



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2014

History

HIS2E

Unit 2E The Reign of Peter the Great of Russia, 1682–1725

Thursday 22 May 2014 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 **Paper Reference** is HIS2E.
- 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 In 1718, Alexis acknowledged his guilt at having fled Russia, begged his father's forgiveness and renounced his rights of succession. But Peter remained dissatisfied. However many promises Alexis made, as long as he remained alive there must always be a threat to the continuance of Peter's own policies. Even if Alexis became a monk, this might not be enough. Alexis could rely on widespread sympathy from the Church and from a majority of ordinary Russians. If Peter should die in the near future his policies and their consequences – conscription, forced labour, increased taxes, foreign customs – were likely to be swept away in a wave of conservative reaction of which Alexis would be the so-called leader. 5

Adapted from MS Anderson, Peter the Great, 1995

Source B Alexis had neither the energy nor the desire to put himself at the head of a revolt. He wanted to succeed to the throne and he wished for Peter's death, but his only programme was to wait, believing that he was popular far and wide in Russia. And if Alexis had succeeded Peter, it seems unlikely that all that Peter feared would take place. Alexis would not have carried through all of Peter's reforms, and some things would have slipped backward. But, overall, not much would have changed. Alexis had been raised by Western tutors, he had studied and travelled often in the West, and he had married a Western princess. Russia would not have hurtled back to traditional dress, culture and customs. 5

Adapted from Robert K Massie, Peter the Great: His Life and World, 1989

Source C It was clear that there was considerable opposition to Peter. Peter made extraordinary demands of his people, noble and peasant alike. He forced a deeply conservative and xenophobic* nation to embrace western ways. Lifetime service was required, whether for the army officer or the serf. Peter, who saw himself as serving for life in his position, assumed that if he must bear such a burden, everybody else should be content to do so. His taxes placed a crushing burden on the Russians. In addition, he mocked Russian traditions and seemed to criticise Russia's faith. Peter was, in short, bitterly hated. 5

[* xenophobic : having an abnormal fear of foreigners]

Adapted from John Swift, Peter the Great, 2000

0	1
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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 threat to Peter the Great's reforms from Tsarevich Alexis.

[12 marks]

and

0	2
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Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How far was resistance to Westernisation the reason for opposition to Peter the Great?

[24 marks]

Either

Question 2

0	3
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Explain why Peter the Great was able to defeat the Swedes at the Battle of Poltava in 1709.

[12 marks]

and

0	4
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'Gaining access to the Baltic Sea was the most important result for Russia of the Great Northern War of 1700–1721.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

Or

Question 3

0	5
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Explain why Peter the Great reformed local government in Russia.

[12 marks]

and

0	6
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'Peter the Great's government reforms failed because of the poor quality of his officials.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[24 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: MS Anderson, *Peter the Great* (2nd edition), Longman, 2000.

Question 1 Source B: Robert K Massie, *Peter the Great: His Life and World*, Abacus, 1989.

Question 1 Source C: John Swift, *Peter the Great*, 2000. Reproduced with permission of Hodder Education.

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