**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.

|  |
| --- |
| **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**

|  |
| --- |
| * 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 |