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 3: The Provisional Government and its opponents, February–October 1917

| Key Vocabulary | |
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| **Dual power** | The uneasy sharing of authority between the Provisional Government and the Petrograd Soviet in 1917. |
| **Provisional Government** | The temporary government formed after Nicholas II's abdication; lacked a popular mandate. |
| **Petrograd Soviet** | The council of workers' and soldiers' deputies that held real power in Petrograd in 1917. |
| **April Theses** | Lenin's radical programme on return to Russia: immediate peace, land redistribution, Soviet power. |
| **Milyukov crisis** | April 1917 — Foreign Minister Milyukov's note backing war aims caused mass protests. |
| **June Offensive** | A disastrous Russian military offensive in June 1917 that undermined the Provisional Government. |
| **July Days** | Armed demonstrations in Petrograd in July 1917; the Bolsheviks were blamed and temporarily suppressed. |
| **Kerensky** | Alexander Kerensky; Prime Minister of the second Provisional Government from July 1917. |
| **Kornilov affair** | General Kornilov's attempted coup in August 1917; its failure strengthened the Bolsheviks. |
| **Bolsheviks** | Lenin's revolutionary Marxist party; advocated immediate Soviet seizure of power in 1917. |
| **Peace, Land, Bread** | The Bolsheviks' popular slogan addressing the three key demands of Russian society in 1917. |
| **Constituent Assembly** | An elected body meant to decide Russia's political future; Bolsheviks won only 24% of votes. |

| Key Skills |
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| 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. The nature of dual power** - The political complexion of the Provisional Government; the extent of its power and support; the aims and membership of the Petrograd Soviet; early political reforms after February 1917.

**Topic 2. Opposition to the Provisional Government** - Conflicting attitudes on continuing the war; Lenin's return and the April Theses; the Milyukov crisis; the June Offensive and the July Days.

**Topic 3. The second Provisional Government, July–October** - Kerensky as Prime Minister; membership of the new government; problems in industry and agriculture; the Kornilov affair and its impact on both the government and the Bolsheviks.

**Topic 4. The October Revolution** - Lenin's influence on the Central Committee; Constituent Assembly elections; Trotsky and the Military Revolutionary Committee; the events of 24–26 October; the formation of the Bolshevik government.