

A-level HISTORY

Component 2N Revolution and dictatorship: Russia, 1917–1953

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2N.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

 Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a letter written by Lenin, in exile in Switzerland, 7 March 1917. This was sent to Pravda, a Bolshevik newspaper in Petrograd which published it, 21/22 March 1917.

The workers of Petrograd have self-sacrificingly fought the tsarist monarchy – fought for freedom, land for the peasants and for peace. They faced slaughter, and now, to continue and intensify that slaughter, a new government has been set up.

This new Provisional Government contains representatives of the capitalist landlords and bourgeoisie which have long been the economic rulers of our country. Alongside this government, there has arisen the comparatively weak workers' government, which expresses the interests of the proletariat. This is the Petrograd Soviet, which is seeking connections with the soldiers and peasants. 5

Anyone who says that the workers must support the Provisional Government in the interests of the struggle against a tsarist revival is a traitor to the workers, a traitor to the cause of peace and freedom. There can be no Dual Authority. If freedom is to be guaranteed, the workers must not support the new government. The new government will grant none of the 'liberties' they promised; all bourgeois politicians fool the workers with promises. 10

Source B

From an article in Izvestia, the newspaper of the Petrograd Soviet, 16 May 1917.

The Executive Committee of the Petrograd Soviet has come to the conclusion that it is necessary for representatives of the Soviet to join the Provisional Government. The country is in a dangerous position. Three years of war have exhausted her strength. Finances are disorganised; railways are broken down; there is a lack of raw materials and fuel, a need of bread at the front and in the cities. The army is breaking up. In certain places a disorderly seizure of land is going on, a destruction of livestock and implements. No one pays any attention to the agents of the Provisional Government, which feels itself powerless. Dual Authority is not enough. Only a strong revolutionary government, enjoying the confidence of the people, can save the country, hold on to the conquests of the revolution, put an end to the split in the army, and keep it on a war footing. This is the reason why we have submitted terms by which representatives of the Soviet would join the Provisional Government. 5 10

Source C

From a pamphlet written in 1918 for the Marxist British Socialist Party by Morgan Philips Price, published 1919. Price was a Russian-speaking British socialist and journalist living in Russia 1917–21.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the problems of having a Dual Authority in Russia in the months March to May 1917.

[30 marks]**Turn over for Section B**

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 To what extent was Stalin's success in the power struggle after Lenin's death due to Trotsky's errors of judgement? **[25 marks]**

0 3 'The quality of life for both workers and peasants suffered as a result of Stalin's economic policies in the 1930s.'
Assess the validity of this view. **[25 marks]**

0 4 'When Stalin died in 1953, the Soviet Union was in a very strong international position.'
Assess the validity of this view. **[25 marks]**

END OF QUESTIONS

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