, and the turbulent months between them.
- 🗒 Enquiry 2 looks at the Bolsheviks in power between 1917 and 1924. You will investigate how they established and extended their power to create a dictatorship. You will also study the political, economic and social changes Russia underwent between 1917 and 1924.
- 🗒 Enquiry 3 looks at Stalin's rise to power and how he created a personal dictatorship between 1924 and 1941. You will study the power struggle between key leaders of the Communist Party, the increasing use of terror, and the role that censorship and propaganda played.
- 🗒 Enquiry 4 looks at the economic and social changes in the USSR between 1924 and 1941. You will study the reasons for, and the impact of, industrialisation and collectivisation on the nation. Life for women, children and ethnic minorities will be explored.

Key Individuals

Some of the key individuals studied on this course include:

- 👤 Tsar Nicholas II.
- 👤 Tsarina Alexandra.
- 👤 Rasputin.
- 👤 Vladimir Lenin.
- 👤 Joseph Stalin.
- 👤 Leon Trotsky.
- 👤 Alexander Kerensky.
- 👤 Pyotr Stolypin.
- 👤 Lev Kamenev.
- 👤 Sergei Kirov.
- 👤 Nikolai Yezhov.

Key Events

Some of the key events you will study on this course include:

- 📅 The effect of the First World War on Russia.
- 📅 The consolidation of Bolshevik control.
- 📅 The Russian Civil War.
- 📅 The struggle for power after Lenin's death.
- 📅 The Great Purge.
- 📅 Industrialisation and collectivisation under the Five Year Plans.
- 📅 Policies towards women and the young between 1924 and 1941.

Assessment

Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917-41 is paper 3 where you have a total of 1 hour 20 minutes to complete. There will be 3 exam questions which will assess what you have learnt. Question 3 will be broken down into a, b, c and d. You have to answer all questions.

- 👤 Question 1 is worth 4 marks. This question will require you to make two inferences from a source that answers the question asked. You will need to support each inference with relevant detail from the source. This could be in the form of a quote, detail from a visual source or by paraphrasing what the source states.
- 👤 Question 2 is worth 12 marks. This question will require you to explain why an event occurred. You need to identify three reasons, support each one with accurate and relevant information that is precisely selected and then clearly explain how each cause made the event happen.
- 👤 Question 3a is worth 8 marks. This question asks you to explain how useful two sources are for a specific enquiry using the content of the source, the provenance of the source and your own contextual knowledge.
- 👤 Question 3b is worth 4 marks. This question asks you to identify the main difference in the views of two historical interpretations on a specific topic. You have to support the main difference with details from both interpretations.
- 👤 Question 3c is worth 4 marks. This question asks you to suggest one reason why the views of the two historical interpretations might be different. You have to support the main difference with details from both interpretations and you could use the sources from question 3a to help you answer the question.
- 👤 Question 3d is worth 16 marks and an additional 4 marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar. This question asks you to explain how far you agree with one of the interpretations. In your explanation you have to evaluate both interpretations, using your own knowledge of the historical context to come to your conclusion.

Sample

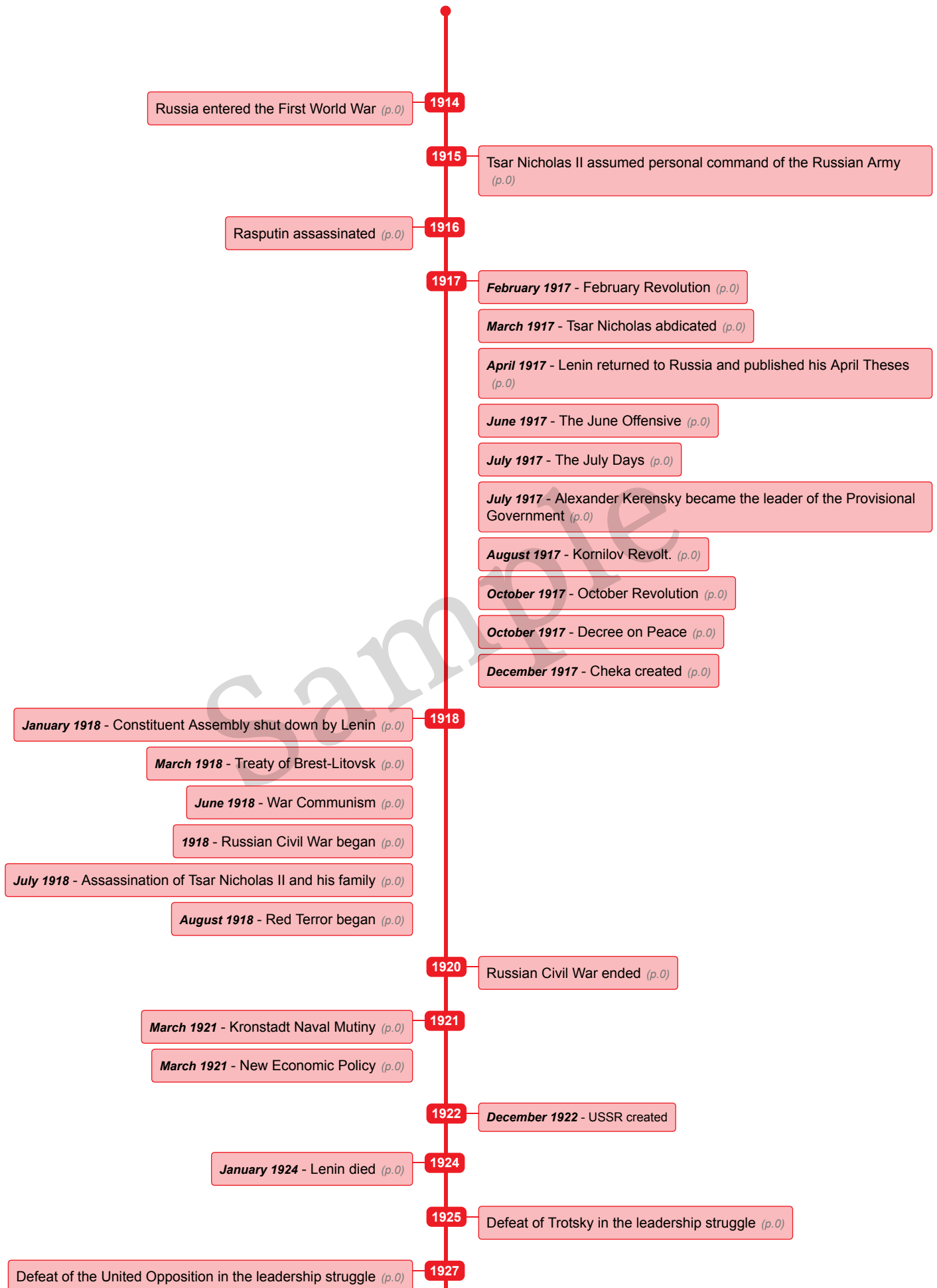


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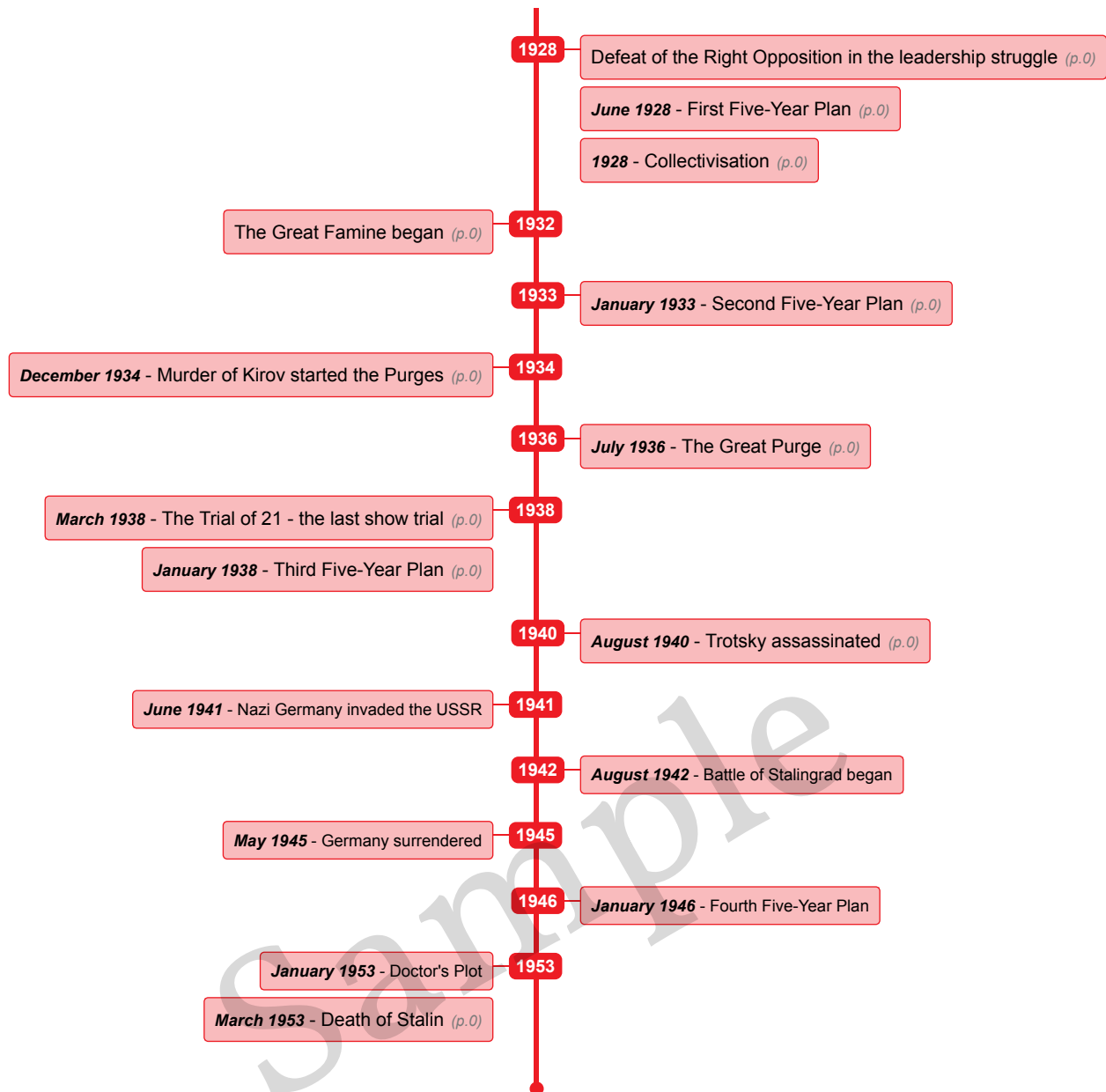
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RUSSIA AND THE SOVIET UNION, 1917-41

TIMELINE



RUSSIA AND THE SOVIET UNION, 1917-41



Sample



INTRODUCTION TO RUSSIA IN THE EARLY 1900S

Churchill described Russia as, 'a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma.'



What was Russia like in the early 1900s?

In the early 1900s, Russia was an enormous **empire** which was economically and agriculturally backwards. It was ruled by an autocratic tsar (*p.o*), who had absolute power, and **suppressed** all opposition.



How many ethnic groups lived in Russia in the early 1900s?

Russia had approximately 130 ethnic groups, who spoke over 100 different languages.



How big was Russia in the early 1900s?

In the early 1900s, Russia was an **empire** that stretched 6,000 miles, from the Baltic to the Pacific and from the Arctic down to central Asia.



Which countries did Russia border in the early 1900s?

Russia shared a border with the German Empire in Europe and China in the Far East, as well as Finland in the north and Afghanistan in the south.



What geographical problems did Russia have in the early 1900s?

The geographical size of Russia causes 6 main problems:

- ✓ Due to the size of the country, certain areas were difficult to control as they were far away from the tsarist capital, St Petersburg.
- ✓ Communication across the country was poor, leading some areas to be divided and detached.
- ✓ There were a lack of railways and useable roads.
- ✓ A large amount of land was unsuitable for farming.
- ✓ The **peasants** used backward and inefficient **agricultural** methods.
- ✓ With an increasing **population**, land was in short supply.



What type of government did Russia have in the early 1900s?

There were 6 key features of tsarist government:

- ✓ The **tsars** were emperors who ruled with absolute power. Their power was justified by the belief that they possessed the **divine right** to rule.
- ✓ There was an Imperial Council who advised the tsar (*p.o*), whose members came from the **nobility**. The tsar appointed or dismissed its members, therefore the **nobles** were often **corrupt** and more interested in securing their position in the Imperial Council than providing balanced advice.
- ✓ There was a Committee of Ministers who ran 13 different departments (increased to 14 in 1900). The **ministers** were appointed by the tsar (*p.o*) and their decisions needed his approval.
- ✓ There was a massive bureaucracy to run such a huge country. It was slow and often **corrupt**.
- ✓ Russia was divided into 117 different **provinces** which were run by the **nobles**. The governors of the provinces were responsible for enforcing the tsar's (*p.o*) laws, which they could do with some degree of **independence**.
- ✓ It relied on the Imperial Army, the Russian Orthodox Church and the police to keep control.



How developed was industry in Russia in the early 1900s?

There were 6 main issues with Russia's level of **industrialisation**:

- ✓ It had a low-level of **industry** but it was growing quickly. By 1914, Russia was the world's 4th largest producer of coal, pig iron and steel.



- ✔ Its banking system was backwards and could not support the investment needed to **modernise** the country.
- ✔ It lacked workers for new **industries** as many **peasants** were tied to their villages because of the **debts** they owed to their landlords.
- ✔ There was **extreme poverty** in Russia, therefore there was little demand for manufactured goods making investment for modernisation very difficult.
- ✔ The level of **industrialisation** was uneven across the **empire**. The **industrial** cities tended to be in the western parts of Russia.
- ✔ It lacked a developed transport network. There were few paved roads and although railways were developing, they were inadequate for helping Russia **modernise**.



What was farming like in Russia in the early 1900s?

There were 6 main issues with Russian **agriculture**:

- ✔ **Agriculture** was backward with little use of modern technology. Most **peasants** were **subsistence** farmers who mainly used traditional methods of farming because they had little to no education or opportunity to **modernise**.
- ✔ The **peasants** were emancipated in 1861, which meant they were free from **serfdom**. In practice, serfdom was replaced with **debt** slavery, forcing the peasants to take on loans in order to buy back their land.
- ✔ The Russian countryside experienced frequent **famines** and crop failures, leading to food shortages and starvation.
- ✔ The government failed to successfully deal with **famines** through a combination of the tsar's (*p.o*) indifference to suffering, poor **infrastructure**, local corruption and the **nobles'** mismanagement of the land.
- ✔ Most **peasants** were **illiterate**, poorly informed and resistant to change.
- ✔ The village **commune**, or **mir**, controlled how the **peasants** farmed and on which land they farmed. The mir allocated small strips of land to village peasants which was very often an ineffective and unproductive way to farm.



What were conditions like in Russia in the early 1900s?

By the 1900s, the living and working conditions in Russian town were terrible for 3 main reasons:

- ✔ Workers usually shared filthy rooms in block-style buildings.
- ✔ There could be up to 10 people sharing a room in these buildings, including men, women and children.
- ✔ Although working days were officially limited to 11 hours per day, the average working day was 15-16 hours.



What were the main religions of Russia in the early 1900s?

In the early 1900s, the 3 main religions were:

- ✔ Russian Orthodox, a form of Christianity, and the official **state** religion of Russia.
- ✔ Judaism. There were about 5 million Jews.
- ✔ Islam. There were about 23 million Muslims.



What role did the Church play in Russia in the early 1900s?

The Russian Orthodox Church played a very important role in Russia in 4 main ways:

- ✔ It taught the Russian people to love and obey the tsar (*p.o*) as the 'Little Father'.
- ✔ It underpinned the tsarist government as many Church leaders were from the aristocratic class of Russia's rulers who owned vast country **estates**.
- ✔ It was very **conservative** in nature and used its influence to block any change in Russia that might upset its position in society.
- ✔ It played a large role in education by teaching children to show loyalty to the tsar (*p.o*), his officials, and the Church.



What different social classes existed in Russia in the early 1900s?

There were 7 different groups that made up Russian society by the late 1800s:

- ✔ The **aristocrats** made up about 1% of the **population** but owned 25% of the land.



- ✓ The **clergy** made up 0.5% of the **population**.
- ✓ The **middle class** of small bankers, **merchants** and professionals made up about 0.5% of the **population**.
- ✓ There was a class called 'urbanities' which consisted of small tradesmen, shopkeepers, white collar workers and artisans that made up 11% of the **population**.
- ✓ Cossacks made up about 2.3% of the **population**.
- ✓ The **peasants** made up about 80% of the **population**, an overwhelming majority, and were exceptionally poor and **illiterate**.
- ✓ About 8% was made up of other groups.



What different nationalities made up Russia in the early 1900s?

In the early 1900s, Russia was made up of several different nationalities. The 5 main ones were:

- ✓ Slavs (including Belarusians, Russians, and Ukrainians).
- ✓ Poles.
- ✓ Asians.
- ✓ Germans.
- ✓ Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians.

Sample

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GLOSSARY

A

Abdicate - to give up a position of power or a responsibility.

Abolish, Abolished - to stop something, or get rid of it.

Abolition - the act of abolishing something, i.e. to stop or get rid of it.

Agricultural - relating to agriculture.

Agriculture - an umbrella term to do with farming, growing crops or raising animals.

Allegiance - loyalty to a person, group or cause.

Alliance - a union between groups or countries that benefits each member.

Allies - parties working together for a common objective, such as countries involved in a war. In both world wars, 'Allies' refers to those countries on the side of Great Britain.

Ambassador - someone, often a diplomat, who represents their state, country or organisation in a different setting or place.

Archaic - to be very old or old-fashioned.

Aristocracy - the highest social class, whose members gain their power from possessing land, property and money.

Aristocrat - a person who belongs to the aristocracy.

Artillery - large guns used in warfare.

Assassinate - to murder someone, usually an important figure, often for religious or political reasons.

Assassination - the act of murdering someone, usually an important person.

Assembly - a meeting of a group of people, often as part of a country's government, to make decisions.

Autocracy - a system of government where the ruler has absolute power over their country.

Autocrat - a ruler who has absolute power over their country.

Autonomy - independence or self-government.

B

Bolshevik, Bolsheviks - was a Russian radical Marxist revolutionary group, founded by Vladimir Lenin and Alexander Bogdanov in 1903. A Bolshevik is someone who is a member of that party.

Bourgeoisie - the capitalists who owned the means of production, i.e. land, banks and factories, in Marxist ideology.

Bribe, Bribery, Bribes - to dishonestly persuade someone to do something for you in return for money or other inducements.

C

Cabinet - politically, the group of senior ministers responsible for controlling government policy.

Campaign - a political movement to get something changed; in

military terms, it refers to a series of operations to achieve a goal.

Capitalism - the idea of goods and services being exchanged for money, private ownership of property and businesses, and acceptance of a hierarchical society.

Ceasefire - when the various sides involved in conflict agree to stop fighting.

Censorship - the control of information in the media by a government, whereby information considered obscene or unacceptable is suppressed.

Claim - someone's assertion of their right to something - for example, a claim to the throne.

Clergy - those ordained for religious duties, especially in the Christian Church.

Communal - referring to something that is shared by all members of a community, be it an action or possession etc.

Commune - a place where a group of people live and work together and share resources.

Communism - the belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property. Everything is owned by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Conference - a formal meeting to discuss common issues of interest or concern.

Conscription - mandatory enlistment of people into a state service, usually the military.

Conservative - someone who dislikes change and prefers traditional values. It can also refer to a member of the Conservative Party.

Consolidate - to strengthen a position, often politically, by bringing several things together into a more effective whole.

Constitution - rules, laws or principles that set out how a country is governed.

Constitutional - relating to the constitution.

Constitutional monarchy - political system in which a monarch's powers and authority are limited by a constitution.

Consumer goods - products that people buy.

Cooperate, Cooperation - to work together to achieve a common aim. Frequently used in relation to politics, economics or law.

Corrupt - when someone is willing to act dishonestly for their own personal gain.

Coup - a sudden, violent and illegal overthrow of the government by a small group - for example, the chiefs of an army.

Culture - the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.

Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

D

Debt - when something, usually money, is owed by a person, organisation or institution to another.

Decree - an official order with the force of law behind it.

Democracy - a political system where a population votes for its government on a regular basis. The word is Greek for 'the rule of people' or 'people power'.

Democratic - relating to or supporting the principles of democracy.

Deport - to expel someone from a country and, usually, return them to their homeland.

Deportation - the act of deporting someone.

Deterrent - something that discourages an action or behaviour.

Dictator - a ruler with absolute power over a country, often acquired by force.

Dictatorship - a form of government where an individual or small group has total power, ruling without tolerance for other views or opposition.

Dictatorship of the Proletariat - the belief that, whilst the proletariat would eventually come to rule itself as proposed by Karl Marx, for now they were not ready, and required a 'dictator' to guide them until they were able to rule themselves.

Discriminate, Discrimination - to treat a person or group of people differently and in an unfair way.

Dispute - a disagreement or argument; often used to describe conflict between different countries.

Divine right - the belief held by monarchs or rulers that they are given the right to rule by God.

E

Economic - relating to the economy; also used when justifying something in terms of profitability.

Economy - a country, state or region's position in terms of production and consumption of goods and services, and the supply of money.

Empire - a group of states or countries ruled over and controlled by a single monarch.

Estate, Estates - an extensive area of land, usually in the country and including a large house. It tends to be owned by one person, family or organisation.

Exile - to be banned from one's original country, usually as a punishment or for political reasons.

Export - to transport goods for sale to another country.

Extreme - furthest from the centre or any given point. If someone holds extreme views, they are not moderate and are considered radical.

F

Famine - a severe food shortage resulting in starvation and death, usually the result of bad harvests.

Foreign policy - a government's strategy for dealing with other nations.

Free elections - elections in which voters are free to vote without interference.

Front - in war, the area where fighting is taking place.

Full employment - when virtually everyone able and willing to work in a country has a job.

G

Gulag - a forced labour camp in the USSR.

H

Haemophilia - a genetic blood disorder where the blood does not clot properly.

Harvest - the process of gathering and collecting crops.

Heavy industry - the manufacture of large and/or heavy items in bulk, or industries which involve large and heavy equipment and/or facilities. Examples are the iron, coal, steel and electricity industries.

Hierarchies, Hierarchy - the ranking of people according to authority, for example a colonel in the army being higher than a corporal.

I

Ideology - a set of ideas and ideals, particularly around political ideas or economic policy, often shared by a group of people.

Illiterate - unable to read or write.

Import - to bring goods or services into a different country to sell.

Independence, Independent - to be free of control, often meaning by another country, allowing the people of a nation the ability to govern themselves.

Indoctrinate, Indoctrination - to teach someone to accept a set of beliefs without reservation or question.

Industrial - related to industry, manufacturing and/or production.

Industrialisation, Industrialise, Industrialised - the process of developing industry in a country or region where previously there was little or none.

Industry - the part of the economy concerned with turning raw materials into manufactured goods, for example making furniture from wood.

Inflation - the general increase in the prices of goods which means money does not buy as much as it used to.

Informant - someone who passes important information to another person or organisation, such as the police.

Infrastructure - the basic physical and organisational facilities a society or country needs to function, such as transport networks, communications and power.

International relations - the relationships between different countries.

K

Kulak - a richer peasant who had sufficient money to own land or a farm.

L

Left wing - used to describe political groups or individuals with beliefs that are usually centered around socialism and the idea of reform.

Legislation - a term for laws when they are considered collectively, for example housing legislation.

Legitimacy, Legitimate - accepted by law or conforming to the rules; can be defended as valid.

Liberal - politically, someone who believes in allowing personal freedom without too much control by the government or state.

Literate - someone who can read and write.

M

Manifesto - the stated policies or aims of a political party or person, normally published before an election.

Means of production - resources which enable the production of goods, such as tools, factories and raw materials.

Merchant, Merchants - someone who sells goods or services.

Middle class - refers to the socio-economic group which includes people who are educated and have professional jobs, such as teachers or lawyers.

Military force - the use of armed forces.

Militia - an army created from the general population.

Mine - an explosive device usually hidden underground or underwater.

Minister - a senior member of government, usually responsible for a particular area such as education or finance.

Mir - was a village in which the community holds the land jointly but farms it individually in tsarist Russia.

Mobilisation - the action of a country getting ready for war by preparing and organising its armed forces.

Moderate - someone who is not extreme.

Modernise - to update something to make it suitable for modern times, often by using modern equipment or modern ideas.

Monarchists - people in favour of living in a country governed by a monarchy.

Monarchy - a form of government in which the head of state is a monarch, a king or queen.

Morale - general mood of a group of people.

Mutiny - a rebellion or revolt, in particular by soldiers or sailors

against their commanding officers.

Mystical - relating to magical, religious or spiritual powers.

N

Nationalism, Nationalist, Nationalistic - identifying with your own nation and supporting its interests, often to the detriment or exclusion of other nations.

Nobility - the social class ranked directly below royalty.

Noble, Nobles - another word for aristocrat - a member of the highest and richest class in society.

O

Oath - a solemn promise with special significance, often relating to future behaviour or actions.

Occupation - the action, state or period when somewhere is taken over and occupied by a military force.

P

POW, Prisoner of war, Prisoners of war - somebody who has been captured and taken prisoner by enemy forces.

Parliament - a group of politicians who make the laws of their country, usually elected by the population.

Patriotic - a strong love of and support for one's country.

Peasant - a poor farmer.

Persecute - to treat someone unfairly because of their race, religion or political beliefs.

Persecution - hostility towards or harassment of someone, usually due to their race, religion or political beliefs.

Pilgrimage - journey undertaken to a sacred place, usually for religious or spiritual reasons.

Police state - a totalitarian country in which the police have a great deal of power to control the people and suppress opposition.

Population - the number of people who live in a specified place.

Poverty - the state of being extremely poor.

Pragmatic - taking a practical approach; being sensible and realistic.

President - the elected head of state of a republic.

Prevent, Preventative, Preventive - steps taken to stop something from happening.

Printing press - a machine that reproduces writing and images by using ink on paper, making many identical copies.

Production - a term used to describe how much of something is made, for example saying a factory has a high production rate.

Profit - generally refers to financial gain; the amount of money made after deducting buying, operating or production costs.

Propaganda - biased information aimed at persuading people to

think a certain way.

Prosecute - to institute or conduct legal proceedings against a person or organisation.

Province, Provinces - part of an empire or a country denoting areas that have been divided for administrative purposes.

Purged, Purging - abrupt and often violent removal of a group of people from a place or organisation; medically, to make someone sick or induce diarrhoea as a treatment to rid them of illness.

R

Radical, Radicalism - people who want complete or extensive change, usually politically or socially.

Rationing - limiting goods that are in high demand and short supply.

Real wages - a person's income in terms of how much they can buy after taking inflation into account.

Rebellion - armed resistance against a government or leader, or resistance to other authority or control.

Rebels - people who rise in opposition or armed resistance against an established government or leader.

Reform, Reforming - change, usually in order to improve an institution or practice.

Regent - the person who rules when the king is away, incapacitated or too young to rule.

Reign - a period of power, usually by a monarch.

Reparations - payments made by the defeated countries in a war to the victors to help pay for the cost of and damage from the fighting.

Repress, Repression - politically, to prevent something or control people by force.

Repressive - a harsh or authoritarian action; usually used to describe governmental abuse of power.

Republic - a state or country run by elected representatives and an elected/nominated president. There is no monarch.

Requisition - to take something, usually by official order, such as a government taking food from peasants.

Revolution - the forced overthrow of a government or social system by its own people.

Right wing - a political view with beliefs centred around nationalism and a desire for an authoritarian government opposed to communism.

Riots - violent disturbances involving a crowd of people.

Russification - a policy implemented by the tsars in Russia to enforce Russian culture and language on non-Russian ethnic groups.

S

Sabotage - to deliberately destroy, damage or obstruct, especially to gain a political or military advantage.

Sanitation - conditions relating to public health, such as the sewage system and drinking water supply.

Self-determination, Self-determined - in politics, the process where a nation decides its own statehood and whether it will rule itself rather than be part of a larger empire.

Serfdom - the condition or state of being a serf.

Socialism - a political and economic system where most resources, such as factories and businesses, are owned by the state or workers with the aim of achieving greater equality between rich and poor.

Socialist - one who believes in the principles of socialism.

Soviet - an elected workers' council at local, regional or national level in the former Soviet Union. It can also be a reference to the Soviet Union or the USSR.

Standard of living - level of wealth and goods available to an individual or group.

State, States - an area of land or a territory ruled by one government.

Strategy - a plan of action outlining how a goal will be achieved.

Strike - a refusal by employees to work as a form of protest, usually to bring about change in their working conditions. It puts pressure on their employer, who cannot run the business without workers.

Subsistence, Subsistence farming, Subsistent - a type of farming in which farmers only grow or produce enough for their own use, with no surplus to sell.

Successor - someone who succeeds the previous person, such as a leader who takes over the role from the previous holder.

Suppress, Suppression - the use of force to stop something, such as a protest.

T

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

Trade unions - organised groups of workers who cooperate to make their lives better at work. For example, they might negotiate for better pay and then organise a strike if one is refused.

Treason - the crime of betraying one's country, often involving an attempt to overthrow the government or kill the monarch.

Treaty - a formal agreement, signed and ratified by two or more parties.

Tsar - the Russian word for emperor; can also be spelled 'czar'.

U

Ultimatum - a final demand, with the threat of consequences if it is not met.

Upper class - a socio-economic group consisting of the richest people in a society who are wealthy because they own land or property.

W

Working class - socio-economic group consisting of those engaged in waged labour, especially manual work or industry, who typically do not have much money.

Z

Zemstvos - elected local assemblies, set up Russia in 1864 to administer local affairs.

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