







A Level preparation

USSR: From Lenin to Yeltsin, 1917-1991

Read 	Listen 	Watch 
<p>A Level textbook: Edexcel AS/A Level History, Paper 1&2: Communist states in the 20th century Student Book (ISBN 978-1447985273)</p> <p>Other literature: Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak Animal Farm by George Orwell One day in the life of Ivan Denisovich by Alexander Solzhenitsyn</p> <p>Online The Romanov family and their end Lenin, the Bolsheviks, and the Russian Revolution 1917 USSR under Stalin Khrushchev biography Brezhnev becomes leader</p>	<p>The Romanovs – Tsar Nicholas II https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b0bfxxm8</p> <p>Lenin https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p00546pv</p> <p>The Russian Civil War https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3csyp5q</p> <p>Stalin and the ‘Doctor’s Plot’ https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/w3cswsr m</p> <p>Khrushchev’s Secret Speech https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p00dvnp q</p> <p>Death of Brezhnev https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0104hw s</p> <p>Brezhnev http://www.historyisnowmagazine.com/blog/2013/7/19/cold-war-people-episode-12-leonid-brezhnev#.XnyhJNP7Q1g=</p>	<p>Russian Revolution 1917 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZ55ZvBe07U</p> <p>Civil War 1918-21 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHXXtz uUzGQ</p> <p>Stalin https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e_2of8pmHYU</p> <p>Khrushchev, and his fall https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Po7jge6RXfU</p> <p>Khrushchev’s secret speech (de Stalinisation) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QT0zldk4XBo</p> <p>Brezhnev (stagnation) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9o9A9h0ryw</p>

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Key Dates 	Key definitions 	Different interpretations of the October Revolution 1917 
<p>Make a timeline and include a brief description of the following events/people in Soviet history.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1905 Russian Revolution • 1914 Russia's entry into WW1 • 1917 February Revolution • 1917 October Revolution • 1918-21 Civil War • 1924 Creation of the USSR • 1924 Death of Lenin • 1930s 'Great Terror' and Show Trials • 1956 Khrushchev's Secret Speech • 1964 Brezhnev takes over • 1982 Andropov takes over • 1984 Chernenko takes over • 1985 Gorbachev takes over 	<p>Research the following terms and define them within the USSR context.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Czar/Tsar/Tzar (until 1917) • Bolsheviks (1900s onwards) • USSR (1924-1991) • Whites (during the Civil War 1918-21) • Reds (during the Civil War, 1918-21) • Cheka (1917) • Holodomor (1930s) • Gulag (1930s+) • Kulak (1930s+) • De-Stalinisation and 'the thaw' (1953-64) • Détente (1970s) • Gerontocracy and stagnation (1964-85) 	<p>E. H. Carr: Soviet <i>The spread of Marxism was inevitable. Lenin played a pivotal role in the development of the revolution – he had the support of the workers.</i></p> <p>Richard Pipes: Liberal <i>The revolution was a planned event by the Bolsheviks, and ended with their seizure of power. It was a coup d'état, which did not have popular support.</i></p> <p>Orlando Figes: Revisionist <i>There was some popular support for the revolution, but the revolution itself was also a result of a struggle for political power.</i></p>
<p>Challenge: One of Mrs Jones' interesting facts from the start of the USSR course is that Rasputin, the advisor to (and rumored lover of) the Tsarina (Empress), was assassinated by members of the nobility whilst the Tsarina's husband, Tsar Nicholas II, was away during WW1. He was fed wine and cakes laced with cyanide. This didn't work, and so he was shot. When this (supposedly) didn't work, he was thrown in the freezing Neva River of St Petersburg where his body was found three days later. You can learn more in this popular song. There are many other interesting and somewhat unbelievable facts about the USSR. Your challenge is to find your own interesting fact from the USSR, 1917-1991.</p>		