



AS HISTORY

Russia in the Age of Absolutism and Enlightenment, 1682–1725

Paper 1E

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER

1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 **1E**.
- 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.
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Section AAnswer Question 01

Extract A

Russia under Peter the Great can be regarded as undergoing, in the main, a process of forced and greatly accelerated evolution rather than of true revolution. Nevertheless, by altering so much of the tempo of change, Peter altered to some extent also its nature. It is difficult to believe that, had he never existed, Russia would have remained without a Baltic coastline or real influence in Europe. Certainly the influence of foreign ideas and techniques in Russian life would have continued to grow. Almost certainly there would have been efforts to create a more effective form of administration. Most of the substance of Peter's work was not in the full sense revolutionary.

Adapted from M S Anderson, **Peter the Great**, 1995

Extract B

Autocracy was not limited, the mass of the Russia population remained enserfed, small towns and villages hardly changed at all and many of the changes that did occur started in the reigns of Peter's predecessors. But viewed with the eyes of a foreigner who witnessed the growth of St. Petersburg and the external transformation of its population first hand, Peter must have seemed like a revolutionary. Men in the thick of things experienced the full force of the rhetoric which presented Peter as a creative genius whose energetic commitment to change was so palpable that people were convinced that he really did have the power to transform Russia, for good or ill, by his own will.

Adapted from Lyndsey Hughes, **Peter the Great**, 2004

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of Peter the Great's impact on Russia?

[25 marks]

Section BAnswer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03

EITHER

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‘Peter the Great’s westernisation reforms were driven by the demands of war.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

OR

0	3
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‘The Streltsy were the most serious opposition that Peter the Great faced during his reign.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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Question 1 Extract B: Lyndsey Hughes, Peter the Great, Yale University Press, 2004

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