

## B1 – THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION, c.1910-24

### SOURCES (A) TO (F) FOR QUESTION 1

**SOURCE A:** A table showing food prices and bread rations in Russia in 1917.

Selected food prices, 1917 (in roubles)		
	July	October
Lard (1lb)	1.10	5.40
Cheese (1lb)	1.60	5.40
Cabbage (1lb)	1.60	2.20
Sausages (1lb)	1.00	6.00

Bread rations, 1917 (per day)				
	March	April	Sept	Oct
Manual workers	1½lbs	¾lb	½lb	¼lb
Others	1lb	¾lb	½lb	¼lb

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**SOURCE B:** From a book by John Reed, a US journalist who was in Petrograd in September and October 1917. The book was published in 1926.

Week by week, food became scarcer in Petrograd. The daily allowance of bread fell. There was one week without bread at all. There was only milk for half the babies in the city. Most people never saw it for months. People had to stand in queues for hours in the freezing rain to buy milk or tobacco.

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**SOURCE C:** From a school textbook on the history of Russia published in the 1908.

The Provisional Government decided to continue the war. Nobody, including the Petrograd Soviet, wanted to be defeated by the Germans. But the war continued to go badly. More and more soldiers began to desert. Because of the war, food and fuel remained in short supply. Now the people desperately wanted the war to end.

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**SOURCE D:** A freeze frame from the film "*October*" by Sergei Eisenstein, made in the USSR in 1927. Eisenstein was a Bolshevik supporter. In this shot Lenin is shown standing on top of an armoured car during the storming of the Winter Palace. He is urging the Red Guards forward.



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**SOURCE E:** From a biography of Lenin written by a Soviet historian in the USSR in 1976.

On 10 October Lenin told the Central Committee of the Bolsheviks that the time had come for the proletariat and the peasants to seize power. The Central Committee agreed to go ahead with an armed uprising. The Revolution went ahead according to Lenin's plans. The Bolshevik fighting units were highly organised and well disciplined. The Revolution showed Lenin's genius as a leader of the masses. He acted wisely and with great courage.

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**SOURCE F:** From a school textbook about Soviet Russia published in the 1990s.

Trotsky, not Lenin, planned and organised how the Bolsheviks seized power. On the night of 24 October the Bolsheviks took control of key points in Petrograd. There was little resistance; no shots were fired. Lenin arrived at the Bolshevik headquarters in disguise and when some people recognised him he hid. Trotsky had to keep him informed about how the Revolution was going.