



Cambridge Pre-U

HISTORY

9769/58

Paper 5h Special Subject: Russia in Revolution, 1905–1924

For examination from 2020

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer Question 1.
 - Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- You will be marked on analysis and critical evaluation in your answers. You should also show an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods, where appropriate.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This specimen paper has been updated for assessments from 2020. The specimen questions and mark schemes remain the same. The layout and wording of the front covers have been updated to reflect the new Cambridge International branding and to make instructions clearer for candidates.

Section A

Nominated topic: Russia, 1905–1914

- 1 Study all the following documents and answer the questions which follow. In evaluating and commenting on the documents, it is essential to set them alongside, and to make use of, your own contextual knowledge.

- A** *Goremykin, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, responds to a range of issues raised by the first Duma.*

The Council of Ministers regards the solution of the peasant-land question proposed by the Duma through the use of crown, cabinet and Church lands and the compulsory expropriation of private land as completely unacceptable. Other suggestions made by the Duma such as the abolition of the State Council and the removal of the limits placed on the Duma's legislative competence, the Council of Ministers does not feel that it has the right to consider these proposals. Turning to the Duma's suggestions to repeal the exceptional laws and to prevent arbitrary action by officials, the Council of Ministers finds that these matters are completely within the sphere of government administration.

13 May 1906.

- B** *Excerpts from a document in which Stolypin as Prime Minister sets out a series of government aims.*

At present the government is at work on a whole series of problems of the greatest political importance. The most important of these are the following:

- (1) Freedom of conscience.
- (2) Personal inviolability and civil equality, in the sense of the removal of the limitations and checks placed on separate groups of the population.
- (3) The improvement of peasant land tenure.
- (4) The improvement of the way of life of the workers and, in particular, the introduction of a system of state insurance.

Government Declaration, 24 August 1906.

- C** *The Tsar issues a set of objectives when dissolving the Second Duma and changing the electoral laws.*

The authorities uncovered a conspiracy by a section of the State Duma directed against the state and the Tsar. The legislative body has been filled with members who do not really express the needs and desires of the people. Therefore, whilst We shall leave in force all the rights conferred on Our subjects by the Manifesto of 17 October 1905 and the fundamental laws, We have taken the decision to alter only the actual method of electing representatives from the people. All these changes in the method of election cannot be enacted through that same State Duma because of imperfections in the way in which its members are chosen. Only the authority which gave the first electoral law, the historical authority of the Russian Tsar, has the right to amend and replace it.

The Tsar's Manifesto, 3 June 1907.

D *Excerpts from a document where AS Izgoev, a leader of the liberal Kadet party, comments on the political and economic situation, comparing the pronouncements of 1906 and 1907 with the outcomes at the time of Stolypin's death in 1911.*

- (1) The granting to the peasantry of state, crown and cabinet lands:
Comment: Up to January, 1911, only 281 000 desyatinas out of more than 9 million had been sold to the peasantry.
- (2) A series of reforming bills:
Comment: Nothing has been accomplished. Most of the bills got bogged down in the State Council, and will meet their death there.
- (3) Comment: Administrative arbitrariness rules right across Russia.
- (13) Laws about provincial and district administration:
Comment: Everything is still as before.
- (32) There is provision for insurance of workers in case of sickness, disability, invalidity and old age, and the organisation of medical care.
Comment: In reality, nothing was achieved under Stolypin.

Moscow, 1912.

E *A modern historian comments on the situation inside the Russian Empire between 1906 and 1914.*

It is not surprising that government and Duma found it difficult to co-operate. Both the first (1906) and the second (1907) Dumas were dissolved within a few months of meeting. Stolypin altered the electoral law in June 1907 to reduce the voting strength of workers, peasants and non-Russian nationalities in favour of the nobility. In the third Duma (1907–1912) the focal position was held by the Union of 17 October (the date of the imperial manifesto of 1905), which was committed to working with the government for reform in the agrarian field, civil rights, education, workers' insurance, justice and local government. Stolypin's agrarian reform, passed irregularly under emergency decree in 1906, was endorsed by them. The nobility, which had supported Stolypin's agrarian reform, opposed him on a number of other issues. Stolypin was assassinated in 1911 in mysterious circumstances that suggest the possible complicity of his own security police. If the Duma had few successful reforms to its credit, it did change enormously the climate of Russian politics. From 1912 there was a resurgence of the workers' movement following the massacre of protesters at the Lena gold mines in Siberia. Ultimately, this led to the erection of barricades and to street fighting in St Petersburg on the eve of the First World War.

G A Hosking, *Encyclopaedia of Modern History*, 1978.

- (a)** How far do Documents A and B differ in their approaches to the prospects for reform? [10]
- (b)** How convincing is the evidence provided by this set of documents for the view that the Tsarist regime's disagreements with the Dumas were the main reason that Russia became destabilised in the period 1906–1914? In making your evaluation, you should refer to contextual knowledge as well as to all the documents in this set (A–E). [20]

Section B

Answer **one** of the following questions. Where appropriate, your essay should make use of any relevant documents you have studied as well as contextual knowledge.

- 2 'Without the First World War, there would have been no Bolshevik Revolution.' How far do you agree with this view? [30]

- 3 How valid is the judgement that the Reds won the Civil War (1918–1921) because their opponents were deeply divided? [30]

- 4 How far was a socialist revolution achieved in Russia by 1924? [30]

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