

## **Russia consolidation questions**

### **The Feb/March revolution**

1. What impact did the First World War have on the Russian people?
2. How did the revolution start?
3. Why was the Tsar forced to abdicate?

### **The Provisional Government**

1. What do you think was the most urgent problem facing the Provisional Government? E.g the war, the food shortages, peasants wanting land. Explain your answer
2. How much actually changed for the Russian people after the Provisional Government came to power?
3. Why did the Provisional Government have to share power with the Petrograd Soviet?
4. What action did the Provisional Government take to solve the problems Russia was facing?

### **Lenin and the Bolsheviks**

1. What was the April Thesis?
2. What was happening in the war?
3. What were the July days?
4. What was the Kornilov revolt?

### **The October/November Revolution**

1. What role did Lenin play in bringing about the revolution?
2. What was Trotsky responsible for?
3. What happened on the 6th November?
4. What happened on the 7th November?
5. What was announced on the 8th November?
6. Why were the Bolsheviks successful?

## **Interpretation Practice:**

### **Interpretation A:**

**Events leading to the October/November revolution 1917. The extract is taken from *History of the Soviet Union*, published in the USSR in 1974.**

People were becoming convinced that only Lenin's followers, the Bolsheviks, stood up for them. The Soviets were now controlled by the Bolsheviks. The workers, soldiers and large numbers of peasants were demanding that the Provisional Government step down, or be removed, if necessary, by force or arms.

### **Interpretation B:**

**Events leading to the Bolshevik takeover. The account is taken from a British school textbook, published in 2009.**

Russia was descending into chaos. More and more peasants were seizing land; more and more soldiers were deserting from the army. The Bolsheviks were still very much a minority party, but they had key support where it mattered – among the workers in the cities and towns and among the soldiers in the army.

1. How does interpretation A differ from Interpretation B about the reasons for the Bolshevik success?
2. Why might the authors of Interpretations A and B have different views? (*Think about the fact that in 1974 USSR was still communist how would they want to make the Bolsheviks look? Remember Britain are anti-communist so what image are they trying to create about Lenin and the Bolsheviks?*)
3. Which interpretation do you find more convincing about the reasons for Bolshevik success? Explain your answer using A and B and your contextual knowledge.

### **More question practice**

1. Describe 2 problems facing the Provisional Government in March 1917
2. In what ways were the lives of the Russian people affected by World War One?
3. Which of the following was the more important reason for the overthrow of the Provisional Government in November 1917:
  - The role of Lenin
  - Kerensky's mistakes