



Cambridge Pre-U

HISTORY

9769/58

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

For examination from 2022

SPECIMEN PAPER

2 hours



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This syllabus is regulated for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as a Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate.

This document has **6** pages. Blank pages are indicated.

Russia, 1906–1917**Question 1**

Study both the following documents, A and B, and answer the question which follows.

A *The Tsar makes promises in the October Manifesto.*

The disturbances and unrest in St Petersburg, Moscow, and in many other parts of our Empire, have filled Our heart with great and profound sorrow. The present disturbances could give rise to national instability and present a threat to the unity of Our State. We have, therefore, ordered the government to take the following measures: fundamental civil freedoms will be granted to the population, including freedom of conscience, speech, assembly and association. Participation in the Duma will be granted to those classes of the population which are at present deprived of voting powers, and this will lead to the development of a universal franchise. There will be no delay to calling the Duma. It is established as an unshakeable rule that no law can come into force without the Duma's approval, and representatives of the people will be given the opportunity to ensure that the government is bound by the laws and does not act in an arbitrary way.

Manifesto, 17 October 1905.

B *The Tsar defines his rights in the Fundamental Law.*

The All-Russian Emperor possesses the supreme autocratic power. Not only fear and conscience, but God himself, commands obedience to his authority. The Emperor possesses the initiative in all legislative matters. The Fundamental Laws may be subject to revision in the State Council and State Duma only on his initiative. No law can come into force without the Tsar's approval. In central and local administration his authority is complete. He takes charge of all the external relations of the Russian State. He determines the direction of Russia's foreign policy; he alone declares war, concludes peace, and negotiates treaties with foreign states. He is the Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy, and appoints and dismisses the Chairman of the Council of Ministers and individual ministers.

Russian subjects have the right to organise societies and unions for purposes not contrary to the law. Russian subjects enjoy freedom of religion by law. Exceptions to these rules include localities where martial law is declared. No new law can be enacted without the approval of the State Council and the State Duma, and it shall not be legally binding without the approval of the Sovereign Emperor.

Law, 23 April 1906.

Compare and contrast the evidence in Documents A and B for the policy of Nicholas II towards political change. You should analyse the content and provenance of both documents. [10]

The Revolutions of 1917

Question 2

Study all the following documents, C, D, E and F, and answer the question which follows.

C *General Kornilov issues an appeal to the people of Russia.*

Our great country is dying. The hour of its end is near. I, General Kornilov, declare that the Provisional Government, under the pressure of the Bolshevik majority of the Soviets, is acting in complete accord with the plans of the German General Staff. At the time when enemy troops are landing on the Riga coast, the government is killing our troops and shaking the foundations of the country. A grave sense of the inevitable ruin of the country commands me, at this threatening moment, to call upon all Russian people to save the dying country. Pray to the Lord to grant the greatest miracle of saving our native land and defeating its enemies. I swear then to allow the people to decide their own fate and to choose a Constituent Assembly to decide how Russia is ruled.

Kornilov, *Appeal*, 27 August 1917.

D *A member of the committee of investigation into the Kornilov affair recalls the committee's meeting with General Kornilov in September 1917.*

Kornilov gave a convincing account of why he acted: the disintegration of the army; the malicious agitation of the Soviets against the war, and the failure of the government to continue it. But he was powerless to protect the government against the Bolsheviks. Finally he came to the most important part, a part so unexpected that it staggered us. He informed us that in the interests of maintaining order in the capital he had reached an agreement with Kerensky to move a large military force to Petrograd, so that disturbances could be suppressed immediately. By suppression of disturbances he meant the suppression of the Soviets. To confirm this, he took from his desk a tape with a record of his conversation by direct wire with Kerensky. We had clear-cut evidence that the cavalry corps had moved on Petrograd with the knowledge and permission, if not of the whole government, then of its head, Kerensky.

N Ukraintsev, *New Russian Word*, October 1956.

E *Writing in exile in the USA, Kerensky gives his view of the Kornilov affair.*

Kornilov's adventure, though predestined to fail, played a fatal part in Russia's destiny, as it shook profoundly and painfully the consciousness of the masses. This shock was the more serious as it was unexpected. An adventure of a small group was transformed in the inflamed imagination of the masses to a conspiracy of the whole of the bourgeoisie and of all the upper classes against democracy and the working masses. The Bolsheviks, who up to August had been impotent, became masters in the Petrograd Soviet, gaining a majority there for the first time. Massacres of officers again began; again the commanding officers lost all their authority. Throughout the whole country, spontaneous organisations appeared which seized the functions of governmental power under the pretext of fighting counter-revolution. Among the soldiers and workmen, the authority of the leaders who were fighting against the cry of 'All authority to the Soviets' and who were defending the idea of a democratic government, was annihilated. The wave of anarchy broke the Russian front and overflowed into the state. There was a fatal link between the military coup of 27 August and the October Revolution.

Alexander Kerensky, *The Prelude to Bolshevism*, 1919.

F *A modern historian reflects on Kerensky's policy towards his enemies.*

The attempted takeover by the Bolsheviks in July 1917 imbued Kerensky with an obsessive

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logical consistency nor determination'.

Richard Pipes, *The Russian Revolution*, 1990.

How convincing is the evidence provided in this set of documents that Kerensky was responsible for his own downfall in October 1917? In evaluating the documents, you should refer to all the documents in this set (C–F). [30]

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Copyright Acknowledgements:

Document D © M McCauley; *The Russian Revolution and the Soviet State*; Macmillan; 1975.
Document F

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