



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2009

History

HIS2L

Unit 2L The Impact of Stalin's Leadership in the USSR, 1924–1941

Friday 16 January 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 HIS2L.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- 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 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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

Source A From a speech by Stalin in February 1931

- To slacken the tempo of industrialisation would mean falling behind. And those who fall behind get beaten. We are fifty or a hundred years behind the advanced countries. We must make good this distance in ten years. Either we do it, or we shall be crushed. We have other obligations – to the world proletariat. Must we not live up to the hopes of the world’s working class? Yes. Such are our obligations, internal and international. They dictate to us a Bolshevik tempo of development.
- 5

Source B Stalin presented the industrialisation drive as a class war against alleged ‘class enemies’ such as kulaks, NEP-men, private businessmen, traders and other survivors from the old regime. It was a struggle of socialist planning against capitalist market forces. In 1928 Stalin declared, ‘Our class enemies still exist.

- 5 They are growing and trying to take action against the Soviet government.’ Stalin also used the growing enthusiasm for industrialisation to fight the Bukharin group within the Party leadership.

Adapted from H KUROMIYA, *Stalin’s Industrial Revolution. Politics and Workers, 1928–1932*, 1990

Source C Industrial output during the period of the first three Five-Year Plans, based on Soviet and Western statistics

	1928	1932	1936	1940
Coal (million tons)	35.5	64.4	126.8	165.9
Oil (million tons)	11.6	21.4	27.4	31.1
Steel (million tons)	3.4	4.4	12.5	13.1
Machine tools (thousands)	2.0	19.7	44.4	58.4
Electric power (billion Kwh)	5.0	13.5	32.8	48.3

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- (a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to Stalin's motives for industrialisation. *(12 marks)*

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

How far did the policy of industrialisation meet Stalin's objectives by 1941? *(24 marks)*

EITHER

- 2 (a) Explain why, by 1929, Trotsky's personality had undermined his position in the Soviet leadership. *(12 marks)*

- (b) 'The struggle for power in the USSR in the years 1924 to 1929 was predominantly about economic policy.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR

- 3 (a) Explain why the use of state terror became so widespread in the USSR in the years 1934 to 1939. *(12 marks)*

- (b) 'By 1941, the Great Terror had strengthened the USSR.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source B: H KUROMIYA, *Stalin's Industrial Revolution. Politics and Workers, 1928–1932*, Cambridge University Press, 1990.

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