

Transition Work: History 2020

Welcome to Y12 History

Your topic for Unit 2 as part of the AQA A Level course is: Revolution and Dictatorship Russia 1917-1953 (2N)

Class code for the google meets: kvkuguo

Lesson time: Wednesday period 1- Week A. The lesson will start at 09:05am

AQA website linked to this topic:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/history/as-and-a-level/history-7041-7042/subject-content/2n-revolution-and-dictatorship-russia,-19171953>

Week 1:

Lesson- 3rd June, 2020, 09:05am

Introduction to the course and understanding the background to Imperial Russia- what was it like to live in Russia under the power of the Tsar?

- What will A Level History be like?
- What will you learn in the subject: Revolution and Dictatorship: Russia 1917-53

Private study work for week beginning 1st June:

Task 1: Background to Imperial Russia- should take at least 3 hours

- 1) Students have to read the chapter on Imperial Russia from Lynch textbook pp. 7-18. Make detailed notes, using the advice from the article attached.
- 2) S+C: complete additional research on how Imperial Russia was run

A good starting point: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z6rjy9q/revision/1>

- 3) **ASSESSED WORK:** Create a profile on what Imperial Russia was like:
 - Success Criteria (A)
 - o Clear understanding of the geography of Russia and how that influences policy in Imperial Russia
 - o Explanation of how the Tsarist government works
 - o Explain and evaluate how Russia was structured in regards to social and economic considerations
 - o Importance of the Orthodox Church, army and the bureaucracy
 - o Explain and evaluate the attempts at reform before 1881- why were their historic problems in bringing about reform
 - o S+C: To what extent were the intelligentsia important in Russian politics?

Week 2:

Who are some of the key people in Imperial Russia and what was their significance?

Private study work for the week beginning 8th June

Task 2: Character Profiles- should take at least 3 hours

- 1) **ASSESSED WORK:** Students should be creating a character profile on:
 - a. Sergei Witte
 - b. Peter Stolypin
 - c. Tsar Nicholas II

Success Criteria (A) for Witte and Stolypin

- Who were they?
- What was their role in the Imperial government?
- What reforms did they introduce?
- Were their reforms successful? Use evidence to support your point.
- *Grade A/A*: were their policies good for Russia? Which one was more successful in improving Russia's status?*

Spartacus Educational is a decent starting point and there is lots of information on there. Make sure you are not simply copying and pasting, you should be reading and picking out the most important points

<https://spartacus-educational.com/RUSwitte.htm>

<https://spartacus-educational.com/RUSstolypin.htm>

I have also attached some reading for you to use to help you complete these character profiles.

Success Criteria (A)- for Tsar Nicholas II

- Who was he? Include at least 10 facts about his life
- What was his character like? (Traits, personality)
- What were his strengths and weaknesses as a ruler
- How do you think it affected him to be a part of the Romanov dynasty? (The Royal Family that he was a part of?)

BBC website is good as a starting point for the main features of his life:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/nicholas_ii.shtml

Some excellent assessment and information here from the British Library (good for A/A* students):

<https://www.bl.uk/people/nicholas-ii-of-russia>

There are lots of other available resources to use too. This is a starting point.

Week 3:

Lesson- 17th June, 2020, 09:05am

What were some of the key problems facing Tsar Nicholas during his reign? How did these events transform Russia? Why are they considered turning points?

Looking at sources to do with Nicholas II's reign.

Private study work for the week beginning 15th June

Task 3: what were the key turning points in Tsar Nicholas II's reign?- this should take about 3 hours to complete fully

You need to look at a range of events that occurred during the reign of Tsar Nicholas II.

You need to be able to explain what happened and how it transformed his reign and Russia.

- 1) Research each of the events listed below
 - The 1905 Revolution
 - DUMA's and Stolypin's reforms
 - The First World War
 - The February Revolution
 - The role of Rasputin
- 2) **ASSESSED WORK:** Complete this table using the research you have completed:

Event	What happened?/ description (1 paragraph) Grade D-E	Results? Explain the consequences of the event for the Russian leadership Grade B-C	How significant? (evaluation) Grade A-A*	Stretch and Challenge Can you find a quote from a historian to support your evaluation?
1905 Revolution				
DUMA's and Stolypin's reforms				
WWI				
The February Revolution				
The role of Rasputin				

Resources to help complete this task:

- This is a video clip on the causes of the 1905 Revolution which may be useful:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-FUrvaeY1E>
- The BBC Bitesize page is really good for information on the Dumas
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z2prcdm/revision/3>
- BBC has some good information on the Russian experience of WW1

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/eastern_front_01.shtml

- The Imperial War Museum has a nice summary of the February Revolution
<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/what-was-the-february-revolution>
- Role of Rasputin: a good starting point is the Spartacus Educational website
<https://spartacus-educational.com/RUSrasputin.htm>

Please do not assume that this is an exhaustive list of the massive range of information that is available online. If you find additional sources that are easy to read and are clear, please use them!

Week 4:

What are some of the key terminology involved in this topic? Can you use some of these terms in a sentence?

Private study work for the week beginning 22nd June

Task 4: Glossary of key terms- this should take about one hour

Students should be creating a glossary of the some of the key terms that you come across.

S+C: add more words to this glossary as you continue to complete your reading

- Tsar
- Autocracy
- Okhrana
- Duma
- Provisional Government
- Revolution
- Bolshevik
- Peasant
- Bourgeoisie
- Communism
- Marxism
- Dissent
- Petrograd Soviet
- War Communism
- NEP
- Red Terror
- Kronstadt Uprising
- Reactionary- can you give an example of a leader who was reactionary?
- Reformist- can you give an example of a leader who was reformist?

Task 5:

Research task: create a profile on Russia's involvement in the First World War- this should take at least 2 hours

ASSESSED WORK: Success Criteria (A/A*)

- Why did Russia join in the First World War? Causes and reasons for war- can you use specific knowledge to explain? (This is a vast area of historiography- so please do not get bogged down too far, but have a good understanding of the motives of Nicholas II and why he joined in the war)
- What were some of the key events/battles of the war?
- What were the failings of the Russian army? Why were they failing by 1916?
- Explain the effects of the war on Russia- deaths, effect on the leadership of Nicholas II, civilians, opposition
- How did the Provisional Government deal with the war? How did Kerensky try to change the course of the war? (Hint: July Offensive)
- S+C: how far do you think it was the incompetence of Tsar Nicholas II that led to the falling of the monarchy?

Resources:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwone/eastern_front_01.shtml

Summary from the BBC website for the Russian involvement in the First World War

<https://spartacus-educational.com/RUSfww.htm>

A detailed understanding of Russia and the First World War

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PAkyRyo07Hw>

A short video with a decent summary of the events

Week 5:

Lesson- 24th June, 2020, 09:05am

How do we use historian's interpretations in history? How do we use sources, in general? Can we use our knowledge to explain why a historian may be valid or not?

Private study work for the week beginning 29th June

Task 6: Consolidation 'do you agree with an historian?'- this should take about 2 hours

1) Read through the following interpretation made by an historian:

'Nicholas was the source of all the problems. If there was a vacuum of power at the centre of the ruling system, then he was the empty space. In a sense Russia gained in him the worst of both worlds; a Tsar determined to rule from the throne, yet quite incapable of exercising power. This was autocracy without an autocrat.' Historian- Orlando Figes

- What does this source suggest about Nicholas II?
- What inferences can you make about the reasons why he was a failing tsar?
- What evidence could you use to support this point? (Hint: what bad decisions has he made? What parts of his personality would agree with this assessment?)

- Is there any evidence to limit the value of this interpretation? Do you fully agree with what Figes is saying?
- 2) Write up your answer to this question:

How far do you agree with Orlando Figes' interpretation of Tsar Nicholas II?

Success Criteria (A/A*)

- Summarise and explain Figes' overall argument in regards to Nicholas II
- Explain reasons why his opinion holds value based on knowledge- so what does he say that you agree with? Why do you agree? What knowledge do you have to support it? (Hint: think about how you answer a 'convincing' question- how accurate is he?)
- Is there anything that could limit Figes' argument? Do you know anything that shows Nicholas in a more positive light? (Hint: are there other factors to play? War? Geography? Growth of opposition groups?)
- Overall, what do you think about Nicholas II? Was he the main source of Russia's problems by 1917? Was it down to his personality? The decisions he made?
- S+C: can you come to a sustained judgement about Nicholas and evaluate his role in the problems that Russia was facing by 1917

Task 7: Create profiles on the key opposition groups that existed in Russia before the revolution- this should take you 2 hours

Read through the chapter from Lynch- 'Opposition to Tsardom 1881-1914'

Who are the key groups who were opposed to the Tsar in 1917?

- The Populists (Narodniks)
- The Social Revolutionaries (SRs)
- The Social Democrats (SDs)
- The Liberals: Octobrists and the Kadets

ASSESSED WORK: Success Criteria (A/A*)

- Who were they?
- What were their main political beliefs?
- Who were the key individuals who were involved in this organisation?
- What was their aim for Russia?
- How did they campaign? What were their methods to engage people into supporting them?

Complete the profiles for each of these groups and what they were wanting for Russia.

Week 6:

Private study work for the week beginning 6th July

Task 8:

Complete a timeline of the key events of Tsar Nicholas II's reign. This should take you 3 hours.

ASSESSED WORK: Success Criteria (A/A*)

- Step 1: Create a timeline on A3 paper which spans all of Tsar Nicholas II's reign
- Step 2: On your timeline, plot on the key events with full dates and titles.
- Step 3: For each event, can you write a brief description of what happened and the consequences of it?
- Step 4: In a separate colour, draw and annotate arrows explaining the connections between the events in your timeline - how are key events/changes connected?
- Step 5: Counterfactual analysis is a key component of A Level study. For 5 of the events on your timeline, can you explain how history would have been different if this event had not occurred? Can you predict how your timeline might have looked different? What does this tell you about the importance of this event within this unit of work? (A/A* thinking)
- S+C: Can you now begin to explain the strengths and limitations of timelines? How far, and in what ways, will they be useful to you in studying the past?

Week 7:

Lesson: 15th July, 2020, 09:05

Can we understand causes and causation in Tsar Nicholas II's reign?

Task 9:

A majority of the essays you write throughout Year 12 and Year 13 will address the conceptual focuses of causation and consequences - why do events happen, and what are the implications of them?

ASSESSED WORK: Success Criteria (A/A*)

- Step 1: From your timeline, identify 3 key events
- Step 2: Create a mind map, with the event in the middle, divided into two sections - causes and consequences.
- Step 3: On the left hand-side, identify between 3-5 causes as to why this event happened. For each event use the "shades of likelihood" scale to explain how far, and in what ways, this cause led to the event occurring:
 - o 1 Partially
 - o 2 Noticeably
 - o 3 Dramatically
 - o 4 Certainly
- Step 4: For your causes, now categorise your factors into the following themes: political; social; economic; long-term cause; and short-term cause.
- Step 5: From your causation map, can you now identify what you think is the most important cause behind this event, and justify your decision?
- Step 6: On the right hand-side, identify between 5 consequences that occurred as a result of this event.

- Step 7: For your consequences, now categorise them into the following themes: political; social; economic; long-term consequence; and short-term consequence. Can you explain the links between your consequences?
- S+C: Step 8: Can you identify what you think is the most important consequence of this event, and justify your decision?

Summer work: to ensure that you have a thorough and deep understanding of what Russia was like on the brink of revolution. Use the following resources to help you further your knowledge.

Notable resources you can use:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z6rjy9q/revision/1>

<http://www.historyhome.co.uk/europe/russia1.htm>

Documentaries: part 1, 2 and 3- really good overview of the situation in Russia for the Romanovs

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpWyFcH-1tE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hx2zMUCsdMO>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1em_IDQzmA

Here is another documentary about the Russian Revolution if you wanted to understand the time period a little bit more:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXHybEb4b_o&has_verified=1

Decent books to use for this course:

Lynch, M., Reaction and Revolutions: Russia 1881-1924 (access to history)

Lynch, M., Reaction and Revolution: Russia 1894-1924 (access to history- fourth edition)

- Two different books albeit with the same title, can be found on amazon

Bunce, R. and Owen, N., Revolution and Dictatorship Russia 1917-53 (my revision notes, Hodder Education)

- Decent revision book, however, only a very short summary of some of the key events and characters