

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

Tuesday 9 June 2026

Afternoon (Time: 1 hour 30 minutes)

Paper reference **1H10/30**

History

PAPER 3: Modern depth study

Option 30: Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917–41

You must have:
Sources/Interpretations Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- In Section A, answer Question 1 and **EITHER** Question 2(a) **OR** Question 2(b). Then answer **all** questions in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 52.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*
- The marks available for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology are clearly indicated.

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

SECTION A

Answer Question 1 and then EITHER Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).

Study Source A below and then answer Question 1.

Source A: A Bolshevik poster published in 1920. The poster was published with the caption 'What the October Revolution gave to woman-workers and woman-peasants.' The woman is pointing to buildings, including a library, a workers' club and a school for adults.



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1 Give two things you can infer from Source A about the impact of Bolshevik policies on women. (4)

Complete the table below to explain your answer.

(i) What I can infer: Details in the source that tell me this:
(ii) What I can infer: Details in the source that tell me this:

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Answer EITHER Question 2(a) OR Question 2(b).

EITHER

2 (a) Explain why Stalin used terror in the 1930s.

(12)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the purges
- show trials

You must also use information of your own.

OR

(b) Explain why Stalin introduced the Five-Year Plans.

(12)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the New Economic Policy (NEP)
- fear of invasion

You must also use information of your own.

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box. If you change your mind, put a line through the box and then indicate your new question with a cross.

Chosen question number:

☐

Question 2(a)

9

Question 2(b)

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SECTION B

For this section, you will need to use the sources and interpretations in the Sources/Interpretations Booklet.

3 (a) Study Sources B and C.

How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into the reasons for the success of the Bolsheviks in overthrowing the Provisional Government in October 1917?

Explain your answer, using Sources B and C and your knowledge of the historical context.

(8)

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(b) Study Interpretations 1 and 2.

They give different views about the reasons for the success of the Bolsheviks in overthrowing the Provisional Government in October 1917.

What is the main difference between these views?

Explain your answer, using details from both interpretations.

(4)

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- (c) Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about the reasons for the success of the Bolsheviks in overthrowing the Provisional Government in October 1917.

You may use Sources B and C to help explain your answer.

(4)

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(Total for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology = 4 marks)

(Total for spelling, punctuation, grammar and use of specialist terminology – 4 marks)

(Total for Question 3 = 36 marks)

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Acknowledgements

Source A: Bolshevik poster (1920), supplied by the paper compiler.

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Sources/Interpretations Booklet for use within Section B.

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►



Pearson

Sources/interpretations for use with Section B.

Source B: From a letter written by Lenin to the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party, September 1917. Lenin was in exile at the time. Here he is giving the reasons why the Bolsheviks should seize power.

We Bolsheviks can, and must, take power into our own hands. The majority of the people are on our side. We will form a government which nobody will want to overthrow.

We must take power now. By seizing power in both Moscow and Petrograd we shall win completely and unquestionably. We have enough support in these cities and the people are tired of waiting for the other political parties to act.

Source C: From *Ten Days that Shook the World* by John Reed, published in the USA in 1919. Reed was a member of the American Communist Party and a journalist who was living in Russia in 1917. Here he is writing about what he saw in Petrograd during the period of the Provisional Government.

Every week food became harder to get. People had to stand in queues for many hours to buy their bread, milk and tobacco. By the autumn of 1917, there were weeks without any bread at all. I heard poorly-dressed people standing in the Petrograd streets become angry and discontented with the failings of the Provisional Government.

In the soldiers' barracks, in the factories and on the street-corners, people called for an end to the war. They declared that, if the Government did not try to end the war, the army would stop fighting and go home.

Interpretation 1: From GCSE Modern World History by B Walsh, published in 2001.

By October 1917, the Provisional Government was doomed. It had tried to continue with the First World War and failed. It had therefore lost the army's support.

The Provisional Government had tried to stop the peasants taking over the land and so lost their support too. Without peasant support it had failed to bring food into the towns and food prices had risen. This also lost the Provisional Government any support it had from workers in the towns.

Interpretation 2: From Russia 1894-1941 by M Lynch, published in 2008.

Lenin's Bolsheviks were totally self-confident. The membership of the party had grown after the February Revolution and, as a result, the Bolsheviks believed they were an unstoppable force.

None of the other political parties were as determined to overthrow the Provisional Government as the Bolsheviks were. Other parties could not defeat the Bolsheviks as the Bolsheviks were so ruthless.

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