

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Wednesday 20 May 2026

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI02/1C**

History

International Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ALL** questions in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1 (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the problems that Gorbachev faced in his attempts to reform the Soviet economy?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(10)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

- 2** How accurate is it to say that Lenin's policies towards industry failed but Stalin's policies towards industry were a success?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3** How accurate is it to say that Khrushchev's policies resulted in little change to the Soviet system of government?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

OR

- 4** How accurate is it to say that Stalin and Brezhnev used similar methods to control the people of the Soviet Union?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: **Question 2** ☒ **Question 3** ☒ **Question 4** ☒

Area for writing answers, consisting of multiple horizontal dotted lines.

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source 1: From Mikhail Gorbachev, Report to the Plenary Session of the Communist Party Central Committee, 27 January 1987. This report was later published in the Soviet newspapers, *Pravda* and *Izvestiia*.

The task of economic restructuring has turned out to be more difficult than we had previously thought it would be. The causes of the problems are more deep-rooted than we had thought.

At a certain stage in our country's development, difficulties began to build up and stagnation appeared. This had a serious effect on the economy. The need for changes became urgent, but this was not acknowledged in the practical actions of the Party and the State. 5

Comrades, all this has had a negative effect on the development of the economy. Over the past three Five-Year Plans, there has been a decline of more than 50 per cent in the growth rates of national income. In most cases, Plans have not been fulfilled since the early 1970s. The whole economy has become resistant to innovations. 10

The policy of providing incentives for highly-productive workers has been inconsistent. Large sums of money have been paid out in undeserved bonuses and in various kinds of additional benefits to provide incentives. Reports have been exaggerated by some individuals to make personal gains. 15



Source 2: From Arthur Ransome, *Six Weeks in Russia in 1919*, published 1919. Ransome, a British reporter, was sympathetic to the Bolsheviks, knew Lenin and Trotsky and also provided reports to the British Government. Here he makes observations from his recent visit to Russia.

There used to be six universities in Russia, there are now sixteen. Most new universities having been opened on the initiative of the local Soviets. The number of students in the universities has increased enormously. New technical colleges are also being founded. 20

Each school is divided into two classes – one for children from seven to twelve years old, and one for those aged from thirteen to seventeen.

Schools are developed on a new basis in which the importance of preparing for work plays a great part. I frankly admit I do not understand, and I hear that many teachers have also failed to understand, how this is to be done. 25

A thousand million roubles* have been assigned to feeding school children. A little boy, Glyeb, told me that, during the winter, there was no heating, so children only stayed in school for a very short time. He said, however, that he received a good dinner there every day, and that lessons would be all right when the weather got warmer. A Soviet official commented that, 'by making children come to school for their meals, we keep them alive, and keep them in the habit of coming, so that when the warm weather comes, we can do better.' 30

* roubles – the currency used in the Soviet Union

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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 from: <https://soviethistory.msu.edu/1985-2/perestroika-and-glasnost/perestroika-and-glasnost-texts/gorbachev-challenges-the-party/>

Source 2 from: <https://www.marxists.org/history/archive/ransome/works/1919-russia/ch23.htm>

