

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 38.1: The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991

Option 38.2: The making of modern China, 1860–1997

Sample assessment materials for first teaching

September 2015

Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

9HI0/38

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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 38.1: The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991

Source for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From 'The Decree of the All-Russian Executive Committee of the Soviets on the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly', 6 January 1918. This was drafted by Lenin.

From the very beginning of the Russian Revolution the Soviets brought the toiling and exploited classes together and led them in the fight for full political and economic freedom. They learned by experience the futility of compromising with the bourgeoisie.

The Constituent Assembly, which was elected on the lists made out before the October Revolution, represents the old order. 5

At the time of voting for the Socialist Revolutionaries, the people were not in a position to decide between the Right Wing (supporters of the bourgeoisie) and the Left Wing (supporters of socialism). This accounts for the fact that the Constituent Assembly, the crown of the bourgeois-parliamentary republic, stands in the way of the October Revolution and the Soviet power. 10

The labouring classes have learned by experience that the old bourgeois parliament has outlived its usefulness. It is quite incompatible with the task of establishing socialism. The task of overcoming the propertied classes, and of laying the basis of a socialistic society, cannot be undertaken by a national institution, but only by one representing a class such as the Soviet does. To deny full power to the Soviets in favour of a bourgeois parliamentarianism such as the Constituent Assembly would be a step backwards and the death blow of the October workers'-peasants' revolution. 15

The Constituent Assembly, which opened on 5 January, has a majority of Socialist Revolutionaries of the Right, the party of Kerensky. It is natural that this party should refuse to recognise the October Revolution and the Government of the Soviet. By these very acts the Constituent Assembly has cut every tie that bound it to the Soviet of the Russian Republic. Under the circumstances the Bolsheviks and the Socialist Revolutionaries of the Left had no choice but to withdraw from the Constituent Assembly. 20 25

The Majority parties of the Constituent Assembly – the Socialist Revolutionaries and the Mensheviks – are carrying on an open war against the Soviet, calling for its overthrow and in this way helping the exploiters in their efforts to block the transfer of the land and the factories to the toilers. 30

It is clear that this part of the Constituent Assembly can be of help only to the bourgeois counter-revolution in its efforts to crush the power of the Soviets.

In view of the above the Central Executive Committee hereby decrees: The Constituent Assembly is dissolved.

Option 38.2: The making of modern China, 1860–1997

Source for use with Question 2.

Source 2: From Sir Robert Hart, *These from the Land of Sinim* [China], published 1901. Hart was a former British diplomat and was Head of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service, 1863–1910. He received the high honour of the award of the Red Button from the Imperial Court. The book was a memoir and commentary on China. Here, he is writing about China at the time of the Boxer Rebellion of 1898.

Sixty years of treaty relations have culminated in this Boxer movement; how to account for such a finale? The Chinese are a proud – some say a conceited – people but they have good reasons for their pride. There is pride of race, pride of intellect, pride of civilisation, pride of supremacy; and this inherited pride, in its massive and magnificent setting of blissful ignorance, has been so hurt by the manner of foreign impact that it has overwhelmed the other good points of Chinese character; it is not simply the claim for equality by foreigners, or the demonstration of physical superiority or the expansion of contact under compulsion, or the dictation of treaties, that have hurt that pride. It is something in those treaties which keeps open the raw wound and prevents healing. 5

The most important, and from the foreign standpoint the most essential, stipulation in the treaties is that which extra-territorialises* the foreigner in China. By it the foreigner is not subject to any Chinese tribunal and can only be dealt with by officials of his own country. It leads to the supposition that he is not only to be judged by his own laws, but is absolved from any laws of China. These laws are of two kinds, the one being the written laws of the Chinese Empire and the other the unwritten laws, the practices, prejudices and superstitions of a locality. These in their turn are just as binding on all the people there. They are more likely to produce ill-feeling if violated. 15

A foreign official is brought in by missionaries, for instance, and his intervention obliges Chinese officials to enforce the sale of a certain plot of ground to the missionaries against the wishes of the neighbours. Then the mission proceeds to put up a lofty building on it, thereby, in the estimation and to the consternation of the whole population, irretrievably ruining the luck of the neighbourhood and the fortunes of the inhabitants. To the foreigner, the native objection is not only something to be laughed at, but is a superstition to be fought against and swept away. 20

This is just the style of action which carries with it the sure seed of a future riot followed by demands by the foreigners for gunboat protection. 25

*extra-territorialises – removing foreigners from Chinese law and jurisdiction

Acknowledgements

Source 1 is from J Bunyan and H H Fisher, *The Bolshevik Revolution 1917-18*, Stanford University Press 1934 © The Board of Trustees of the Leland Stanford Jr University 1961; Source 2 is from Sir Robert Hart, *These from the Land of Sinim: Essays on the Chinese Question*, Chapman & Hell 1901

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