Mark Scheme (Results)

January 2025

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level in History (WHI01/1B)

Paper 1: Depth Study with Interpretations

Option 1B: Russia in Revolution, 1881-1917

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January 2025
Publication Code: WHI01_1B_2501_MS
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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Generic Level Descriptors for Paper 1

Targets: AO1 (10 marks): Demonstrate, organise and communicate knowledge and understanding to analyse and evaluate the key features related to the periods studied, making substantiated judgements and exploring concepts, as relevant, of cause, consequence, change, continuity, similarity, difference and significance.

AO3 (15 marks): Analyse and evaluate, in relation to the historical context, difference ways in which aspects of the past have been interpreted.

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
1	**1-6**	• Simple or generalised statements are made about the view presented in the question. • Some accurate and relevant knowledge is included, but it lacks range and depth and does not directly address the issue in the question. • Judgement on the view is assertive, with little supporting evidence.
2	**7-12**	• Some understanding of the issue raised by the question is shown and analysis is attempted by describing some points that are relevant. • Mostly accurate knowledge is included, but it lacks range or depth and only has implicit links to issues relevant to the question. • A judgement on the view is given, but with limited support and the criteria for judgement are left implicit.
3	**13-18**	• Understanding and some analysis of the issue raised by the question is shown by selecting and explaining some key points of view that are relevant. • Knowledge is included to demonstrate some understanding of the issues raised by the question, but material lacks range or depth • Attempts are made to establish criteria for judgement on the view and to relate the overall judgement to them, although with weak substantiation.
4	**19-25**	• Key issues relevant to the question are explored by analysing and explaining the issues of interpretation raised by the claim. • Sufficient knowledge is deployed to demonstrate understanding of the issues raised by the question and to meet most of its demands. • Valid criteria by which the view can be judged are established and applied in the process of coming to a judgement. Although some of the evaluations may only be partly substantiated, the overall judgement is supported.

Question	Indicative content
1	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether the most significant feature of Russia's economic development, in the years 1891-1903, was the growth of railways. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The railway network was doubled in size in the years 1891-1903, which significantly stimulated iron and steel production and transportation and this aided economic development • The railways opened up trade with Europe, China and the USA, e.g. the export of grain, and this aided economic development • Railways opened up Siberia's mineral wealth for exploitation, which then stimulated and benefitted developing Russian industry • Rail links across Russia united the empire, allowing people and goods to move which aided economic development. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • It was the impact of Witte's placing of the rouble on the gold standard (1897), which encouraged foreign investment, that led to Russian economic development and modernisation • The growth of cities led to a growth in the professional and managerial middle class, and this promoted and aided economic development • Banks and other financial institutions mushroomed, financing iron, steel, cotton, silk and chemical production and this aided economic development • The impact of increasing production, from mines in the Ukraine and oil from the oil fields of the Baku, furthered economic development. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
2	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether in the years 1903-14, the use of repression rather than political reform was the main reason Tsarist rule survived. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • Repression, via the Okhrana, police and army (the state's repressive apparatus) ensured the survival of Tsarism by continually breaking up opposition cells • Bloody Sunday and the crushing of the Moscow Uprising (1905) demonstrated that Tsarism would not tolerate opposition and force would be used against it • Stolypin conducted a vigorous campaign against terrorists and revolutionaries, e.g. 'Stolypin's necktie', accounted for over 1500 executions between 1905–08 • The brutal suppression of miners during the Lena Goldfields Massacre (1912) demonstrated Tsarism's unwillingness to give in to working-class protest. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The introduction of Nicholas's October Manifesto allowed the Tsar to build a consensus in support of gradual political change, which aided Tsarist survival • Nicholas granted fundamental freedoms, e.g. speech, assembly and association • The duma was established allowing participation in the political process to those who had previously not been involved • Nicholas strengthened the rule of law, meaning that no law could come into effect without the approval of the duma. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
3	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether in the years 1914-17, the role of the Empress Alexandra was more significant than the decisions made by Tsar Nicholas II in the weakening of Romanov rule. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The Empress had become unpopular amongst the population because of her German origins and this significantly weakened Romanov rule • The Empress had chosen to live outside the capital in a palace at Tsarskoye Selo and was remote from the public, which weakened Romanov rule • The Empress took charge of the domestic government and as a consequence of her poor decision making, she became the focus of discontent, which weakened Romanov rule • There was growing scandal at the royal court as rumour surrounded the mysterious figure of Rasputin and the extent to which the Empress was influenced by him in her decision making. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The Tsar's decision to take personal control of Russia's war effort associated him with war defeats, which damaged Romanov rule • The Tsar became isolated at military headquarters and cut off from domestic issues and concerns • The Tsar's decision to leave the Empress in charge of domestic government meant that she inadvertently became the focus of discontent and this damaged Romanov rule • The Tsar's decision to return from the war front to the capital and reclaim his authority met with total failure, as he was seen as isolated and powerless. Other relevant material must be credited.

Question	Indicative content
4	Answers will be credited according to candidates' deployment of material in relation to the qualities outlined in the generic mark scheme. The indicative content below is not prescriptive and candidates are not required to include all the material that is indicated as relevant. Candidates are expected to reach a judgement on whether the main reason why the Bolsheviks were able to seize power in October 1917 was the role of Lenin. The evidence supporting the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • On Lenin's return in April, he gave a charismatic speech criticising the Provisional Government and proposed a radical alternative via a planned revolution • Lenin was a fanatic and his conviction drove the Central Committee to consider a carefully planned revolutionary overthrow of the Provisional Government • His slogans of 'Bread, Peace and Land' and 'All power to the Soviets' gained the Bolsheviks support • Lenin actively planned the revolution based on the idea of a small, dedicated group who would overthrow the government. The evidence countering or modifying the given view should be analysed and evaluated. Relevant points may include: • The Provisional Government had very little real power and little practical experience of government, therefore it was easy to overthrow • The policies of the Provisional Government, e.g. continuation of the war, made the ideas of the Bolsheviks even more attractive • It was Trotsky's ability to organise and plan that was crucial to the Bolshevik overthrow • As a consequence of the Kornilov revolt, the Bolsheviks were armed by the Provisional Government and, had this not happened, the Bolsheviks may not have been able to overthrow the Provisional Government. Other relevant material must be credited.

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