



AS HISTORY

Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917–1929

Paper 2N

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 **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.
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Section AAnswer Question 01

Source A

Adapted from an article in the British newspaper, **The Times**, 23 January 1924, published soon after Lenin's death as an obituary.

This extraordinary figure was first and foremost a professional revolutionary. A man of iron will and inflexible ambition, he had no scruple about means and treated human beings as mere material for his purpose. Lenin looked like a small tradesman. His general nondescript appearance disposed the crowd in his favour. 'He is not one of the gentlefolk, he is one of us', they would say. This is not the place to describe the shameful peace with Germany, the plundering of the propertied classes, the long continued terror with thousands of innocent victims. Both the Communist Party and the Council of People's Commissaries were completely under Lenin's control. The Communist experiment brought Russia to economic ruin, famine and barbarism.

Source B

Adapted from Stalin's speech on the death of Lenin in 1924. Stalin was speaking at Lenin's funeral, at a time when it was not clear what sort of leadership Russia would have after Lenin's death.

Comrade Lenin moulded our Party to be the strongest Workers' Party in the world, in the only country where the crushed and labouring masses have successfully thrown off the rule of landlords and capitalists. The whole world now admits that this struggle was led by Comrade Lenin and his party. Lenin's greatness lies above all in this: he gave a practical demonstration to the oppressed masses of the world that the hope of deliverance is not lost, that the kingdom of labour can be created on earth. He thus fired the hearts of the workers and peasants of the whole world with the hope of liberation. This is why Lenin's name has become the name most beloved of the labouring and exploited masses.

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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 about Lenin and his impact on Russia?

[25 marks]

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

EITHER

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'The fall of the Provisional Government in October 1917 was entirely due to its own failings.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

OR

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'Political motives were the most important factor in the decision to abandon the New Economic policy.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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