

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced Subsidiary

Paper 2: Depth study

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

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

Tuesday 22 May 2018 – Afternoon

Sources Booklet

Paper Reference

8HI0/2C

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the questions in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

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

Source for use with Question 1(a).

Source 1: From the Marquis de Bouillé, *Memoirs Relating to the French Revolution*, published 1797. Bouillé was a French general and a committed royalist. Here, he reflects on the early 1790s.

The King often told me he felt disgust at the thought of leaving France to put himself at the head of an army or ordering his troops against his own rebellious people. Anyone who knew the King's religious character could not doubt his intention to observe the Constitution but this document was so imperfect, it was impossible to uphold. Once the King had recovered his liberty, he would only have employed force if it proved impossible to come to a suitable arrangement with the Assembly. Indeed, several leading Assembly members wanted such an arrangement, since the Constitution was drifting towards a republic they did not want and the chaos they dreaded. 5

Source for use with Question 1(b).

Source 2: From Jean-Nicolas Billaud-Varenne, *Memoirs*, written c1818. Billaud-Varenne, a lawyer and radical pamphleteer, was a member of the Committee of Public Safety in 1793–94 and played a role in Robespierre's downfall. Here, he reflects on Robespierre.

Let us ask ourselves, as has already been done, why we allowed Robespierre to go as far as he did. Not one single fact has been established, nor one single proof given, to justify the idea that that man's power was our work. Have we forgotten that, from the time of the Constituent Assembly, he already enjoyed an immense popularity, and that he was given the title of the Incorruptible? Have we forgotten that, during the Legislative Assembly, his popularity only increased further with the help of a very widely-known journal of which he was the editor and through his frequent speeches to the Jacobins? Have we forgotten that, in the National Convention, Robespierre before long was the man who, fixing all attention upon his own person, had gained so much confidence that it made him the dominant figure? Thus, by the time that he came to the Committee of Public Safety, he was already the most important man in France. If someone were to ask me how he had succeeded in gaining so much ascendancy over public opinion, I would answer that it was by displaying the strictest virtues, the most absolute devotion and the purest principles. 10
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Option 2C.2: Russia in revolution, 1894–1924

Source for use with Question 2(a).

Source 3: From Victor Chernov, *The Great Russian Revolution*, published 1936. Chernov was a founder member of the Social Revolutionary Party and served briefly as Minister of Agriculture in the Provisional Government. Here, he comments on the start of the February Revolution of 1917.

Neither the Bolsheviks, nor the Mensheviks, nor the Social Revolutionaries led the workers of Petrograd on to the streets. It was something mightier than they: hunger.

It began with ordinary food riots because the bakeshops lacked bread. The police restored order. The people demanded 'Bread!' and shouted 'Down with the police!' Then, there appeared the old slogans 'Down with the autocracy!' and 'Down with the war!' There were disorders but still no revolution. There was no leader, but every revolutionary and democratic group rushed headlong into the mass protest. These groups tried to attract as many people as possible and to inspire the discontented with definite and militant political slogans.

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Source for use with Question 2(b).

Source 4: From a speech made by Lenin to the Bolshevik Central Committee, 24 January 1918. Here, the Bolshevik leader considers the issue of peace terms.

It is now a question of how we must defend the homeland – the socialist republic. The army is utterly exhausted by war and the German military position is so good that, if they attacked, they could take Petrograd with their bare hands. If we continue war in conditions like this, we will strengthen German imperialism enormously and will have to make peace all the same, but the peace will be worse. This is a shameful peace which we are forced to conclude now, but if we embark on a war, our government will be swept away and another government will make peace.

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What comrade Trotsky suggests – halting the war, refusing to sign a peace and demobilising the army – this is international political showmanship. The only thing we will achieve by this is handing Estonia* to the Germans.

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By signing peace, we will, of course, be handing over independent Poland but we will keep Estonia and get a chance to consolidate what we have won. If the Germans start to attack, we will be forced to sign any peace at all and then, of course, it will be a worse one. To save the socialist republic, reparations of three billion roubles is not too high a price.

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*Estonia – a Baltic state close to Petrograd

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