Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

Thursday 12 June 2025

Morning (Time: 2 hours 15 minutes)

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History

Advanced

PAPER 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 38.1: The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991

Option 38.2: The making of modern China, 1860–1997

Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

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Sources for use with Section A.

Answer the question in Section A on the option for which you have been prepared.

Option 38.1: The making of modern Russia, 1855–1991

Source for use with Question 1.

Source 1: From a proclamation written by Lenin and issued in the name of the All-Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, 26 October 1917. The Congress was called under pressure from the Bolsheviks and dominated by Bolshevik delegates. The proclamation was issued shortly after the seizure of the Winter Palace, the seat of the Provisional Government in Petrograd.

The All-Russian Congress of Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies is now open. The majority of the Soviets of Workers and Soldiers are represented at this Congress. A number of delegates from the Peasants' Soviets are also present.

It is the will of the vast majority of the workers, soldiers and peasants in Russia that this Congress now takes power into its own hands. This action has been confirmed by the victorious uprising of the workers and soldiers that has recently taken place in Petrograd. The Provisional Government has been overthrown. The majority of the members of the Provisional Government have already been arrested. Therefore, this Congress decrees that power shall pass immediately to the Soviets of Workers', Soldiers' and Peasants' Deputies, which will now be responsible for guaranteeing revolutionary order throughout Russia.

The Soviet government will soon propose an immediate ceasefire on all battle fronts and offer a genuine, democratic peace to all the nations involved in the war. It will protect the rights of the soldiers by introducing complete democracy in the army. It will establish workers' control over production. It will ensure that bread is supplied to the cities and other vital necessities to the villages. The Soviet government will also guarantee the right of self-government to all the nationalities inhabiting Russia.

This Congress calls upon all the soldiers in the trenches to be vigilant and firm. Congress is confident that the army will be able to defend the revolution against the attacks of the imperialists until such time as the new government succeeds in concluding a democratic peace with all countries. The new government will do everything to supply all the needs of the army, funded by the requisition of the property and the taxation of the upper classes. It will also improve the condition of soldiers' families.

Soldiers, actively resist Kerensky* and his supporters! Already, Kerensky and others are attempting, by deceit, to persuade troops to attack Petrograd. Some of these soldiers have already abandoned him but be on your guard!

Railroad workers! Stop all troop trains dispatched by Kerensky against Petrograd!

Soldiers and workers, the fate of the revolution and the fate of the democratic peace is in your hands!

Long live the revolution!

*Kerensky – the head of the Provisional Government, July–October 1917

Option 38.2: The making of modern China, 1860–1997

Source for use with Question 2.

Source 2: From the Treaty of Shimonoseki, 17 April 1895.

China grants to Japan, for all time, the full sovereignty of the following territories:

(a) The southern portion of the province of Liaoning.

(b) The island of Taiwan and the Pescadores Islands, which lie to the west of Taiwan.

The inhabitants of these territories, who so wish, shall be free to sell their property and leave within two years of the ratification of this Treaty. After this, those who have not left shall be considered to be Japanese subjects.

China also recognises the full and complete independence of Korea. In consequence of such independence, the payment of taxes by Korea to China shall cease.

China agrees to pay to Japan reparations of 200 million Kuping taels*, the full sum to be paid in eight instalments. The last instalment shall be paid within seven years of the ratification of this Treaty. Interest at the rate of five per cent per year shall be paid to Japan on any unpaid parts of this sum.

China agrees to conclude a treaty of commerce and navigation with Japan to regulate trade between the two nations. This treaty shall be similar to those treaties that have been agreed between China and the European Powers. Until this treaty is signed, the Japanese government, its officials and all Japanese subjects and businesses, shall be granted most favoured nation status by China.

China agrees, within six months, to open four more cities to the trade, manufactured goods and residence of Japanese subjects. Steam vessels under the Japanese flag shall be allowed to transport passengers and cargo on the Yangtze River and on other rivers and canals. Japanese subjects shall be free to engage in any kind of industry in all the open cities and ports of China, and shall be allowed to import into China all kinds of machinery.

As a guarantee of the strict observance of the articles of this Treaty, China consents to the continued occupation by Japanese soldiers of the city of Weihaiwei, in the province of Shandong. Weihaiwei shall be evacuated by Japanese forces provided that China pays the first two instalments of the war debt and agrees the treaty of commerce and navigation.

Upon the ratification of this Treaty, all prisoners of war shall be freed and the complete evacuation of China by the armies of Japan shall be completed within three months.

*200 million Kuping taels – a sum worth about £25 million in 1895

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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 from: https://soviethistory.msu.edu/1917-2/first-bolshevik-decrees/first-bolshevik-decrees-texts/assumption-of-soviet-power/

Source 2 from: https://www.taiwanbasic.com/treaties/Shimonoseki.htm