

# Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

## History

Advanced

Paper 2: Depth study

Option 2C.1: France in revolution, 1774–99

Option 2C.2: Russia in revolution, 1894–1924

Sample assessment materials for first teaching

September 2015

**Sources Booklet**

Paper Reference

**9HI0/2C**

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**Sources for use with Section A. Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.**

**Option 2C.1: France in revolution, 1774–99**

**Sources for use with Question 1.**

**Source 1:** From *Travels During the Years 1787, 1788 and 1790*, published 1792 by Arthur Young. Young was an English writer on agriculture and economics and campaigned for the rights of agricultural workers. He travelled widely across France in the late 1780s. Here, Young describes how the French tax system operated before the Revolution of 1789.

The abuses involved in imposing taxes were universal. The French kingdom was divided up into administrative districts, each of which had an intendant as its head. The intendant represented the power of the crown in his district and had particular authority for all affairs of finance. The burden of taxes was distributed among districts, parishes, and individuals at the intendant's pleasure. He could exempt, change, add, or diminish taxes at pleasure. Such an enormous power, from which no man was free, must degenerate in many cases into absolute tyranny. Friends, acquaintances, and dependants of the intendant might be favoured in taxation at the expense of their miserable neighbours. Noblemen in favour at court, on whose protection the intendant himself would naturally rely, could find little difficulty in throwing much of the weight of their taxes on others who lacked similar support. But, what must have been the state of the poor people paying heavy taxes, from which the nobility and clergy were exempted? A cruel aggravation of their misery, to see those who could best afford to pay, exempted. All these oppressions fell on the Third Estate only – the nobility and clergy having been equally exempted from *tailles*\* and *corvees*\*\*.

\* *taille* – a direct land tax paid to the crown

\*\* *corvee* – the duty to provide unpaid labour to maintain roads

**Source 2:** From a 'Cahier de Doleances' from a rural area in northern France. The cahiers were lists of grievances and suggestions for reform drawn up, on King Louis XVI's orders, by each of the three Estates between March and April 1789. In total, there were some 25,000 cahiers produced.

Afflicted by many misfortunes and suffering from poverty, the people of the countryside have become listless. They have fallen into a state of numbness which is most disastrous for the prosperity of a country. They are afraid to get married, for marriage holds only the prospect of further hardships – they would immediately be taxed, asked for road services or charges for labour services and contributions of all kinds. They fear their family would be a burden to them, since they can only anticipate their children being poor and wretched.

Oh petty tyrants placed at the heart of the provinces to control our destinies! Oh owners of noble estates who make the most crippling and humiliating demands! Leave for a time your palaces and chateaux where you are offered every luxury to stimulate your blunted senses. Glance at those unfortunate men whose muscles are only occupied in working for you. What do you see in our villages, in our fields? A few weak men, whose pale faces are withered by poverty and shame, their wives regretting their fertility, each child wearing rags.

## C2: Russia in revolution, 1894–1924

### Sources for use with Question 2.

**Source 3:** From a speech made by Paul Milyukov, the leader of the liberal Kadet Party, to the Fourth Duma on 1 November 1916. Here, Milyukov criticises the Tsar's government.

This present government has sunk beneath the level on which it stood during normal times in Russian life. And now the gulf between us and that government has grown wider and become impassable. Today we are aware that with this government we cannot legislate, and we cannot, with this government, lead Russia to victory. We are telling this government, as the declaration of the [Progressive] Bloc stated: We shall fight you, we shall fight you with all legitimate means until you go. 5

When the Duma declares again and again that the home front must be organised for a successful war and the government continues to insist that to organise the country means to organise a revolution, and consciously chooses chaos and disorganisation – is this stupidity or treason? We have many reasons for being discontented with the government. But all these reasons boil down to one general one: the incompetence and evil intentions of the present government. We shall fight until we get a responsible government. Cabinet members must agree unanimously as to the most urgent tasks. They must agree and be prepared to implement the programme of the Duma majority. They must rely on this majority, not just in the implementation of this programme, but in all their actions. 10 15

**Source 4:** From a Tsarist police report, written in October 1916. Here, the report considers conditions in wartime Petrograd.

In the opinion of the spokesmen of the labour group of the Central War Industries Committee\*, the industrial proletariat of the capital is on the verge of despair. The labour group believes that the smallest outbreak, due to any pretext, will lead to uncontrollable riots with tens of thousands of victims. Indeed the stage for such outbreaks is more than set: the economic position of the masses is distressing. 20

Even if we assume that wages have increased 100 per cent, the cost of living in the meantime has risen by an average of 300 per cent. There is the impossibility of obtaining, even for cash, many foodstuffs and essentials, the waste of time involved in spending hours waiting in line at stores, and the increasing death rate due to inadequate diet and insanitary housing. All these conditions have created such a situation that the mass of industrial workers are quite ready to let themselves go to the wildest excesses of a hunger riot. 25

The closing of all labour meetings and trade unions make the working masses, led by the more advanced and revolutionary-minded elements, assume an openly hostile attitude towards the government. They also protest with all the means at their disposal against the continuation of the war. 30

\* Central War Industries Committee – a non-governmental body set up in 1915 to help with armaments production. It had a wide membership, including industrialists, zemstva representatives and workers.

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### Acknowledgements

Source 1 is from M Perry, J R Peden (ed.) and T H Von Laue, *Sources of the Western Tradition, Vol. II: From the Renaissance to the Present*. Houghton Mifflin 1991 © Cengage Learning; Source 2 is from D G Wright, *Revolution and Terror in France 1789–95*, Longman 1974, translated from P Goubert and M Denis (eds.), *Les Français ont la parole: cahiers des États Généraux*, Juilliard 1964 © Longman Group UK Limited; Source 3 is from John Laver, *Russia 1914–41*, Hodder & Stoughton 1991.

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