



2017 SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION

HISTORY

Time: 1 HOUR

Name: _____

School: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Candidates should do Section A (30 mins) and then choose ONE question worth 20 marks from EITHER section B OR C (30 mins).

The paper is One Hour. If a section is not finished write a note in the margin and go on to the next Section

Section A – The Russian Revolution 1917

In 1917 Russia experienced a violent revolution where the Royal Government of the Tsar [the King or Emperor] was overthrown and he was forced to abdicate, leaving his throne and ending the Russian monarchy. There has been significant debate as to the causes of the Revolution, with historians pointing towards long term issues, short term issues and the immediacy of the events of the First World War.

Read the sources and then answer all the questions below.

SOURCE A

Count Kokovstov, an eyewitness to the Russian parliament of 1908

The Tsar [the King] addressed the assembled members of the Duma [parliament]. The entire right side of the room was filled with uniformed soldiers and nobles, on the other side of the room was the overwhelming majority dressed in worker's shirts and peasant dress. The Tsar told the crowd that he had no interest in giving ordinary people more power, he said "I created the Duma not to have it instruct me, but to have it advise me." This was met with applause by some and boos by others. The Tsar then dissolved [broke up] the meeting and told them all to go home. The Duma which had promised so much to working people was no longer in existence, this would cause great resentment.

SOURCE B

A Historian writing in 2001 describes changes in Russia 1906-1914

Between 1906 and 1914 there was an industrial boom in Russia. Industrial production increased by 100%. Russia became the world's fourth largest producer of Iron, Coal and Steel. There were also huge oilfields which brought a lot of money into the economy making many rich. However, the workers did not benefit from this change and many lived in poor conditions. In 1912, an important strike took place in the Lena gold fields in Siberia. Striking workers protested about degrading working conditions, low wages and a working day which lasted from 5.00am to 7.00pm. They clashed with troops, and 170 workers were killed and 373 wounded. This led to an increase in Worker's protests throughout Russia.

SOURCE C

Alexei Tolstoy, a Russian writer describes St Petersburg before 1914

In the last ten years huge enterprises had sprung into being with unbelievable rapidity. Fortunes of millions of roubles* appeared as if out of thin air... People doped themselves with music...with half-naked women...with champagne. Gambling clubs, theatres, cinemas, amusement parks cropped up like mushrooms....Every kind of riches were accessible. Life was good in St Petersburg* before 1914.

*Roubles – the currency of Russia

*The capital of Russia

SOURCE D

A British eyewitness living in Moscow describes the scene when the First World War was declared

There were processions in the street carrying the Tsar's portrait, there were the flags of all Russia's allies; Britain, Serbia and France. Bands played the national anthem, the soldiers marched with smiles on their faces trusting in the protection of the Tsar. Everyone was overcome with joy and happiness, full of enthusiasm for the challenges to come. The people and the Tsar were one, he addressed them from the balcony of the Palace and was met with cheers and an outpouring of love. The Tsar was so incredibly popular at this point.

SOURCE E

A soldier describes conditions in Russia in 1916 during the First World War

The army has neither food nor wages nor horses nor supplies nor rifles. We have to wait for the man in front of us to be shot before we pick up his rifle and carry on. My sister wrote to tell me of conditions in the cities; there is a shortage of food as so many peasants and workers have been forced to join the army instead of farming. There is also no coal to heat the houses, factories have been closed and unemployment is high. Who is in charge of this terrible situation? The Tsar. It can only be his fault that we are in this situation.

1 Read Source **A**.

Why do you think that the Tsar's statement was met with applause by some but boos by others? [2]

2 Read Source **B** and **C**.

On the basis of these two sources is it fair to draw the conclusion that life was on the whole quite comfortable for Russian people between 1906-1914? [6]

3 Read all the sources.

Using evidence from all the sources, do you think the Tsar ruled Russia poorly between 1906-1917

Now choose ONE question from EITHER Section B OR Section C.

Allow 30 minutes - but do not worry if you run out of time – please say so!
Each question is worth [20 marks]

Section B

- 1) What advantages and disadvantages did Duke William have at the Battle of Hastings?
- 2) Was Thomas á Becket a martyr?
- 3) Explain why King John quarrelled with his Barons.
- 4) The Black Death and Peasant's Revolt are forever linked in History. Why?
- 5) How much did Henry VIII change England?
- 6) "The Stuarts were a disaster as Kings of England" Do you agree?
- 7) 'Distance and lack of interest led to the loss of the American colonies.' Discuss.
- 8) In what ways did the Industrial Revolution change Britain?

Section C

- 1) Which character in history would you most like to interview, and why?
- 2) 'Diaries and letters are the truest record of events.' Discuss.
- 3) Why has history been more interested in leaders than ordinary people?
- 4) 'Wars create history' Discuss.
- 5) Using at least one example, explain why castles or cathedrals were such important buildings in medieval life.
- 6) Describe the role of women in History from any period.
- 7) 'Bad people are more interesting than good ones.' Discuss (by using examples of people you have studied) whether this is true or not.
- 8) Discuss any events in history that can teach us something in the twenty-first century.

