Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1)

Tuesday 9 June 2020

Morning (Time: 1 hour 20 minutes) | Paper Reference **1HI0/30**

History

Paper 3: Modern depth study
Option 30: Russia and the Soviet Union, 1917–41

Sources/Interpretations Booklet for use within Section B.
Do not return this booklet with the question paper.

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Sources/interpretations for use with Section B.

Source B: From a speech made by Stalin to the Communist Party Central Committee, January 1933. Here he is commenting on the lives of workers in towns.

> We have clearly reached a position where the living standards of the workers in towns are improving from year to year.
>
> One of our main achievements is that we have abolished unemployment. We have saved the Soviet workers from the uncertainty and horrors of having no work.
>
> Workers' average annual wages have increased by 67 per cent since 1928.
>
> People can be confident that they will be looked after if they are unable to work. We have introduced an excellent scheme that provides workers with a basic income if they are sick or too old to work.
>
> Nobody can doubt the progress we have made.

Source C: From *Lost Illusion*, a memoir by Freda Utley, published in 1948. Utley was a member of the British Communist Party who went to live in the Soviet Union. Here she is commenting on life in Moscow in the winter of 1932–33.

> Workers were forbidden to leave their jobs, no matter how bad the conditions. However, they could be forced to move from place to place by factory managers. This caused huge problems as it was very difficult for workers to find new rooms for their families to live in.
>
> Workers were sacked for a single day's absence for sickness. There were huge fines for being late for work. If a worker was dismissed from his job then the whole family would lose their bread ration. People who were unemployed received no allowances.
>
> We realised we were living in a country where the workers had lost all freedom and human rights.

Interpretation 1: From *Russia 1894–1941* by M Lynch, published in 2015.

> Workers' rights disappeared under Stalin's industrialisation plans. Strikes were banned, and demands for better pay and conditions were seen as being selfish. Food remained scarce and expensive.
>
> Nearly all workers lived in extremely overcrowded apartments that were a health hazard. Young couples with children often lived with their parents. It was usual for four or five families to share a single toilet and a single kitchen. People often had to queue to cook food or to go to the toilet.

Interpretation 2: From *Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855–1964* by Sally Waller, published in 2015.

> Stalin's industrialisation policies created new opportunities for workers in towns in the Soviet Union.
>
> More generous pay was offered for certain jobs, which encouraged the workers to improve their lives. People competed to be the most efficient workers and were rewarded with promotion. Better jobs meant they could afford better housing.
>
> In workplaces discipline was less strict, which made working conditions easier. More workers were able to become managers. Children of workers benefited from the increased educational opportunities that were on offer.
>
> In 1933 Stalin announced, 'life has become better, comrades, life has become more joyous.'

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Acknowledgements

Source B taken from https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/stalin/works/1933/01/07.htm;

Source C taken from http://www.fredautley.com/pdffiles/book18.pdf;

Interpretation 1 taken from Source from: 'Russia 1894-1941 ', M Lynch, Hodder, 2nd Edition;

Interpretation 2 taken from 'Oxford AQA History for A Level: Tsarist and Communist Russia 1855-1964', Sally Waller, 2nd ed, OUP Oxford.

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