

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Wednesday 21 May 2025

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI02/1C**

History

International Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ALL** questions in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into problems in the Soviet economy under Brezhnev?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(10)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B**Answer ONE question in Section B.****You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.****EITHER**

- 2** How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1918–28, government policies did not lead to improvements in the lives of women in Russia?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)**OR**

- 3** How accurate is it to say that Stalin and Khrushchev had very different approaches to controlling the people of Soviet Russia?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)**OR**

- 4** How accurate is it to say that Soviet leaders' control over the government of the Soviet Union was weak in the years 1982–91?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒ **Question 3** ☐ **Question 4** ☐



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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source 1: From a speech by Leonid Brezhnev, the General Secretary of the Communist Party, 13 April 1970. The speech was broadcast on television to the Soviet population. Here Brezhnev comments on developments in the Soviet economy.

Some years ago, we concluded that the efficiency of production was an important problem affecting economic development.

The Central Committee has constantly emphasised the importance of accelerating scientific and technical progress. This will continue to be prioritised by the Party and the Government.

5

Improvement of the organisation and management of the economy is another urgent task. Our Party and Government workers and economic officials have developed much experience in managing the economy. But we cannot be content with this old experience.

Significant changes are being introduced to correct the structure of management of the economy. These changes make it possible to determine a correct relationship between rights and duties and powers and responsibilities at all levels.

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There are also problems in the work of individual departments and workers. Let us speak frankly – many of our workers and many leading officials have at times lacked a proper sense of responsibility and discipline. Some sectors of the economy have failed, year after year, to fulfil their targets set in the plan.

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Source 2: From Victor Serge, *Memoirs of a Revolutionary*, published 1951. Serge joined the Bolshevik Party in 1919. He was expelled from the Party in the late 1920s for criticising Stalin and exiled from Russia in 1936. Here he reflects on developments in the way Russia was ruled by the end of 1920.

In politics, difficulties were dealt with by force and violence, which led to the growth of discontent. Consequently, any criticism became dangerous and was treated as enemy activity. I was exceptionally well placed to observe the progress of this evil development in government. I belonged to the governing groups in Petrograd and had close contacts with various opposition groups. Even Communists within the Party were beginning to criticise the growing bureaucracy of the regime and the treatment of the ordinary worker.

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These critics were right to demand freedom of expression and the restoration of the liberty of the Soviets. The Soviets, which had been so lively in 1918, were now only lowly agencies of the Party. They possessed no initiative, exercised no control, and in practice were merely local Party Committees.

25

The Party itself was increasingly run from the top by Party Secretaries. The Party was now full of career-men who had rushed to join the side that had the power.

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Many workers believed that the revolution was doomed if the Party failed to introduce radical changes, including the establishment of a true Soviet democracy. However, when I took part in discussions in a Petrograd district, I was horrified to see voting rigged for Lenin's group. That way would achieve nothing.

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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 from: <https://www.nytimes.com/1970/04/14/archives/excerpts-from-brezhnev-talk-on-economic-issues.html>

Source 2 from: *Memoirs of a Revolutionary*, by V Serge, New York Review Books, 2012