



**A-level  
HISTORY**

**Component 2T    The Crisis of Communism: the USSR  
and the Soviet Empire, 1953–2000**

**7042/2T**

**Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes**

**For this paper you must have:**

- **an AQA 16-page answer book.**

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## **INSTRUCTIONS**

- **Use black ink or black ball-point pen.**
- **Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The PAPER REFERENCE is 7042/2T.**
- **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.**

**SOURCE A**

**From an article in the ‘New York Times’,  
30 May 1971, written by the newspaper’s foreign  
correspondent in Prague.**

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**SOURCE B**

**From a published article by Jürgen Kuczynski, an East German intellectual and communist historian, 10 February 1971. Here, Kuczynski justifies Honecker's policies and continued separation from the FRG (West Germany).**

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**[Turn over]**

**SOURCE C**

**From a secret memorandum produced by the CIA  
(American Central Intelligence Agency),  
5 November 1971.**

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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 political leadership of the satellite states in c1971. [30 marks]**

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**SECTION B**

**Answer TWO questions.**

**0 2**

**To what extent did the risings of 1953–56 threaten the stability of the East German, Polish and Hungarian Soviet satellite states? [25 marks]**

**0 3**

**How effectively did Khrushchev ‘de-Stalinise’ the USSR in the years 1956 to 1964? [25 marks]**

**0 4**

**‘The collapse of the USSR in 1991 was due to Gorbachev’s failure to carry through a successful programme of reforms within the Soviet Union.’**

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

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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