



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2013

History

HIS2L

Unit 2L The Impact of Stalin's Leadership in the USSR, 1924–1941

Wednesday 22 May 2013 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2L.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
Each question has **two** parts. Answer **both** parts of each question chosen.

Question 1

Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Adapted from a letter by Fedor Raskolnikov to Stalin. Raskolnikov was a Bolshevik veteran and diplomat who wrote this letter after escaping from the Terror to France in 1939.

- Stalin, you have declared me 'outside the law', depriving me of rights, just like all Soviet citizens. Your 'socialism' has room only for the prison camp. It is as far from true socialism as your personal dictatorship is from the dictatorship of the proletariat. No one feels secure. The innocent and guilty, including Old Bolsheviks, are all under
- 5 your whip. You have destroyed Lenin's Party. With a sadist's cruelty you are beating those groups who are useful and necessary for our country. The list of your crimes and victims is endless.

Source B Adapted from a courtroom speech by the Show Trial prosecutor Andrei Vyshinsky, in 1938.

- The group of Trotskyites and Bukharinites, now in the prisoners' dock, is not a political group but a band of criminals who have sold themselves to enemy intelligence services. They are the lowest, the most depraved of the depraved. Our people are waiting for a just verdict: may it resound like a bell calling for new feats
- 5 of heroism and as the purifying thunderstorm of just Soviet punishment! The whole country demands one thing: that these traitors and spies must be shot like dirty dogs! Our people are demanding: crush the accursed reptiles. Along the road cleared of the last scum and filth of the past, with our beloved Stalin at our head, we will march onwards towards communism.

Source C Adapted from Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev's speech to the Twentieth Congress of the Communist Party, 1956.

- The Party had fought the Trotskyites and Rightists. As a result, the Party was strengthened. Here Stalin had a positive role. The Party led a great struggle against those following a line hostile to the Party and socialism. That was a difficult but necessary fight, because the Trotskyite-Zinovievite line led towards the restoration
- 5 of capitalism. But if the Right deviation had won, we would not now have a powerful heavy industry, and we would have found ourselves disarmed and weak. For that reason, the Party led the ideological fight and was able to organise the working class and build socialism. But once the ideological opponents of the Party were defeated politically, repression against them began. Stalin's concept of 'enemy of the people'
- 10 made possible cruel repression against anyone who disagreed with him or those merely suspected of hostile aims.

0	1
---	---

Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the Terror. (12 marks)

and

0	2
---	---

Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How successful was the Terror in ensuring that the Soviet Union had achieved stability by 1941? (24 marks)

EITHER

Question 2

0	3
---	---

Explain why Trotsky did not become Soviet leader in 1924. (12 marks)

and

0	4
---	---

‘The Left Opposition failed to achieve power in the USSR because its leaders underestimated Stalin.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)

OR

Question 3

0	5
---	---

Explain why the kulaks had become unpopular in the USSR by 1929. (12 marks)

and

0	6
---	---

‘Agriculture was making a much stronger contribution to the Soviet economy by 1941 than it had done in 1928.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. (24 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

Copyright © 2013 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.