

SECTION A

Answer Question 1 and then EITHER Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).

Study Source A below and then answer Question 1.

Source A: From an article in a British newspaper, written in March 1933. The author had recently visited the main wheat-growing region in the USSR to see the impact of collectivisation.

'How are things with you?' I asked one man. He looked around anxiously to see that no soldiers were about.

'We have nothing, absolutely nothing. They have taken everything away,' he said.

This is what I heard again and again. Some of the food that has been taken away from the peasants is still being exported to foreign countries.

Starving people are reluctant to talk about the future. To them, the most important issue is how to get enough food to stay alive today and tomorrow.

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- 1 Give **two** things you can infer from Source A about the impact of collectivisation in the 1930s.

Complete the table below to explain your answer.

(i) What I can infer:

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Details in the source that tell me this:

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(ii) What I can infer:

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Details in the source that tell me this:

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(Total for Question 1 = 4 marks)

Answer EITHER Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).

EITHER

2 (a) Explain why the Civil War broke out in 1918.

(12)

You **may** use the following in your answer:

- the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- the White armies

You **must** also use information of your own.

OR

(b) Explain why Stalin was able to establish a dictatorship in the USSR.

(12)

You **may** use the following in your answer:

- the use of purges
- propaganda

You **must** also use information of your own.

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(Total for Question 2 = 12 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 16 MARKS



SECTION B

For this section, you will need to use the sources and interpretations in the Sources/Interpretations Booklet.

3 (a) **Study Sources B and C.**

How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into the impact of the First World War on Tsarist Russia?

Explain your answer, using Sources B and C and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

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(b) **Study Interpretations 1 and 2.**

They give different views about the impact of the First World War on Tsarist Russia.

What is the main difference between these views?

Explain your answer, using details from **both** interpretations.

(4)



(c) Suggest **one** reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the impact of the First World War on Tsarist Russia.

You **may** use Sources B and C to help explain your answer.

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Spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology will be assessed in part (d).

- (d) How far do you agree with Interpretation 2 about the impact of the First World War on Tsarist Russia?

Explain your answer, using **both** interpretations and your knowledge of the historical context.

(16)



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(Total for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology = 4 marks)
(Total for Question 3 = 36 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 36 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 52 MARKS



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Acknowledgements

Source A taken from: https://www.garethjones.org/soviet_articles/soviet_and_the_peasantry_1.htm



Tuesday 10 June 2025

1H10/30

Option 30: Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917–41

Pearson

Sources/interpretations for use with Section B.

Source B: From private letters written by Grand Duke Alexander Mikhailovich in early 1917. He is writing to his brother-in-law, Tsar Nicholas II. They were close friends. Tsar Nicholas was at the war front.

14 January 1917

The unrest in Petrograd is growing. This has been caused by the pressures of war. It seems as if everything that is decided by your advisers makes it more likely Russia will lose the war.

7 February 1917

I can keep silent no longer. Your advisers are helping to destroy Russia. The people love you, but they are unhappy, and the gap between you and your people is growing wider. The people believe victory in the war is possible if the right men are in charge, but they are not.

Russia is in chaos and I am in despair that you will not listen to advice.

Source C: A photograph showing people in Petrograd queuing for bread in February 1917. They are being watched by the police. The photograph was taken by an American journalist who was in Russia to report on the war.



Interpretation 1: From *20th Century History* by J Cantrell, N Smith and P Smith, published in 2013.

The First World War highlighted all of Russia's problems and made many of them even worse. The war demoralised the people but its most devastating effect was the way it showed the failings of the Tsar's leadership. The decisions the Tsar made were poor. He was unpopular because he relied too much on his wife for advice. He did not listen to the advice of politicians.

Tsar Nicholas was unpopular for many reasons but the war created a situation from which it was impossible for him to recover.

Interpretation 2: From *Russia and the USSR 1905–56* by N Kelly, published in 1996.

The war had a devastating effect on the Russian economy. The huge numbers of men fighting in the war meant there were not enough people to farm the land. Industry was also hit by a shortage of workers and a lack of fuel and other supplies.

Additionally, the transport system was inadequate. It was impossible to move huge numbers of soldiers to the front, to supply the people with food and to keep essential raw materials arriving at the factories.

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Acknowledgements

Source B taken from: <https://alphahistory.com/russianrevolution/tsars-brother-in-law-urges-reform-1917/>

Source C taken from: © Chronicle/Alamy Stock Photo

Interpretation 1 taken from: *20th Century History* by John Cantrell, Neil Smith, Peter Smith © Oxford University Press, April 2018

Interpretation 2 taken from: *Russia and the USSR, 1905–1956* by Nigel Kelly © Heinemann, December 1996

