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History

Homework Booklet



Year 10

Term 2: Lenin's Russia 1917-24

Homework 1	Learn keywords	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 2	Exam Skills	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 3	Prepare for knowledge test	Due date:	Completed?

History Homework Tasks Term 5

Homework 1 - Learn the keywords below for a mini test at the start of next lesson. You could read through the words, write them out, create a match up activity or get someone to test you.

Keyword	Definition
Decree	A law that is passed, for example the Decree on Land in November 1918
Cheka	The Bolshevik's secret police which arrested and executed political opposition
Politburo	Part of the government set up in 1917 which ultimately made all the decisions, Lenin was its chairman which meant Lenin had the final say.
Constituent Assembly	A group of representatives (Soviets) that is elected to create or change their country's constitution. Lenin closed the Constituent Assembly in 1918 when the Bolsheviks lost a general election transforming Russia into one-party state until 1991!
Centralisation	A political method of increasing the control and power for a government.
War Communism	Economic policy between 1918-21, grain was taken from peasants to feed the Red Army, it led to food shortages and famine.
New Economic Policy	A policy that replaced War Communism in 1921, it allowed peasants to sell grain which led to the economy being saved and led to some people making profit (NEPmen).
Red Terror	The Cheka terrorised political opposition including the SRs between September 1918 and February 1919, up to 140,000 people were executed.
Grain requisitioning	Forcibly taking grain from peasants.
Zhenotdel	Women's organisation of the government set up in 1919 to increase the rights and status of women.

Homework 2 – Exam practice question:

Explain why the Bolsheviks were able to win the Russian Civil War.

You may use the following:

Leon Trotsky and the Red Army
Foreign support for the White Army

Explain 2-3 reasons using PEEL paragraphs

Homework 3 – Revise and prepare for your end of topic assessment using Seneca and other online resources such as BBC Bitesize.

Use the knowledge organisers and online websites to revise the following topics below are a few ways you could prepare:

Topics to Revise:


Tsarist Russia and the February Revolution
Weaknesses of the Provisional Government
The October Revolution (Bolsheviks seize power)
Early Bolshevik control
Russian Civil War 1918-21

Resources to use:

Knowledge Organisers
Seneca
BBC Bitesize
Revision Guides and Textbooks (on Teams)




Russia Topic 1: The revolutions of 1917

Key information
<p>Tsarist Russia – The Romanovs had ruled Russia for over 300 years, tsar Nicholas II had the support of the Army, his secret police (Okhrana) and the Duma (Russian parliament)</p> <p>However, many Russians were living in poverty and wanted change. Political groups like the Socialist Revolutionaries and the Bolsheviks wanted to get rid of the tsarist regime.</p> <p>WWI had a terrible effect on Russia, economically Russia lost money through debt and lack of trade. This effected the society as food shortages were very common, unemployment increased, and 15 million peasants were forced to fight for the army. This led to unrest and even the Duma began to criticise the tsar and the war effort. In 1915 Tsar Nicholas II became the commander-in-chief of the army, this weakened his authority, not just within the army but in Petrograd, as his German wife, Alexandra, was left in charge of the Duma.</p> <p>February Revolution – Long-term unrest, because of food shortages and the war, led to strikes and protests in Petrograd in late February. Women celebrating International Women's Day joined workers who were striking in Petrograd. Between 23-25 Feb 250,000 peoples protested on the streets. 26th Feb soldiers were ordered to fire on the demonstrators, killing 40 people. Soldiers began to refuse orders and on the 28th Feb the tsar received a telegram reporting that Petrograd was out of control.</p>


Key information
<p>The Provisional Government – On the 2nd of March Tsar Nicholas was forced to abdicate, he had no support from the Duma nor from the Army High Command, Russia had become a republic. Nicholas was replaced by a Provisional Government, it was weak; it had no legitimate authority, it continued with the war and it was basically a Dual Government with the Petrograd Soviet who held a lot of the power, especially over the soldiers and sailors in Petrograd and other soviets in Russia.</p> <p>The decision to carry on with the war was a disaster, after the June Offensive, where there were 200,000 casualties, people protested in the streets of Petrograd between the 3rd -7th of July.</p> <p>Arguably the turning point in 1917 was during the Kornilov Revolt, General Kornilov wanted to take control of the Petrograd Soviet and sent troops to the capital to take control. Kerensky thought this was a military takeover, he freed Bolshevik prisoners and armed them. The Red Guard stopped Kornilov's troops and it appeared that the Bolsheviks has saved Petrograd, their support began to increase rapidly, by October 1917 the Bolsheviks had 340,000 members, and 60,000 were in Petrograd.</p>
Key Terms and People
<p>Duma – Russian parliament who advised the tsar.</p> <p>Bolsheviks – political group led by Lenin who was a communist and believed in socialism.</p> <p>Abdicate – when a monarch steps down.</p> <p>Provisional Government – government in charge of the Russian Republic from March 1917 till Oct 1917.</p> <p>Petrograd Soviet – A committee of elected members, representing workers, soldiers and peasants.</p> <p>Soviets – same as above.</p> <p>Kerensky – Alexander Kerensky became leader of the P.G. in July 1917, made many mistakes including under estimating the Bolsheviks.</p> <p>Red Guard – a military unit consisting of Bolsheviks or Bolshevik supporters to protect to soviets. After the Bolsheviks seized power it became the Red Army.</p>

Key events
<p>August 1st 1914 – Russia declares war on Germany.</p> <p>August 1915 – Tsar Nicholas becomes commander-in-chief of the Russian Army.</p> <p>February 1917 – Mass protests in Petrograd, unhappy about Tsar Nicholas and WWI.</p> <p>March 1917 – Tsar Abdicates on the 2nd March, the Duma forms the Provisional Government.</p> <p>April 1917 – Lenin returns from exile with his April Theses, calling for Peace, Land and bread and All Power to the Soviet.</p> <p>June 1917 – Provisional Government decide to launch the “June Offensive” resulted in 200,000 Russian casualties and loss of territory (land).</p> <p>July 1917 – Alexander Kerensky becomes leader of the Provisional Government and continues with the war.</p> <p>July 3-7 1917 – Riots and protests led to an attempted uprising involving Lenin and the Bolsheviks, it failed as the Petrograd Soviet supported the Provisional Government. Bolsheviks were arrested and Lenin fled to Finland.</p> <p>August 24th 1917 – Kornilov Revolt; General Kornilov (head of the Army) sent troops to Petrograd to shut down the Petrograd Soviet. Kerensky decided to release and arm the Bolsheviks. These Red Guard convinced Kornilov's troops not to attack the capital.</p> <p>October 10th 1917 – Lenin returns to Petrograd and convinces key Bolsheviks to support a takeover.</p> <p>October 21st – The Petrograd Soviet swear loyalty to the MRC and Trotsky. They, along with the Red Guard seize important positions in Petrograd.</p> <p>October 24th-25th 1917 – Red Guards seized control of the Winter Palace and arrested the remaining members of the P.G.</p> <p>October 26th – Lenin forms the Bolshevik government called the Council of People's Commissars.</p>


Russia Topic 1: The revolutions of 1917	Key information	Key information	Key Questions
	<p>The Bolshevik Revolution – Following Lenin’s return in April, where he promised “All Power to the Soviet” and “Peace, Land and Bread”, support for the Bolsheviks slowly increased. By July the Bolsheviks had 10,000 Red Guard in Petrograd, and after the failed revolt by Kornilov the Bolsheviks were in a powerful position with their support still growing.</p> <p>By the beginning of October, Lenin and the Bolsheviks were beginning to prepare for the revolution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31 August Bolsheviks had won majority in the Petrograd Soviet • They had newspapers set up in Petrograd • A Bolshevik Headquarters was set up in Petrograd, in the Smolny Institute • 10th October Lenin returned from Finland and convinced 12 leading Bolsheviks to agree to a revolution. <p>Lenin’s leadership was key for the Bolsheviks to be successful, without Lenin the revolution would not have happened.</p> <p>Another important individual for the success of the Bolsheviks in October was Leon Trotsky, he became chairman of the Petrograd Soviet and used its Military Revolutionary Committee along with the Bolshevik’s Red Guard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take control of road and canal bridges in Petrograd • Take control of the Army headquarters • Took over telegraph offices to control communication in Petrograd <p>By the 24th October the Bolsheviks were ready to seize power.</p>	<p>On the evening of 25 October, Red Guards and sailors from Kronstadt advanced on the old tsarist Winter Palace – where the Provisional Government had its headquarters.</p> <p>The palace was defended by officer cadets and a women’s battalion – Kerensky could not persuade more experienced troops to support him anymore. There was almost no opposition and the Bolsheviks entered the Winter Palace, found the remaining members of the P.G. and had them arrested. By the early hours of 26 October, it was all over. It was declared at the Congress of Soviets that the Bolsheviks had taken power across Russia.</p> <p><u>Reasons why the Bolsheviks were successful:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The P.G. was weak, it continued with the war. • Lenin was a strong leader with a clear message. • “Peace, Land and Bread” was a powerful slogan. • Trotsky was an amazing planner who organised the Red Guards into an effective fighting force. • Kerensky underestimated the Bolsheviks and didn’t break up the Red Guard after the Kornilov Revolt. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the name of the ruler of Russia in 1914? 2. Who was the leader of the Bolsheviks? 3. What is the Russian word for a parliament? 4. What special day of marches led to the outbreak of the February Revolution? 5. Why was it a mistake for the tsar to become commander-in-chief of the army? 6. What was the name of the tsar’s wife and where did she come from? 7. What is the Russian word for a revolutionary council of workers, soldiers and peasants? 8. What was the title of Lenin’s publication produced when he first returned to Russia? 9. Who led the Provisional Government from July 1917? 10. Who led a military revolt against the Provisional Government in August 1917? 11. What was given to the Red Guard after the military revolt in August? 12. What date did Lenin return from Finland to lead the October Revolution? 13. Who organised the Bolshevik October Revolution? 14. Name one area of the capital that the Red Guard controlled? 15. What date was the October Revolution?
	Key terms and People	<p>Lenin – Leader of the Bolsheviks in 1917, exiled for much of this time, but led the revolution in October. He was a great public speaker, with a very persuasive and passionate personality. He was a true Marxist and believed in the idea of socialism.</p> <p>Leon Trotsky – once a Menshevik (opposed the Bolsheviks) Trotsky planned the October Revolution and would go on to led the Red Army. Very intelligent individual, but could be arrogant.</p> <p>Military Revolutionary Committee (MRC) – made up of soldiers and sailors apart of the Petrograd Soviet.</p> <p>Kronstadt – a naval base 20 miles west of Petrograd, Kronstadt sailors were supporters of the Bolsheviks.</p> <p>Congress of Soviets – A meeting of soviets in Petrograd the night of the revolution.</p>	

	Key information	Key information	Key events
Russia Topic 2: The Bolsheviks in power 1917-24	<p>Early consolidation of power, 1917–18</p> <p>The Bolsheviks began to change Russia through a series of revolutionary decrees.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decree on Peace 2. Decree on Land 3. Decree on Workers' Rights 4. Decree on Nationalities <p>The Bolsheviks allowed a general election where 41.7 million people voted. They failed to get sufficient votes in a general election and so shut down the Constituent Assembly in Jan 1918 which ended any hopes of democracy.</p> <p>The Bolsheviks pulled Russia out of the First World War, the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was negotiated by Trotsky and German commanders – The Bolsheviks had delivered peace, however, this came at a high price:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74% of Russia's coalmines were lost • 62 million people – 26% of its population • Had to pay 300 million gold roubles <p>To stop any chance of Nicholas II leading a counter-revolution, The tsar and his entire family were murdered in July 1918.</p> <p>The Civil War, 1918–21</p> <p>Civil War broke out in Russia in opposition to the way the Bolsheviks were running the country, the Red Army, led by Trotsky fought off the Whites, Greens and foreign intervention from countries such as Britain and France. The effects of the Civil War on the Bolshevik party was profound, it meant an increase in terror tactics by the Cheka during the Red Terror, discipline in the Red Army was used to ensure obedience, propaganda was used to consolidate the Bolshevik beliefs onto people and it led to political centralisation.</p>	<p>Opposition forces were divided – both politically and geographically. This really weakened The White Army:</p> <p>Key events of the Civil War</p>  <p>The Reds had a number of advantages – and were skilful at making the most of them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Red Army conscripted over 5 million soldiers. • Trotsky was a great leader of the Red Army • Control over most of Russia's industries and railways • Control over central Russia, shorter distances to supply their armies • War Communism: economic policy fed the Red Army <p>The Whites faced a number of disadvantages – and never overcame them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer number in the White army: 250,000 soldiers max • No single leader led to disagreements and friction • Geographically very spread out • Foreign intervention made the White Army an easy propaganda target for the Bolsheviks <p>The Reds had won the Civil War – but it was not at all clear what kind of Russia would develop in the 1920s</p>	<p>November 1917 – General election to the Constituent Assembly</p> <p>November–December 1917 – Bolshevik decrees, early reforms on land, workers' rights and conditions.</p> <p>January 1918 – Meeting of Constituent Assembly broken up by Bolsheviks and closed.</p> <p>March 3rd 1918 – Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Russia pulled out of WWI, lost a lot of land and resources to Germany – led to the start of the Russian Civil War and the economic policy, War Communism.</p> <p>July 17th 1918 – Murder of the tsar and his family.</p> <p>August 1918 – SR Fanya Kaplan attempted to assassinate Lenin.</p> <p>September 1918 – Feb 1919 – Red Terror begins, Cheka arrest and execute thousands of suspected opponents mainly SRs, 50,000 – 140,000 executed.</p> <p>1919 – Most foreign interventionists who were supporting the White Army leave Russia e.g. USA, Britain, France and Japan.</p> <p>1919 – Zhenotdel set to increase freedom, equality and influence of women. Led by Alexandra Kollantai.</p> <p>March 1921 – Kronstadt Mutiny, sailors of Kronstadt opposed Bolshevik policies, such as War Communism. Trotsky sent in the 50,000 Red Army soldiers to destroy the mutiny. 500 sailors executed by the Cheka</p> <p>March 1921 – At the Tenth Party Congress the NEP is introduced, Lenin bans factions – leading to a one-party state.</p> <p>1922 – Show trial of SR leaders, other SRs are deported.</p> <p>Mid 1923 – The “Scissor Crisis” meant that while food prices were falling, the prices of manufactured goods from factories was rising too fast.</p> <p>Jan 1924 – Lenin dies, a power struggle begins.</p> <p>1924 – The lands of the old Russian empire are renamed the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics – often shortened to USSR or Soviet Union.</p>



Russia Topic 2:
The Bolsheviks in
power 1917-24

Key information

Economic and social change, 1918–24

War Communism was introduced to try to control the Russian economy. The government controlled all parts of the economy, this meant that peasants' crops were **requisitioned** by the Cheka.

War Communism helped the Bolsheviks to win the Civil War, however it was an economic disaster:

- Food production had fallen to 37% of 1913 levels.
- Food shortages led to famine (6 million died)
- Production in factories fell by 50%
- Peasants were angry with the Bolsheviks

When War Communism failed, it was replaced by the **New Economic Policy** in 1921. Lenin allowed peasants to sell their crops on a **free market**.

It had a fairly positive effect on the economy:

- Food production began to increase – 19 million tonnes extra grain between 1921-23
- Industrial production slowly increased.

However:

- As food prices decreased, prices for industrial goods increased, this was known as the “scissor crisis”.
- NEP-men and NEP-women were making a lot of profit from selling goods, this went against socialism.

Many Bolsheviks were against the NEP as it was too close to capitalism, however it had meant the recovery of the Russian economy after the disaster of War Communism.

Key information

The communists introduced many changes that affected all aspects of Russian society and culture. Such as:

- Women declared equal in 1917, “post-card” divorces made divorce easier for women
- **Zhenotdel** a women's organisation was set up in the government.
- By 1926, 58% of the population were now literate.
- **Agitprop** as set up to control propaganda in art, literature, film and music to promote communism.
- **Glavlit** was set up to censor art and culture
- Many religions were persecuted and land was seized from the Russian Orthodox Church

Moves towards totalitarianism

Russia – under Lenin – soon turned into a dictatorship. Lenin and the **Politburo** made all the key decisions, they made it look like there was democracy but in reality it was a one-party state with Lenin as the leader.

The Cheka was used to destroy any opposition, during the Red Terror thousands were executed, imprisoned or sent to labour camps. Any opposition seen as a threat was a target this included SRs, Mensheviks even the middle-classes.

Opposition to dictatorship was revealed in the Kronstadt Mutiny of 1921. The sailors of Kronstadt were loyal supporters throughout 1917, however, during War Communism the sailors began to oppose the Bolsheviks. This opposition was crushed by Lenin in 1921. Lenin then banned **factions** in the government to make sure his beliefs were the only ones that were discussed.

Despite the official power of the soviets – power really lay with the Communist Party and mainly in the Politburo. Lenin had begun to become a **totalitarian**, within a one-party state.

Key Terms and People

Decrees – laws set by governments

Constituent Assembly – group of people democratically elected to discuss policies.

Cheka – Lenin's secret police.

Red Terror – Event where the Cheka arrested, imprisoned and executed thousands of opposition.

Propaganda – biased information used to promote political views or agendas.

Political centralisation – Making sure political decisions are made by a small number of people to keep the power centralised.

Conscripted – forced to fight in a war.

War Communism – Economic policy which forced peasants to hand over crops to feed the Red Army.

Foreign intervention – During the Civil War, Britain, USA, France and Japan supported the White Army with troops and supplies.

Requisitioned – taken by force.

New Economic Policy (NEP) – An economic policy which tried to recover the economy by introducing some capitalism, such as a selling crops for profit.

Politburo – part of the Communist Party that makes all the main decisions.

Factions – being part of a group that stands out against what others think.

Totalitarian – someone in total control of the political, economic and social aspects of a country or state.

