



PEICAI SECONDARY SCHOOL

SECONDARY FOUR EXPRESS/FIVE NORMAL ACADEMIC PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2023

CANDIDATE
NAME

CLASS

REGISTER NUMBER

HUMANITIES

2273/02

Paper 2 **History**

18 August 2023

1 hour 40 minutes

Candidates answer on the Answer Booklet.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name on all the work that you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen.
Do not use paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Section A

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

Section B

Answer **all parts** of Question 2.
Write all answers on the answer booklet provided.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.
The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **5** printed pages.

Setter: Ms Poonam Pathak

Section A (Source-Based Case Study)

Question 1 is **compulsory** for all candidates.

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** the questions.

You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources you are told to use. In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

1. (a) Study Source A.

Why was this poster published in the 1930s? Explain your answer. [5m]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

How are the sources similar? Explain your answer. [5m]

(c) Study Source D.

Source D is just a joke. Does this mean it is no use as evidence about Stalin's Russia? Explain your answer. [6m]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

After reading Source E, are you surprised by Source F? Explain your answer. [6m]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

'Stalin improved the lives of his people.' How far do these sources support this view? Use the sources and your knowledge to explain your answer. [8m]

What was life like under Stalin's rule?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Read this carefully. It may help you to answer some of the questions.

Stalin rose to power in 1928 and quickly gained full control over the Soviet Union. He sought to modernise the Soviet Union and achieve the same economic and military levels as the Western powers. He attempted to achieve this through a series of Five-Year Plans, setting targets for industrial and agricultural development for each plan. Stalin's policies impacted the lives of millions of Russians.

Source A: *A French cartoon depicting life in Russia, published in the 1930s. The skeleton is holding a sign saying "We are very happy".*



Source B: *An extract of a diary entry written by a pro-Communist English priest who visited Russia in 1939.*

Even though Stalin's methods were sometimes cruel such as his policies towards the Kulaks (rich farmers), Stalin has removed fear from the Soviet Union. No fear of not having enough money at the birth of a child. No fear of crippling doctors' fees, school fees or university fees. No fear of underwork, no fear of overwork. No fear of work in a land where none are unemployed. Stalin had achieved his aim of making the Soviet Union an industrial power. Many workers' lives were vastly improved compared to their lives during the days of Tsarist rule. His government was indeed an inspiring example.

Source C: *A letter from a Russian citizen to a Soviet newspaper in 1936.*

It's a pity that I am seventy years old, for the young people are lucky to have such a free life and to have such a leader as Comrade Stalin. It is awful to remember how I lived in the old days under the Tsar. I was born to a poor family and we led a very hard life. There was nothing to live on at home. But now even as an old man, I am still making a living. In 1934 I produced 200 work-days, and in 1935 I had 150 work-days, and earned quite a bit. I get two or three bonuses for my honest labor, and this year my life has gotten even better. I got a piglet as a bonus, which I've never had before.

Source D: *A Soviet joke from the 1930s.*

One day, Stalin lost his pipe. Stalin phoned the secret police and demanded they find his pipe immediately. Two hours later, Stalin found his pipe behind the sofa. He phoned the secret police again, and they told him that they had arrested ten people in their attempts to find the pipe. When Stalin told them to release the men as he had found his pipe, the secret police officer replied, 'But, Comrade Stalin, seven of them have already confessed.'

Source E: *An extract of a speech made by Khrushchev in 1937*

These men lifted up their villainous hands against Comrade Stalin. By lifting their hands against Comrade Stalin, they lifted them against all of us, against the working class and against the teaching of Marx and Lenin. Stalin is our hope. Stalin is the beacon which guides all progressive mankind. Stalin is our banner. Stalin is our will. Stalin is our victory.

Source F: *An extract of a speech made by Khrushchev, Stalin's successor in 1956.*

Stalin used extreme methods and mass repressions at a time when the revolution was already victorious. Stalin showed in a series of cases his intolerance, his brutality and his abuse of power. He often chose the path of repression and physical annihilation*, not only against actual enemies, but also against individuals who had not committed any crimes against the party and the Soviet government.

*annihilation: elimination or destruction

Section B (Structured-essay Questions)

Answer the question below.

2. This question is on WW2 in Asia-Pacific.

- (a) Explain how Japan's aggressive foreign policy led to the outbreak of war in the Asia Pacific. [8]
- (b) 'Japan was to be blamed for its own defeat in WW2.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [12]

3. This question is on the Cold War.

- (a) Explain why the superpowers were interested in Cuban affairs before the Cuban Missile Crisis. [8]
- (b) 'Gorbachev's policies led to the end of Cold War.' How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [12]

END OF PAPER

Copyright Acknowledgements:

Source A: Adapted from <http://spartacus-educational.com/RUSstalin.htm>

Source B: Adapted from: *The Bolsheviks in Power: The First Year of Soviet Rule in Petrograd*, A Rabinowitch, 2008

Source C: Adapted from *The USSR and Stalin, 1924-53*

Source D: Adapted from *University of Cambridge International Examinations N(A) Level 2011*

Source E: <https://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2007/apr/26/greatspeeches5>

Source F: <http://sites.nd.edu/communism-spring-2015/khrushchevs-secret-speech/>