

General Certificate of Education  
June 2007  
Advanced Level Examination



**HISTORY**  
**Unit 4**

**HS4E**

**Alternative E: Germany, Russia and the Soviet Union in  
the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries**

Monday 18 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS4E.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

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

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.
- In answering both Question 1(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw on an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

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Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

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**SECTION A: AUTOCRACY AND REFORM IN GERMANY AND RUSSIA, 1825–1939**

You **must** answer this question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

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1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** By 1848, in the German Confederation, almost three-quarters of the population were country dwellers, and the towns were dominated by a professional and bureaucratic middle-class which had little to gain from radical change. Neither industrial capitalists nor workers existed as a serious political force. Although the liberals hoped to reform the old order, they feared popular upheaval, and paid the penalty for their refusal to enlist popular support. Frederick William's refusal to 'pick up a crown from the gutter' set the seal of defeat on the movement.

Adapted from G BARRACLOUGH, *The Origins of Modern Germany*, 1946

**Source B** Populists put their trust in ordinary people, spreading their ideas to the peasantry by peaceful propaganda. Many did 'go to the people' in the 1870s, only to be rejected. The peasants had nothing in common with middle-class youngsters and their strange ideas. When this move failed, some populists formed the People's Will, turning to terrorism to bring down the tsarist regime.

Adapted from T FIEHN and C CORIN, *Communist Russia under Lenin and Stalin*, 2002

**Source C**

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**Source D** The Ebert-Groener Pact and the agreement between the employers and the trade unions not only acted as guarantees of stability and peaceful transition, but also strengthened the government's hand against the extreme left. For many, it seemed that there were only two possible options  
5 available to Germany at the end of the war: a communist dictatorship or a parliamentary republic in the style of Weimar. Ebert was portrayed as a near heroic figure whose pragmatism had saved Germany from Bolshevism. By May 1919, stability had returned – the German revolution had run its course and the Weimar Republic had been established.

Adapted from G LAYTON, *From Bismarck to Hitler: Germany 1890–1933*, 1995

(a) Use **Sources C and D** and your own knowledge.

How fully do these two sources explain the degree of political stability in Russia and Germany after the abdication of their monarchs? *(10 marks)*

(b) Use **Sources A, B, C and D** and your own knowledge.

‘Without popular support, reform movements were unable to achieve significant change.’

Assess the validity of this view with reference to **both Russia and Germany** during the period 1825 to 1939. *(20 marks)*

**Turn over for the next question**

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**SECTION B: EUROPEAN DICTATORSHIPS IN THE INTER-WAR YEARS**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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- 2 ‘Debates about party policy were more important than personalities in deciding the outcome of the struggle for power in the USSR in the years 1924 to 1929.’  
Assess the validity of this judgement. (20 marks)
- 3 ‘The loyalty of the German people towards the Nazi regime in the years 1933 to 1939 was the result of genuine support rather than of effective propaganda.’  
Assess the validity of this judgement. (20 marks)
- 4 Compare how effectively Stalin and Hitler established political control over the state, with reference to the USSR in the years 1928 to 1939 and to Germany in the years 1933 to 1939. (20 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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