

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

Wednesday 14 January 2026

Morning (Time: 2 hours)

Paper reference **WHI02/1C**

History

International Advanced Subsidiary

PAPER 2: Breadth Study with Source Evaluation

Option 1C: Russia, 1917–91: From Lenin to Yeltsin

You must have:
Sources Booklet (enclosed)

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- Answer **ALL** questions in Section A and **ONE** question in Section B.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Study Source 1 in the Sources Booklet before you answer this question.

- 1** (a) Why is Source 1 valuable to the historian for an enquiry into the employment of women in the Soviet Union in the 1930s?

Explain your answer using the source, the information given about it and your own knowledge of the historical context.

(10)

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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question in Section B.

You must start your answer to your chosen question on the next page.

EITHER

- 2** How accurate is it to say that the most significant development in education under Lenin and Stalin was the policy to improve literacy?

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

OR

- 3** How accurate is it to say that Khrushchev and Brezhnev had very different priorities in their policies towards industry?

(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)

OR

- 4** How accurate is it to say that, in the years 1982–91, attempts by Soviet leaders to achieve reform within the Soviet Union were a complete failure?

(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

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TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 50 MARKS



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Sources Booklet

Do not return this Booklet with the question paper.

Turn over ►

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Sources for use with Section A.

Source 1: From a report in *The Times* newspaper, 28 October 1932. *The Times* was a British newspaper. This report was written by its reporter who was based in the Soviet Union. Here he comments on the employment of women in coal mines.

As a result of satisfactory reports from the Don Basin* about the employment of women in the mines, the Soviet authorities have decided to employ 'shock brigades of women' in other coal mines. The section of the Labour Code forbidding the employment of women underground was not enforced in the Don Basin last winter, and gangs of women were employed in loading and pushing trolleys from the interior of the mines. 5

Since the springtime, women have worked regularly alongside men in extracting coal in some Ukraine mines. The Central Trade Union Council has consented to the employment of women underground. It has received reports from the mines that women miners are effective workers, in some cases working better than the men. 10

After the sharp decline in the coal output during the spring and summer, there has been a slight improvement in production. Many new coal mines have been opened and several hundreds of thousands of additional miners have been employed. 15

*Don Basin – a region in southern USSR

Source 2: From John Gunther, *Inside Russia Today*, published 1958. Gunther, an American journalist, had travelled widely in the Soviet Union, as a reporter during Stalin's regime and as a visitor in late 1956. Here he comments on Khrushchev's liberalisation policy.

Things are changing in areas such as literature and drama. For years, Russians have had a positive enthusiasm for Western 'popular culture', and this is now being let into Russia to a limited extent. As the Soviet authorities see it, it does no harm. Recently permission was granted, after years of waiting, for the publication of the sheet music of *Oklahoma!** Foreign films are slowly being introduced, but none from the United States. The imported films are selected with care, and nothing is ever presented that will undermine Soviet ideas. 20

The music of composers such as Shostakovich, whose work was suppressed for years, is now freely played again. Furthermore, the ban has also been lifted from Soviet plays that have not been performed since the 1920s – satires critical of government. Audiences go, somewhat frightened and bewildered, to plays that actually dare to criticise the secret police. 25

In books, too, there is the possibility of greater freedom. European and American works are being translated again after a suppression of twenty years. However, this does not mean that many foreign books are available. On the subject of Soviet writers, dozens who could not be published at all under Stalin are emerging. Some writers, who came into such disfavour that they were executed during the purges, have 'come to life' again through their works. 30

**Oklahoma!* – a popular American stage musical first performed on stage in the West in 1943



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Acknowledgements:

Source 1 based on: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/archive/article/1932-10-28/12/6.html#start%3D1928-01-01%26end%3D1939-12-31%26terms%3Dwomen%20in%20soviet%20union%26back%3D/tto/archive/find/women+in+soviet+union/w:1928-01-01%7E1939-12-31/1%26prev%3D/tto/archive/frame/goto/women+in+soviet+union/w:1928-01-01%7E1939-12-31/1%26next%3D/tto/archive/frame/goto/women+in+soviet+union/w:1928-01-01%7E1939-12-31/3>

Source 2 from: Inside Russia Today by John Gunther © The Reprint Society LTD, 1958

