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Pearson Edexcel
International
Advanced Level

Centre Number

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History

International Advanced Subsidiary
Paper 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation
Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

Wednesday 25 May 2016 – Afternoon

Time: 2 hours

Paper Reference

WHI02/1C

You must have:

Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

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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 **ALL** questions in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the reasons for the increased centralisation of power in the Soviet State by 1924?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(10)

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Study Source 2 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- (b) How much weight do you give to the evidence of Source 2 for an enquiry into the reasons why Boris Yeltsin was elected as President of Russia in June 1991?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.
You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

- 2** How accurate is it to say that Stalin's policies towards industry and agriculture changed the Soviet economy to a communist system in the years 1929–41?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3** How accurate is it to say that the status of women improved in the years 1917–53?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

OR

- 4** To what extent did attacks on religious beliefs and practices in the years 1929–64 result in the destruction of organised religion in the Soviet Union?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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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 Question 3 Question 4

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



Pearson Edexcel
International Advanced Level

History

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Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

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Do not return this Sources Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Sources for use with Section A

Source 1: From the Soviet Constitution of 1924. The Constitution was approved by the Second Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR on 31 January 1924. This section is taken from the start of the document. Here the reasons for the declaration of the Constitution are outlined.

Since the foundation of the Soviet Republics, the world has been divided into two camps. There, on the one hand, in the camp of capitalism: national hate and inequality. Here, on the other hand, in the camp of socialism: national liberty and equality. The capitalist system has shown itself incapable of creating harmony between different nationalities. It is only in the camp of the Soviets, only under the dictatorship of the proletariat, that it has been possible to eliminate the oppression of nationalities and to establish the basis of a comradely collaboration of peoples. But the years of the war have left their trace. Alone, the Soviet Republics are unable to deal with the devastation and destruction of the forces of production. National economic revival is impossible as long as the Republics remain separated. The very structure of Soviet power pushes the workers of the Soviet Republics to unite in one socialist family. All these considerations demand the union of the Soviet Republics into one federated state, capable of guaranteeing external security, economic prosperity internally, and the free national development of peoples.

Source 2: From Boris Yeltsin, *The Struggle for Russia*, published 1993. Yeltsin's memoir was published simultaneously in Russia and the West. In this extract Yeltsin gives his personal insight into the candidates for the presidential election in Russia in June 1991.

There was Nikolai Ryzhkov, prime minister under Gorbachev. The people who were likely to vote for Ryzhkov were those who did not wish for anything new, who were for the USSR in its previous form. There was also Bakatin – a clear supporter of Gorbachev. Few people voted for him, actually, but he caused a certain confusion and hesitation in people's minds. Some of these began to mix up the candidates and they didn't go to the polls at all. Finally, there were three horrible and very active figures who fiercely opposed the democratic idea entirely. They were against *perestroika*, against both Gorbachev and me personally, and they advocated imposing order with an iron fist.

It's hard for me to speak objectively of what brought about my success in the first free elections. Still, I believe that the main factor was not my image as an enemy of the existing regime. I believe the most important political reason for my success was the division of roles: Gorbachev represented the Union, the empire, the old power, and I represented Russia, an independent republic, a new and as yet non-existent country. Everyone was waiting impatiently for this country to appear. Many Russians came to June 1991 with a sense of the end of Soviet history.

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