Foxford Learning

YEAR 12 History
Paper 2, Option 2C.2: Russia in revolution, 1894–1924

Over the course of the topic, I will be able to: -

Topic 2: The end of Romanov rule, 1906–17

Key Vocabulary

Fundamental Laws	April 1906 — reasserted Tsarist autocracy, limiting the powers of the new Duma.
Duma	The Russian parliament established after 1905; Nicholas II dissolved the first two as too radical.
Stolypin	Prime Minister 1906–11; combined repression of opposition with agricultural reform.
Stolypin's necktie	A nickname for the hangman's noose; Stolypin executed hundreds of revolutionaries.
Kulak	A wealthier peasant; Stolypin's reforms aimed to create a loyal class of peasant landowners.
Lena Goldfields massacre	1912 — troops killed striking miners; reignited revolutionary activity.
Progressive Bloc	A coalition of Duma parties formed in 1915 demanding a government of public confidence.
Zemgor	A voluntary organisation of zemstvo and town councils coordinating the war effort from 1915.
Rasputin	A mystic with influence over Tsarina Alexandra; his role damaged the prestige of the regime.
Inflation	Rapid price rises during WWI caused severe hardship for urban workers and fuelled unrest.
February Revolution	March 1917 (Old Style: February) — mass strikes and mutinies forced Nicholas II to abdicate.
Abdication	Nicholas II's resignation from power on 2 March 1917, ending the Romanov dynasty.

Key Skills

- Analyse and explain the causes, course and consequences of the Russian Revolution of 1917.
- Explain how successive governments responded to opposition and why Tsarism ultimately collapsed.
- Evaluate the reasons for the Bolsheviks' successful seizure and consolidation of power.
- Analyse and evaluate contemporary source material related to the key topics.
- Retrieve knowledge to form verbal and written arguments and compose effective responses to essay questions.

I will understand

Topic 1. Change and continuity in government, 1906–14 - The Fundamental Laws; the radicalism of the first two Dumas; Nicholas II's relations with the Dumas 1906–14; the nature of Tsarist government and royal power in 1914.

Topic 2. Repression and reform, 1906–14 - Stolypin's repression and the restoration of stability; actions against revolutionary parties; reform of agricultural landholdings and emigration to Siberia; the Lena Goldfields massacre 1912.

Topic 3. The impact of the First World War - The state of the armed forces in 1914; economic problems including inflation and supply crises; the roles of Nicholas, Alexandra and Rasputin; the Progressive Bloc and Zemgor.

Topic 4. The February Revolution - Growth of unrest in towns and countryside; International Women's Day and the Petrograd general strike; the creation of the Provisional Committee and the Petrograd Soviet; the abdication of Nicholas II.