

AS HISTORY

Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855–1964

Component 1H Autocracy, Reform and Revolution: Russia, 1855–1917

Wednesday 15 May 2019 Afternoon Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7041/1H.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Extract A

The 1880s brought an important new era in state policy towards national minorities. Alexander II had not engaged in systematic, enforced Russification and had even made significant concessions in some instances. His son's government, by contrast, launched an aggressive campaign of both administrative and cultural Russification. Perhaps the most striking example of the change in policy concerned the Baltic Germans, an elite that had enjoyed the special protection of Alexander III's predecessors. At the same time, the government reversed its earlier concessions to the Jews. Similar demands were placed on other groups, even those like the Finns who had hitherto enjoyed special protection, but were now exposed to a gradual Russification.

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Adapted from G L Freeze, *Russia, A History*, 1997**Extract B**

The attitudes which the state displayed towards national minorities were closely linked to changes in political thinking after 1855. Control was at the centre of the Russian government's concerns and military force was used to suppress Polish national aspirations in 1863. As part of the attempt to increase direct control in Alexander II's later years, the government implemented policies which attempted to assert the Russian character of the Empire, and this continued under Alexander III. Outward signs of nationality increasingly found disapproval. Use of the Ukrainian language in publications was prohibited in 1876. In Poland, after 1863, and in the Baltic provinces, from 1885, Russian became the language of courts and local government.

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Adapted from P Waldron, *The End of Imperial Russia, 1855–1917*, 1997

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With reference to these extracts and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two extracts provides the more convincing interpretation of Russification in the reigns of Alexander II and Alexander III?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'In the years 1890 to 1905, liberal opposition was more challenging to the autocracy than the opposition of radical groups.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'In the years 1894 to 1914, the Russian nobility lost most of its power and influence.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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