



A-level

HISTORY

Component 1H

**Tsarist and Communist Russia,
1855–1964**

7042/1H

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.**

[Turn over]

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Use black ink or black ball-point pen.**
- **Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The PAPER REFERENCE is 7042/1H.**
- **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.**

DO NOT TURN OVER UNTIL TOLD TO DO SO

SECTION A**Answer Question 01.****EXTRACT A**

**The Russian economy was certainly
 in need of rescue in 1921, but by 1924
 it had already begun to revive. From
 1924, industrial reconstruction
 proved rapid and recovery was even 5
 more marked in agriculture. Further
 change from 1928 set new priorities
 and by 1932 the regime could boast
 some real achievements. Gross
 industrial production actually 10
 surpassed the targets set by the first
 five-year plan and the value of
 machinery more than quadrupled.
 These were impressive results and
 while the industrialisation drive 15
 continued unrelentingly, agriculture**

was also transformed as peasants were brought under administrative control and collectives established. The greatest economic spurt occurred during the three good years of 1934–36. Thereafter, investments were channelled into armaments, but although agriculture lagged behind, with a major crop failure in 1936, the Soviet economy was in a strong position on the eve of war. By 1941 the USSR had closed the gap with the West and Stalin’s forced pace of industrialisation would undoubtedly contribute mightily to Soviet victory.

Adapted from GL Freeze, Russia: A History, 1997

[Turn over]

EXTRACT B

After the failure of the NEP which had only managed to restore agricultural and industrial production to its 1913 level by 1928, the first three five-year plans increased industrial output considerably. This was because they brought many new resources, including the labour of former peasants, into the industrial system and used the powers of the state to direct those resources into a few chosen areas. All other aspects of the economy were downplayed or neglected: agriculture, housing, retail trade, services and consumer industries. This could not last: even industrial workers needed those neglected sectors of the economy, without which their work and lives suffered. Even some heavy

5
10
15
20

industries – chemical and electric, for example, were relatively neglected with damaging cumulative effects. The problem was that the planned economy was not really ‘planned’ at all. Construction projects were launched before anyone knew whether they could be completed, or if they would be needed when they were. Russia’s seemingly impressive economic development of the 1930s was lop-sided and unsustainable.

25

30

Adapted from G Hosking, Russia and the Russians, 2001

[Turn over]

EXTRACT C

The NEP, permitting small-scale capitalism after 1921, proved successful and was popular with workers and peasants, but it was ideologically unsound. Capitalism had to be destroyed by a state-led industrialisation drive. However, this could only be achieved through high levels of economic coercion directed at the ordinary workers and farmers and it worked far better in theory than in practice. Coordinating planning and meeting targets could only be achieved by imposing harsh penalties. There are numerous examples of over-optimistic planning which created a constant tension between planners and producers. The pressure to meet targets meant that every failure was liable to be interpreted as an act of economic

5

10

15

20

**sabotage. What on paper appeared
an effortless statistical picture of
growth was, in practice, a constant
cycle of crisis and undisguised 25
militaristic coercion. By 1941 Stalin's
Soviet Union had a record of
extraordinary violence against the
very men and women, in factories and
fields, who struggled to put the 30
economic plans into reality.**

**Adapted from R Overy, The Dictators:
Hitler's Germany, Stalin's Russia,
2004**

0	1
---	---

**Using your understanding of the
historical context, assess how
convincing the arguments in these three
extracts are in relation to the
development of the Soviet economy in
the years 1921 to 1941. [30 marks]**

[Turn over]

SECTION B

Answer TWO questions.

0 2

‘By 1881, the emancipation of the serfs had brought profound social change in Russia.’

**Assess the validity of this view.
[25 marks]**

0 3

How effective was the opposition of radical and liberal groups in challenging the authority of the Tsar in the years 1894 to 1914? [25 marks]

0	4
---	---

‘There were more similarities than differences between Stalin and Khrushchev as Soviet leaders.’

Assess the validity of this view of the years 1941 to 1964. [25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

BLANK PAGE

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.aqa.org.uk.

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2022 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.

IB/M/CD/Jun22/7042/1H/E1

