

Revision and Assessment

Key issues

Superpowers

Communist Russia (called the Soviet Union) was one of the two superpowers of the 20th century world. The other was the United States of America.

Communism

- was one of the two economic and political systems that dominated the 20th century world (the other was capitalism)
- was developed as a set of ideas by the German writer, Karl Marx.
- stimulated the first successful communist revolution took in Russia in October 1917, under the Bolshevik Party, led by Lenin.

Russia in 1917

- was an autocratic monarchy
- was economically behind the rest of Europe
- contained many opponents to the monarchy after the suppression of a revolution in 1905
- was under great economic and social pressure during the First World War.

Lenin

- established the central control of the Bolshevik Party
- won the Civil War against opponents of the Bolsheviks by using the policy of War Communism which strictly controlled the economy
- was later forced to compromise on the Marxist principle of state control of the economy because of economic problems and famine. This was known as the New Economic Policy (NEP).

Stalin

- took over control after Lenin's death
- interpreted Marxism as a rigid policy of industrialisation and collectivisation of farms
- imprisoned and killed millions of people who resisted his policies
- established a state system which controlled every aspect of people's lives
- removed some of the reforms of the Leninist period that gave women more equality with men
- led the Soviet Union to victory in the Second World War against Nazi Germany.

Assessment: Test

Source-based questions:

- 1 Study the photograph of Lenin making a speech to the Red Army in 1920 on page 20 (Unit 1.2) and the photograph of the starving peasants on page 22 (Unit 1.2) and then answer these questions.
 - a) Why was it so important to motivate the Red Army in 1920? (2)
 - b) What is Trotsky's connection to the Red Army and why is he included in this photograph? (3)
 - c) The caption to the photograph of the starving peasants talks about "low production levels" and "grain requisitioning". Explain what each phrase refers to, in the context of the time, how the workers and/or peasants felt about these issues, and how they responded. $2 \times 3 = (6)$
 - d) Which of these two photographs do you think better reflects the period? Explain your choice by discussing only the photograph you chose. Show your knowledge of the period in your answer. (4)
 - e) Why is it better to have two or more photographs to learn about a period? (3)
- 2 In what ways does Source F in Unit 1.2 reflect the propaganda of the time? (4)
- 3 Use the two photographs and the poster (that you have used already in this assessment) as a basis for writing a paragraph to explain how powerful the Soviet government was under Lenin. $3 \times 2 = (6)$
- 4 Look at the flag of the Soviet Union on page 25. Explain why it is an appropriate symbol of the socialist state. (3)
- 5 Study the photograph on page 27 which has been changed (Unit 1.2). Explain why the change made to this photograph is symbolic of what was to come under Stalin's rule. (5)
- 6 Study Source K on page 36 (in Unit 1.3) and answer these questions.
 - a) How does this poster show Stalin's "cult of personality"? (3)
 - b) The poster includes young children marching in the foreground. Why were the youth the target of so much indoctrination and what role did they play in promoting the Stalinist programme? (5)

- c) This poster promotes unity and common purpose. Do you think it accurately reflects what the Soviet people felt? Explain your view. (6)

Total for source-based questions = [50]

Essay topics:

Write an essay of 600 to 800 words on one of the following topics. Your essay will be assessed according to the rubric that follows on page 41.

- 1 **Discuss** the three economic policies that were carried out between 1918 and 1939. In your essay analyse the circumstances in which they were implemented and the aims, how they worked and the effectiveness of each policy. (50)

Or

- 2 Discuss the issues that we can learn from knowing about the Soviet Union under Stalin. Identify the issues that are relevant to us in the modern world and use the content from the Stalinist period to **substantiate** your argument. (50)

Exam words

discuss

to examine using sustained arguments

substantiate

to back up with evidence

Essay writing rubric

	PRESENTATION						
CONTENT	CONTENT						
	LEVEL 7 Well planned and structured essay. Good synthesis of information. Developed an original, well balanced and independent line of argument with the use of evidence, sustained and defended the argument throughout.	LEVEL 6 Well planned and structured essay. Relevant line of argument. Evidence used to defend the argument.	LEVEL 5 Well planned and structured essay. Developed a clear argument. Conclusions drawn from evidence. Independent conclusion. Evidence used to support the conclusion.	LEVEL 4 Planned and constructed an argument. Evidence used to support argument. Conclusions reached based on evidence.	LEVEL 3 Shows some evidence of a planned and constructed argument. Attempts to sustain a line of argument. Conclusions not clearly supported by evidence.	LEVEL 2 Attempts to structure an answer. Largely descriptive /some attempt at developing an argument.	LEVEL 1 Little or no attempt to structure the essay.
LEVEL 7 Question has been fully answered. Content section fully relevant to line of argument.	47–50	43–46					
LEVEL 6 Question has been answered. Content selection relevant to a line of argument.	43–46	40–42	38–39				
LEVEL 5 Question answered to a great extent. Content adequately covered and relevant.	38–39	36–37	35	33–34			
LEVEL 4 Question is recognisable in answer. Some omissions/ irrelevant content selection.			33–34	31–32	28–29		
LEVEL 3 Content selection does relate to the question, but does not answer it / does not always relate to the question. Omissions in coverage.				30	26–27	23–24	
LEVEL 2 Question inadequately addressed. Sparse content.					25	21–22	20
LEVEL 1 Question inadequately addressed or not at all. Inadequate/irrelevant content.						20	0–19