



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 1 Section A/C: Russia, 1894–1945: Tsardom and communism

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretations **A** and **B** for use in answering Questions 01, 02 and 03

Interpretation A Adapted from the memoirs of Peter Wrangel, published in 1929.

Wrangel was a General in the Russian army during the First World War. Later he fought for the White army during the Civil War.

We Generals were worried because the Tsar made fatal mistakes as the danger grew and defeat came nearer. We who loved our country were very worried about the arguments between the Government and the Duma. We started considering the possibility of a revolution from inside the palace. I was persuaded that things had to change and that we should remove the Tsar.

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Interpretation B Adapted from the memoirs of Pierre Gilliard 'Thirteen Years at the Russian Court', written in the early 1920s.

From 1905, Gilliard lived with the royal family and was tutor to the Tsar's children.

Everyone agreed that Rasputin's influence should be ended. The country hoped the evil adviser would be removed. Everyone believed him to be responsible for all the disasters from which the country was suffering.

Rasputin was tolerated because the Tsarina had faith in him and she had persuaded the Tsar of his value. Distracted, the Tsar gave in to the Tsarina's requests.

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END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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