

Preparation for Year 12 Russia Exam

Unit	Revision focus
1: The Rule of Nicholas II	How far did Russia change between 1906-July 1914?
2: The Two Revolutions of 1917	Why did Nicholas II abdicate? Why was the Provisional Government overthrown?
3. Lenin and the Civil War	Why did the Red's win the civil war?

Exam technique:

- You will have a choice between Question 1 and Question 2. Each question will have an a) question, worth 10 marks, and a b) question, worth 20 marks
- Spend 15 minutes on the a) question and 40 minutes on the b) question. This leaves 5 minutes for question selection and planning
- The a) question will require you to write 2 paragraphs, on the bullet points provided, and to come to a final conclusion – so in effect 3 separate paragraphs. You must come to a clear and explained final conclusion containing a judgement to get beyond half marks
- The b) question will require you to structure your answer as a standard essay: introduction, ideally 3 paragraphs and a conclusion
- Briefly plan each question: each paragraph needs between 3-5 specific pieces of knowledge
- When writing, ensure you focus on explanation – this will ensure you link the knowledge directly to the question, using phrases like 'this meant that...', 'this led to...' 'as a result...'
- Analysis should be included if possible: use phrases like 'this was a key turning point because...', 'this was the most significant reason/impact because...'
- Your conclusion needs to contain a decisive judgement on what was more important/significant and why. Use phrases like 'this was more important than the other factors because...'. Ranking the factors in the 20 mark question and explaining the ranking in order of importance is an effective strategy