
AS HISTORY

The Crisis of Communism: The USSR, 1953–2000

Paper 2T

Specimen 2014

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 2T.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 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.
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Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

Adapted from a conversation between Nikita Khrushchev and Indian writer, Khoja Ahmed Abbas, 6 January 1960. In this source, Khrushchev is responding to a question about his relationship with the capitalist West.

We are pursuing cooperation and peaceful coexistence, because war would be a grave disaster for mankind. But peaceful coexistence in no way means that we are abandoning the principles of socialism or our ideology. There can be no truce in questions of ideology. Capitalism is steadily receding into the past and communism is the bright present and even brighter future of all mankind. Ideological differences should be decided not by wars, but by the people, the workers. That system is better for a people that gives them genuine freedom and greater benefits and that is what is happening in the USSR today. We are absolutely confident that our system beats capitalist system in all respects.

Source B

Adapted from an article by the Chinese Communist leader, Mao Zedong. This was printed in the official Chinese newspapers, Renmin Ribao (People's Daily) and Hongqi (Red Flag), July 14th 1964. The article is entitled, 'On Khrushchev's Phoney Communism and Its Historical Lessons for the World'.

Under the banner of 'peaceful coexistence', Khrushchev has been colluding with U.S. imperialism, wrecking socialism and the international communist movement. He is only interested in Great Power status which he places above the fundamental interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union, the socialist camp and the whole world.

The broad masses of the Soviet workers, collective farmers and intellectuals are seething with discontent against the oppression and exploitation practiced by the state under Khrushchev's reckless schemes. They have come to see ever more clearly the way in which Khrushchev is betraying socialism and restoring capitalism.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining Khrushchev's attitude to capitalism?

[25 marks]

Section B

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

EITHER

0 2

‘An era of positive social change.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view of social developments in Brezhnev's years of power in the USSR.

[25 marks]

OR

0 3

‘Gorbachev' s domestic policies were a failure.’

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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