**A Level European History Knowledge Organiser: Part 1 Section 1. Dissent and revolution 1917 ( AQA paper 2 Option N)**

**Possible homework tasks A level Style Questions**

**Use AQA History Revolution and Dictatorship by Chris Rowe and Sally Waller.**

**The exam is 2 and a 1/2 hours**

**Question 1 is always worth 30 marks.** You will be assessed on your ability to evaluate 3 sources. Use content, knowledge, provenance and tone. (1 hour)

For example

* Practice Question p 20
* Practice question p 25
* Practice question 35.

**You have to answer 2 further essay questions** (from a choice of 3) worth 25 marks. You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each essay

* “It was economic distress in Petrograd that led to the Tsar’s abdication.” Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.
* “By the summer of 1917 support for the provisional Government has evaporated.” Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.
* “Lenin should be given credit for the October/November 1817 revolution.” Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

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| **Sub-topics** | |
| a | * **The condition of Russia before the February Revolution**: * **1) The Tsar and political authority** * 2) The Russian war effort * 3) The economic and social state of Russia * 4) Discontent in Russia |
| b | * **The February/March revolution of 1917**: * **1) The causes and course of the February revolution** * 2) Issues of leadership and the Tsar’s abdication * 3) The establishment of the Dual authority: the Provisional Government and the Petrograd Soviet |
| c | * **Developments between the revolutions of 1917**: * **1) The return of Lenin** * 2) Lenin’s ideology and the April theses * 3) The July Days * 4) The Kornilov coup and the role of the Provisional Government and Trotsky * 5) Lenin and the Central Committee of the Bolshevik party * 6) Trotsky and the final preparations for the revolution |
| d | * **The October/November 1917 Revolution:** * **1) The causes, course and extent of the October Revolution** * **2) Leadership and establishment of Bolshevik authority under Sovnarkom** * **3) The consolidation of Bolshevik authority** * **4) Lenin’s decrees and action to December** |

**Wider Reading/Viewing**

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| * The History of the Russian Revolution by Leon Trotsky * A People’s Tragedy: The Russian Revolution by Orlando Figes * The Russian Revolution by Sheila Fitzpatrick * Ten Days that shook the World by John Reed * Russian Revolution 1899-1919 by Richard Pipes * The Last of the Tsars by Robert Service * The Three ‘Whys’ of the Russian Revolution by Richard Pipes * Lenin: A Biography by Robert Service * Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak * Short Stories by Teffi | | |
| **Key Terms / Profiles** | Add to this yourself when you come across a key term or individual in this unit. | |
| **Liberals** | These people favoured moderate reform and the creation of a British-style constitutional monarchy. They were members of parties such as the Kadets and Octobrists | |
| **The All Russian Social Democrat and Labour Party** | A Marxist Party committed to revolution in Russia involving the overthrow of the Tsar. The party split into two groups in the early 20th century: the Bolsheviks, a more radical group under Lenin, and the more moderate Mensheviks. Trotsky was until early 1917 a member of the Mensheviks. | |
| **The Social Revolutionaries** | Another revolutionary group whose support was primarily amongst the peasantry. Again, it was divided between the Anarchist and Revolutionary wings. | |
| **Soviet** | A workers’ council elected by workers. They existed in many areas of Russia but the most notable was the Petrograd Soviet which co-governed with the Provisional Govt. | |
| **Dual Authority** | The combined government of the Provisional Government and the Petrograd Soviet | |
| **Sovnarkom** | The Soviet of People’s commissars, in effect the Cabinet that ruled Russia. Commissars were, in effect, ministers | |
| **Veshenka** | A body set up to control and direct the economy | |