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南洋女子中學校
NANYANG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

End-of-Year Examinations 2012
SECONDARY 3 HUMANITIES PROGRAMME

2 hrs 30 mins

ADVANCED HISTORY

Modern World History, c.1900-2000

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2012 1130 to 1400 hrs

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Do not turn over the page until you are told to do so.

Write your name, register number and class in the spaces provided on the Cover Page and the writing paper.

Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the writing paper.

Answer **all questions** in **Section A**.

Answer **any 2 questions** in **Section B**.

Begin each question on a fresh page.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together with the Cover Page on top.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

SECTION A (25 marks)

Answer **all parts** of Question 1.

- 1** In answering the questions, you should use your knowledge and understanding of the period to help you interpret and evaluate the sources. You must use the sources to which you are specifically directed.

Issue: How far did Lenin deserve his reputation as the “Father of the Russian Revolution”?

Source A: An extract from a Bolshevik’s recollections of the New Economic Policy, 1937.

The New Economic Policy restored some prosperity to Russia. But to many of us this prosperity was distasteful...We felt ourselves sinking into the bog, paralysed, corrupted...There was gambling, drunkenness, and all the filth of former times. Classes were reborn in front of our very eyes.

Source B: Adapted from a Bolshevik’s recollections of his experiences under Lenin’s rule, 1945.

Since the first massacres of Red prisoners by the Whites, and the assassination attempt against Lenin (in the summer of 1918), the custom of arresting and, often, executing hostages had become generally accepted and legal. Already, the Cheka, which made mass arrests of suspects, was tending to settle their fate independently, under formal control of the Party, but in reality without anybody's knowledge.

I believe that the formation of the Cheka was one of the gravest and most impermissible errors that Lenin and the Bolshevik leaders committed in 1918 when plots, blockades, and interventions made them lose their heads. All evidence indicates that revolutionary tribunals, functioning in the light of day and admitting the right of defence, would have attained the same efficiency with far less abuse and depravity. Was it necessary to form the Cheka? By the beginning of 1919, the Cheka had little or no resistance against this psychological perversion and corruption.

Source C: Adapted from an article about Lenin written by a Bolshevik for a Socialist magazine, published outside of Russia, 1924.

It would be difficult to convey the impression, which Lenin's death will produce in Russia. It will be the feeling of an immense national catastrophe. Lenin was not only the personification of the great October revolution, and of the victorious fight which the Russian workers and peasants conducted for the existence of their country, but owing to his personal qualities he was the most beloved and most popular man in the whole Union of Soviet Republics. In town and in country, old and young, men and women, all knew Lenin.

One of the greatest services of Lenin's is that long ago he understood that if in Russia the revolutionary initiative and leadership were to be in the hands of the working class, which constituted a comparatively small part of the population, it was necessary that the peasantry should be its natural ally. Only by observing this alliance between the working class and the peasants was it possible to bring about the October revolution and to consolidate its conquests. Hence, the so-called "new economic policy" is a concession to the individualistic peasants in order for economic production to be revived. Thus, fortunately, before his illness, Lenin determined the path of the further development of the Soviet state.

Source D: A Soviet propaganda poster on Lenin, 1967.



The Russian phrases translate into "Lenin Lived, Lenin is Alive, Lenin will Live!"

Source E: An extract from a history textbook used in British schools during the Cold War*, 1980.

In November 1917 a group of people called Bolsheviks, led by Lenin, overthrew the government. They said that they were doing it for the proletariat...However, in spite of all the seemingly good things that Lenin introduced, there is much for which he and the Bolsheviks have been criticised...He had been in power only for a few days when he decided to ban all newspapers apart from those that supported the new government...Most decisions were taken by a small group of men called the Politburo. Lenin refused to negotiate with the Soviets, who were the elected representatives of the workers and in whose name the Bolsheviks had come to power. Remember the slogan he used – All power to the Soviets?

**The Cold War refers to the state of political tension and military rivalry, stopping short of full-scale war, which existed between communist countries led by the USSR and capitalist countries led by the USA and Britain from the late 1940s to the late 1980s.*

Answer the questions below.

a) Study Source A.

What is the author's view of Lenin's introduction of the New Economic Policy? Explain your answer. [5]

b) Study Source B.

How useful is the source in helping you understand the impact of Lenin's rule on Russia from 1917 to 1924? Explain your answer. [7]

c) Study Source C.

How far would you trust the source as evidence that "Lenin ensured the survival of the Bolshevik revolution"? Explain your answer. [7]

d) Study Source E.

Why do you think the source portrayed Lenin in this manner? Explain your answer. [6]

[Turn over

SECTION B (50 marks)

Answer 2 questions.

2 This question is about the USSR under Communist rule (1917 to 1953).

- a) Why were the Bolsheviks able to seize power in October 1917? [12]
- b) "To a large extent, Stalin's rule resulted in positive social and economic effects in the USSR." How far do you agree with the statement? Explain your answer. [13]

3 This question is about the impact of Mao Zedong's rule on Communist China (1949 to 1976).

- a) Why did Mao Zedong launch the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s? [12]
- b) "To a large extent, Mao's rule resulted in positive social and economic effects in China." How far do you agree with the statement? Explain your answer. [13]

4 This question is about the rise of Nazism and its impact on Germany (late 1920s to 1945).

- a) Why were Hitler and the Nazi Party able to rise to power in the 1930s? [12]
- b) "To a large extent, Hitler's rule resulted in positive social and economic effects in Germany." How far do you agree with the statement? Explain your answer. [13]

END OF PAPER

NYGH gratefully acknowledges the following for the use of the sources in Question 1:

Source A: Victor Serge, From Lenin to Stalin (New York, 2000)

Source B: Victor Serge, Memoirs of a Revolutionary (Iowa, 2002)

Source C: Christian Rakovsky, "An Old Comrade's Memories", published in The New Leader (New York, 1924)

Source D: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2011/dec/18/spies-commissars-robert-service-review>

Source E: L Hartley, The Russian Revolution (London, 1980)