Edexcel GCSE

History A (The Making of the Modern World)
Unit 2: Modern World Depth Study
Option 2B: Russia, 1917–39

Monday 10 June 2013 – Morning
Time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer six questions (1(a), (b), (c) and (d), 2(a) OR 2(b), 3(a) OR 3(b)).
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided – there may be more space than you need.

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 57.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets – use this as a guide to how much time to spend on each question.
- Questions labelled with an asterisk (*) are ones where the quality of your written communication will be assessed.
- The marks available for spelling, punctuation and grammar are clearly indicated.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Keep an eye on the time.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.
Russia, 1917–39

Answer Questions 1(a) to (d), then Question 2(a) OR 2(b) and then Question 3(a) OR 3(b).

Question 1 – you must answer all parts of this question.

Study Source A.

**Source A**: From a history of the modern world, published in 1999.

The revolution in the Soviet Union was supposed to give women the same freedoms as men. In the early years after the revolution some freedoms were given, but under Stalin domestic chores continued to be seen as the women’s responsibility. Not a single woman had posts in high office during Stalin’s years in power.

(a) What can you learn from Source A about women in the Soviet Union during Stalin’s years in power?

(4)
(b) Describe the key features of censorship under Stalin.
(c) Explain the effects of the decrees passed in 1917 by the Bolshevik government.
(d) Explain why the Tsar was unpopular in February 1917.
Answer EITHER Question 2(a) OR 2(b).

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed in this question.

EITHER

2 (a) Explain how the Bolshevik government’s economic policy changed in the years 1918–21.

(8)

OR

2 (b) Explain how life for the peasants changed in the Soviet Union in the years 1928–39.

(8)

Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☑. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☑.

Chosen Question Number:  Question 2(a) ☐  Question 2(b) ☐
Answer EITHER Question 3(a) OR 3(b).

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be assessed in this question.

EITHER

*3 (a) Were the weaknesses of the Provisional Government the main reason why the Bolsheviks seized power in 1917? Explain your answer.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer and any other information of your own.

- The weaknesses of the Provisional Government
- The role of Lenin
- Continuing to fight in the First World War
- The work of Trotsky

OR

*3 (b) Were the Five-Year Plans the main reason why Stalin was able to industrialise the Soviet Union in the years 1928–39? Explain your answer.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer and any other information of your own.

- The Five-Year Plans
- The use of propaganda
- The Stakhanovites
- Methods of control

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 4 marks)
(Total for Question 3 = 20 marks)
Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen Question Number:  Question 3(a) ☐  Question 3(b) ☐
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