

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Wednesday 14 May 2025

Afternoon (Time: 2 hours 15 minutes)

Paper reference **8HI0/1E**

History

Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 1: Breadth study with interpretations

Option 1E: Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin

You must have:
Extracts Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- There are three sections in this question paper. Answer **ONE** question from Section A, **ONE** question from Section B and the question in Section C.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer EITHER Question 1 OR Question 2.

EITHER

- 1 Was Lenin's leadership the main reason for the survival of the Soviet regime in the years 1917–28?

(Total for Question 1 = 20 marks)

OR

- 2 Was Stalin's use of the media and propaganda, in the years 1928–53, the main reason for his control over the Soviet population?

(Total for Question 2 = 20 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 1** ☒ **Question 2** ☒

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TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 20 MARKS



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SECTION B

Answer EITHER Question 3 OR Question 4.

EITHER

- 3 How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1953–85, the Soviet government's economic priorities did not change?

(Total for Question 3 = 20 marks)

OR

- 4 How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1917–85, the most significant Soviet social development was the provision of education?

(Total for Question 4 = 20 marks)

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 20 MARKS



SECTION C

Study Extracts 1 and 2 in the Extracts Booklet before you answer this question.

- 5** Historians have different views about the reasons for the fall of the Soviet Union. Analyse and evaluate the extracts and use your knowledge of the issues to explain your answer to the following question.

How far do you agree with the view that, in the years 1985–91, the collapse of the Soviet Union came about because of the nationalist resurgence in the communist states of Eastern Europe?

(20)

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(Total for Question 5 = 20 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 20 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 60 MARKS



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Extracts Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Extracts for use with Section C.

Extract 1: From Robin Bunce et al., *Communist States in the Twentieth Century*, published 2015.

Gorbachev's reforms led to a rise in nationalism. The most significant change in this context was to redefine the relationship between the Soviet Union and the East European 'satellite states' it had controlled since the late 1940s. Gorbachev rejected the Brezhnev Doctrine in August 1989, thereby renouncing the Soviet Union's 'right' to intervene in the affairs of the East European socialist countries. 5
This allowed much greater freedom in these countries. As a result, during October and November 1989, communism collapsed in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and East Germany. Gorbachev allowed this to happen, refusing to use Soviet troops to restore communist rule in these states.

The nationalist revolutions in Eastern Europe clearly had implications for the Soviet republics. Across Eastern Europe, countries had regained their independence from the Soviet Union. Nationalists in the non-Russian republics within the Soviet Union hoped that they could do the same. 10
Indeed, from the late 1980s, there was growing nationalist unrest in the Soviet republics, including Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Georgia, Russia and the Baltic states. Within these republics, nationalist leaders and movements were able to present themselves as the defenders of local traditions and opponents of Soviet oppression. 15

Extract 2: From Michael Oliver and Derek Aldcroft, *Economic Disasters of the Twentieth Century*, published 2008.

The economy of the Soviet Union suffered from various in-built flaws. As the USSR's command economy faced serious difficulties, Soviet citizens could see some of the attractions of western capitalism through increasing trade and the black market, providing hope of a better future for the Soviet population. 20

By the early 1980s, mounting economic problems forced the Soviet leadership to adopt radical new policies in an attempt to improve the situation. Under Gorbachev's overconfident leadership, however, the introduction of a mixture of political and economic reforms fatally undermined the Soviet system and ensured its ultimate collapse. 25

The de-escalation of the Cold War, and the fact that the Soviet government was no longer willing or able to make the economic sacrifices necessary to help sustain its dominance over Eastern Europe brought the Eastern Bloc crashing down. Two years later the Soviet Union followed. 30

Acknowledgements:

Extract 1 from: *Communist States in the Twentieth Century*, Robin Bunce, Peter Clements, Sarah Ward and Andrew Flint, Hodder Education 2015

Extract 2 from: *Economic Disasters of the Twentieth Century* By Michael Oliver and Derek Aldcroft © Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd 1st Edition 2008

