

AS HISTORY

Revolution and dictatorship: Russia, 1917–1953

Component 2N The Russian Revolution and the Rise of Stalin, 1917–1929

Wednesday 25 May 2016 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/2N.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section A

 Answer Question 01.

Source A

From 'Problems of Leninism', a book written by Stalin and first published in 1924.

The Party must lead the working class, directing the struggle of the proletariat and absorbing its best elements and revolutionary spirit. The Party must be armed with revolutionary theory and knowledge of the laws of revolution and see further ahead than the working class can. The Party is the highest form of the class organisation of the proletariat. The Party is a means for achieving the dictatorship of the proletariat. Since the Party represents unity, it is incompatible with the existence of factions. After there has been a contest of opinion and criticism, there must be unity of will and unity of action of all Party members. Factions are incompatible either with Party unity or with its iron discipline. The Party is strengthened by purging itself of factions. 5

Source B

From the record of the 14th Party Congress in December 1925 which was attended by Kamenev and other leading Party members.

Kamenev speaks: 'We are against making a "leader". We are against the Secretariat, which in practice is standing above the political institutions. We believe that our leadership should be organised so that the Politburo is truly all-powerful, bringing together all the policies of our Party. It is harmful for the Party if the Secretariat unites the policy and organisation and in practice decides policy beforehand. Comrade Stalin cannot carry out the task of uniting the Bolshevik staff.' 5

(Voices from the delegates: 'That is not true.' 'Rubbish.')

Applause from the Leningrad delegation.

The delegates rise and salute Comrade Stalin. 10

Stormy applause.

Cries from the floor: 'Here's where the Party's united. The Bolshevik general staff must be united.'

Noise.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining divisions within the Communist Party in the USSR in the mid-1920s?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'The downfall of Tsar Nicholas II in February/March 1917 was due to popular discontent with the tsarist regime.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view of the years 1914 to 1917.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'The New Economic Policy was a successful economic policy in the 1920s.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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