

CHANGING LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY IN RUSSIA c.1881-1989

THEME 1: Changing leaderships and regimes in Russia, c.1881-1989

PART 1 - Chronology chart

This is a suggested timeline for the theme covering changing leaderships and regimes in Russia, c.1881-1989. The content coverage is derived from the Specification.

1881-1917	1917-1953	From Stalinism to Gorbachev
Alexander III: a return to political reaction	The consolidation of the Bolshevik revolution by 1924	Khrushchev: deStalinisation, democratization and decentralisation
The growth in political opposition to the Tsarist regime before 1914	The emergence of Stalin as sole leader of Russia	The cult of personality under Brezhnev
The revolution of 1905	The nature of the changes in Russian government under Lenin	Andropov and the attack on political corruption and bureaucracy
The Provisional government	The nature of changes in Russian government under Stalin	Political reform under Gorbachev
The Bolshevik revolution		

PART 2 - a conceptual guide

This provides a conceptual guide for the theme of changing leaderships and regimes in Russia c.1881-1989 which attempts to demonstrate how each concept underpins the period, how concepts are linked and the significance of these concepts. The aim is not to focus on the content of events but to provide appropriate guidance regarding historical concepts as appropriate.

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	1881-1917	1917-1953	From Stalinism to Gorbachev
Cause and Consequence	The revolution of 1905	The consolidation of the Bolshevik revolution by 1924	Andropov and the attack on political corruption and bureaucracy Political reform under Gorbachev
Significant individuals	Nicholas II Pyotr Stolypin	Alexander Kerensky Leon Trotsky	Lavrenti Beria
Turning points	The revolution of 1917	The emergence of Stalin as sole leader of Russia	Khrushchev: deStalinisation, democratization and decentralisation
Key Terminology associated with the theme	The Duma Bolshevik	Totalitarianism Purges	Destalinisation Glasnost
Similarity and Difference <i>Comparison during a sub-period and even over the whole period can feature</i>	The growth in political opposition to the Tsarist regime before 1914 The revolutions of 1905 and 1917	Changes in Russian government under Lenin and Stalin	The cult of personality under Brezhnev

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Change and Continuity

*Teachers should address how far and how quickly these issues changed **over the whole period***

Political leadership in Russia in the period

The political development of Russia from authoritarianism to totalitarianism

Political opposition in Russia throughout the period

Political repression in Russia throughout the period.

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CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE

The revolution of 1905	Centres should examine why the revolution of 1905 broke out. Centres should point out the immediate consequences of the outbreak of revolution and how it influenced attitudes and developments in Russia over the next decade.
The consolidation of the Bolshevik revolution by 1924	Centres should examine how the Bolshevik revolution was consolidated by 1924. Centres should focus on how the Bolsheviks dealt with the internal threats posed by opposition groups on the left and conservative elements on the right. Centres should point out the immediate consequences of the Bolshevik consolidation of power and how it influenced attitudes and developments in Russia over the longer period.
Andropov and the attack on political corruption and bureaucracy	Centres should examine how and why Andropov initiated campaigns to attack political corruption, infighting, intrigue and bureaucratic disorganisation which were associated with Brezhnevism. Centres should point out the immediate consequences of his policies of 'discipline and reform' and how they created hope for more general and deeper changes within Russia for the future.
Political reform under Gorbachev	Centres should examine why Gorbachev initiated a programme of political reform. Centres should focus on Gorbachev's criticisms of the existing system and point out the immediate consequences of this political reform movement and how it influenced developments in Russia.

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SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS

Tsar Nicholas II	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Nicholas II's leadership and advocacy of the principle of autocracy. Centres should point out that his personality and political philosophy made him conservative in outlook and unsympathetic to the challenges presented by the new socio-economic developments taking place within Russia.
Pyotr Stolypin	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Stolypin's attempts to stabilise the Tsarist regime following the revolution of 1905. Centres should point out the methods adopted by Stolypin and consider their impact on the Tsarist regime in the immediate and long term.
Alexander Kerensky	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Kerensky's role within the Provisional government and its collapse in October 1917. Centres should examine the impact of the pressure of leadership on Kerensky's political judgement.
Leon Trotsky	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Trotsky's oratory, methods and advocacy of 'preparation' for the October Revolution. Centres should consider his skill and opportunism in taking advantage of the changing political situation in Russia and his relationship with Lenin.
Lavrenti Beria	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of the role of Beria and his political manoeuvrings within the Communist Party elite in Russia during Stalin's regime. Centres should examine the methods which he used in order to maintain state security and stability.

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TURNING POINTS

The revolution of 1917	Centres should focus on the motives behind the revolutions of 1917. In order to consider this as a turning point, centres should stress the immediate short term and long term impact of the revolution of 1917 including the Bolshevik seizure of power and the Civil War
The emergence of Stalin as sole leader of Russia	Centres should focus on how and why Stalin emerged as the sole leader of Russia. Centres should focus on Stalin's methods and ambition as well as the weakness and mistakes of his rivals. In order to consider this as a turning point, centres should consider how the emergence of Stalin changed the governance of Russia.
Khrushchev: deStalinisation, democratization and decentralisation	Centres should focus on how and why Khrushchev began the process of destalinization in the mid 1950s. They should also consider why he accepted the need for administrative and structural changes to the Soviet system of government. In order to consider this as a turning point, centres should consider the relationship of these policies to the practical realities of the de-Stalinisation of Russia and the rejuvenation of the Soviet system.

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KEY TERMINOLOGY

The Duma	Centres should focus on the reasons why Russia entered 1906 with a radically revised and modernised constitution based on the Duma. Centres should consider why the Duma represented a fundamental breakthrough in Russia's political development.
Bolshevik	Centres should examine the attitudes which underpinned the Bolshevik party and how it challenged in different ways the established political system. Centres should consider the appeal of the Bolsheviks to the more radicalised working classes in Russian society.
Totalitarianism	Centres should focus on the reasons why Russia became a totalitarian regime and the consequences for the political development of Russia. Centres should examine the characteristics which underpinned totalitarianism and link this to changes in the political development of Russia.
Purges	Centres should focus on the reasons for the political purges and the consequences for the people of Russia. Centres should focus on the purges as a tool of totalitarianism and political control.
Destalinisation	Centres should consider why Khrushchev aimed at undermining the remnants of Stalinism. Centres should examine the nature of destalinisation in practice and focus on its impact on the Communist Party.
Glasnost	Centres should consider the Soviet policy of open discussion of political and social issues, instituted by Mikhail Gorbachev in the late 1980s. Centres should examine its impact on the democratization of the Soviet Union.

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SIMILARITY AND DIFFERENCE

The growth in political opposition to the Tsarist regime before 1914	Centres should focus on understanding the changing conditions which led to the growth of opposition to the Tsarist order. Centres should examine the different attitudes of opposition groups such as the Social Revolutionaries, the Liberals and Social Democrats, Populists, Marxists and Lenin. Centres should consider the similarity and differences in the attitudes of the political opposition and also consider its role in the outbreak of revolution in 1905 and in the various assassination attempts on political leaders in the period.
The revolutions of 1905 and 1917	Centres should examine similarities and differences in the causes of each revolution. Centres should focus on the motives behind the revolutions of 1917 pointing out the differences with the revolution of 1905 and stressing the significance of the changing political system. Centres should also consider similarities and differences in the short term and long term impacts of each revolution on the leadership of Russia.
Changes in Russian government under Lenin and Stalin	Centres should focus on understanding the changing political structures and practices of government under Lenin which led to the centralisation of government. Centres should point out the similarities and differences in the nature of government – for example Russia was a dictatorship before and after the revolution of 1917. Centres should point out the similarities and differences in the nature of government under both Lenin and Stalin including the way in which Stalin developed a powerful state system capable of overcoming all opposition.
The cult of personality under Brezhnev	Centres should examine how and why the cult of personality was developed by Brezhnev and how it impacted on the Soviet system. Centres should point out the consequences of developing a personality cult which rivalled that of Stalin, in terms of the impact it had on the personnel and leadership of the Party. Centres should consider whether Brezhnev's exercise of power was based more on fear than on consensus and the degree of popular support that he amassed.

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CHANGE AND CONTINUITY

Political leadership in the period	<p>Centres should focus on understanding how and why political leaders advocated reform and repression at different times in order to maintain the stability of their regimes. Centres should also focus on understanding the consequences of the weaknesses in the political leaders and the relative effectiveness of their political authority. In order to consider issues of change and continuity across the whole period, centres should examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the consequences of the political changes from 1881-1917 from an autocratic system to a period of liberal democratic reform and finally communist revolution in 1917• how and why Lenin and Stalin transformed the political system and created a one party state employing propaganda and coercion on a major scale in Russia• the conditions which led to changes in the political development of Russia including attempts to 'lighten' communist control following the death of Stalin• the challenges and consequences of attempts to transform a socialist authoritarian state built on the Stalinist model, into market socialism or a market economy
The political development of Russia from authoritarianism to totalitarianism	<p>Centres should focus on understanding how and why Russia became transformed from an autocratic regime into a totalitarian state.</p> <p>Centres should also focus on understanding the similarities and differences between the authoritarian rule of the Tsars and the totalitarian rule of the Communist leaders.</p> <p>Centres should focus on the consequences of the political changes and the contribution of individual Russian leaders across the period.</p> <p>Centres should also consider how political developments were linked to changing socio-economic circumstances in Russia and the threats to political authority at different times.</p>
Political opposition in Russia throughout the period	<p>Centres should focus on the growth and relative strength of opposition in the period.</p> <p>Centres should focus on understanding how and why political leaders drew criticism from many sections of the political spectrum.</p> <p>Centres should also consider the factors which undermined the credibility of the Russian government at different times.</p>

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Political repression in Russia throughout the period	<p>Centres should consider how and why political regimes vacillated between reform and reaction in the period. Centres should examine the extent of political repression throughout the period.</p> <p>Centres should focus on understanding how and why political repression became a tool of government in the period.</p> <p>Centres should also focus on understanding the consequences of political repression and the impact which it had both on the people of Russia and the relative stability of the political system.</p>
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Part 3 Resources

Books			
Author	Title	Publisher	ISBN
Derrick Murphy; Terry Morris	Russia 1855-1964	Collins	978-0-00-726867-2
John Laver	The Modernisation of Russia 1856-1985	Heinemann	0-435-32741-0
John F.Hutchinson	Late Imperial Russia 1890-1917	Longman	0-582-32721-0
Chris Corin; Terry Fiehn	Communist Russia under Lenin and Stalin	John Murray	0-582-32721-0
Martin McCauley	The Krushchev Era 1953-64	Longman	0-582-27776-0
Ben Fowkes	Eastern Europe 1945-1969	Longman	0-582-32693-1
Andrew Wilson; Nina Bachkatov	Living With Glasnost	Penguin	0-14-010394

AUDIO - VISUAL RESOURCES

October 1917: 10 days that shook the world [DVD] (1927)

Lenin: Rebel, Reformer, Revolutionary [DVD] (2012)

Stalin [DVD] (1992)

Internet sites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/russia/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-17840446>

<http://www.watchmojo.com/video/id/10331/>

<http://spartacus-educational.com/Russia.htm>

<http://www.activehistory.co.uk/404.php#>

CHANGING LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY IN RUSSIA c.1881-1989

THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

PART 1 - Chronology chart

This is a suggested timeline for the theme covering social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989 . The content coverage is derived from the Specification.

1881-1924	The impact of Stalin's rule	De-Stalinisation to Gorbachev
The extent of economic growth before 1914	Stalin and the abandonment of the NEP	Agricultural reform under Khrushchev
The extent of social change before 1914	The planned economy and collectivisation	The stagnation of the economy under Brezhnev
Lenin and War Communism	The planned economy: the Five Year Plans	Andropov and the emphasis on flexibility and initiative
Lenin and the NEP	The social changes under the Communist regime	Glasnost and Perestroika under Gorbachev and gradual economic reform
	The economic changes under the Communist regime	

PART 2 - a conceptual guide

This provides a conceptual guide for the theme of social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989 which attempts to demonstrate how each concept underpins the period, how concepts are linked and the significance of these concepts. The aim is not to focus on the content of events but to provide appropriate guidance regarding historical concepts as appropriate.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

	1881-1924	The impact of Stalin's rule	De-Stalinisation to Gorbachev
Cause and Consequence	Social change before 1914	<p>The nature and extent of the social changes of the communist regime</p> <p>The nature and extent of the economic changes of the communist regime</p>	<p>Agricultural reform under Khrushchev</p> <p>The stagnation of the economy under Brezhnev</p> <p>Andropov and the emphasis on flexibility and initiative</p>
Significant individuals	<p>Sergei Witte</p> <p>Pyotr Stolypin</p>	Evgeny Preobrazhensky	Aleksei Kosygin
Turning points	War Communism	<p>The abandonment of the NEP</p> <p>Collectivisation</p> <p>The Five Year Plans</p>	Perestroika under Gorbachev
Key Terminology associated with the theme	<p>New Economic Policy</p> <p>Urban proletariat</p>	<p>Kulaks</p> <p>Socialism in one country</p>	Destalinisation
Similarity and Difference	<p>The extent of Russian economic growth before 1914</p> <p><i>Comparison during a sub-period and even over the whole period can feature</i></p>	<p>Lenin and the New Economic Policy</p> <p>The impact of Stalin's social changes</p> <p>The impact of Stalin's economic changes</p>	Glasnost under Gorbachev

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1881-1924

The impact of Stalin's rule

De-Stalinisation to Gorbachev

Change and Continuity

*Teachers should address how far and how quickly these issues changed **over the whole period***

The changing nature of Russian society across the period

Russian economic development across the period

The changing popularity of the Russian system of government across the period

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE

Social change before 1914	Centres should examine how and why the hierarchical and hereditary structure of the social system contributed to Russia's political and economic backwardness in the late nineteenth century. Centres should examine its impact on the political and economic stability of Russia and why there were calls for change in the social system.
The nature and extent of the social changes of the communist regime	Centres should examine how and why the social changes of the communist regime under Stalin were introduced and how they impacted on the lives of the Russian people. Centres should consider the impact of a return to traditional values in many areas of society and the desire to eliminate class enemies.
The nature and extent of the economic changes of the communist regime	Centres should examine how and why the economic changes of the communist regime under Stalin were introduced and how they impacted on different groups within society. Centres should focus on Stalin's industrial and agricultural policies and his attempts to modernise Russia. Centres should consider the impact of economic policy on industrial and agricultural workers.
Agricultural reform under Khrushchev	Centres should examine how and why Khrushchev recognised the need to create a more developed and prosperous society in line with Communist promises. Centres should focus on how and why Khrushchev's agricultural policies ran into opposition and as a result were largely unsuccessful.
The stagnation of the economy under Brezhnev	Centres should examine how and why the Soviet economy stagnated under Brezhnev. Centres should consider why there was a lack of significant reform which led to declining efficiency and the failure to modernise.
Andropov and the emphasis on flexibility and initiative	Centres should focus on how and why Andropov advocated greater emphasis on economic flexibility and initiative. Centres should also focus on his campaigns to increase work discipline in order to reinvigorate the flagging Soviet economy. Centres should link this to Perestroika under Gorbachev.

CHANGING LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY IN RUSSIA c.1881-1989

THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

SIGNIFICANT INDIVIDUALS

Sergei Witte	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Witte's dynamism, practical ability and advocacy of a coherent programme of industrial growth in Russia. Centres should consider how Witte built on the work of his predecessors but provided greater urgency and coherence of leadership.
Pyotr Stolypin	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Stolypin's resolute character and organisational skills in bringing about agrarian reform. Centres should consider whether Stolypin had a coherent agrarian policy and whether he was able to maintain social cohesion.
Evgeny Preobrazhensky	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Preobrazhensky's leadership, methods, economic theories and his advocacy of the immediate abandonment of the NEP and the introduction of the Socialist economy. Centres should examine the links between Preobrazhensky and Stalin's first Five Year Plan.
Aleksei Kosygin	Centres should focus on the impact and significance of Kosygin's economic reforms in 1965. Centres should examine the reforms and point out whether the impact of his reforms changed the existing economic structures or the basic economic goals.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

TURNING POINTS

War Communism	Centres should focus on the motives behind War Communism pointing out the drastic measures adopted to gear the economy for the war effort and win the Civil War. Centres should examine the impact of War Communism, in particular on the peasants
The abandonment of the NEP	Centres should focus on the motives behind the abandonment of the NEP and the significance of the introduction of the push towards rapid industrialisation. Centres should point out the significance of the abandonment of the NEP to Communist party members. Centres should consider the attitudes towards Nepmen and Kulaks whose position in society had been strengthened by the compromises of the NEP
Collectivisation	Centres should focus on the motives behind the adoption of the Five Year Plans pointing out the significance of the enormous changes for Soviet society. Centres should examine the links with the implementation of a policy of collectivisation in agriculture.
The Five Year Plans	Centres should focus on the motives behind the adoption of the Five Year Plans pointing out the significance of the enormous changes for Soviet society. Centres should examine the links with the implementation of a policy of collectivisation in agriculture.
Perestroika under Gorbachev	Centres should focus on the motives behind the adoption of Perestroika. Centres should point out the changes introduced and how they provided for greater independence for enterprises and greater rights for workers at their place of employment. Centres should consider the impact of the changes on economic growth and living conditions.

CHANGING LEADERSHIP AND SOCIETY IN RUSSIA c.1881-1989

THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

KEY TERMINOLOGY

New Economic Policy	Centres should examine the main features of the NEP. Centres should point out the changes introduced in the launching of the NEP and how it challenged the communist ideals of the Revolution. Centres should consider the short term and long term consequences of the NEP.
Urban proletariat	Centres should focus on why and with what consequences the steady industrialisation of the Russian economy led to a breakdown of the traditional social structures and the creation of an urban proletariat. Centres should consider the developing centres of industrial production and the effects on the countryside.
Kulaks	Centres should focus on why and with what consequences this prosperous peasant class emerged. Centres should consider why Stalin viewed the Kulaks as the greatest obstacle to the establishment of a communist economic system.
Socialism in one country	Centres should focus on the reasons why 'Socialism in one country' was adopted and the consequences for the Soviet Union. Centres should consider the appeal of 'socialism in one country' to different groups within society.
Destalinisation	Centres should focus on the reasons why Khrushchev adopted the policy of destalinisation and the consequences for the Russian economy and society. Centres should consider the changes introduced through destalinisation and their impact on the short term and long term development of Russia.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

SIMILARITY AND DIFFERENCE

The extent of Russian economic growth before 1914	Centres should focus on understanding the conditions that led to changes in the economic approach of Lenin. Centres should compare the different aspects of the mixed economy that developed under Lenin in the NEP and how this affected different groups within society.
Lenin and the New Economic Policy	Centres should focus on understanding the conditions that led to changes in the economic approach of Lenin. Centres should compare the different aspects of the mixed economy that developed under Lenin in the NEP and how this affected different groups within society.
The impact of Stalin's social changes	Centres should compare the similarities and differences in the social experience of various groups of Soviet citizens under Stalin. Centres should examine the attitudes which underpinned the most significant changes within society and link this to the inequalities of the overall experience of the Russian people across the period.
The impact of Stalin's economic changes	Centres should compare the similarities and differences in the impact of Stalin's economic policies on various groups in Russian society. Centres should consider the attitudes which underpinned Stalin's economic changes and link this to changes which took place in economic policy across the period.
Glasnost under Gorbachev	Centres should focus on understanding the conditions that led to changes in the approach of the Soviet leadership to the political development of Russia. Centres should focus on the belief that the communist system could be made more effective. Centres should consider Glasnost as part of the search for new ideas to reform the system and compare this to the ideas of Khrushchev.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

CHANGE AND CONTINUITY

The social development of Russia across the period

Centres should focus on understanding how and why there were changes to the structure of Russian society across the period. Centres should also focus on the how the Russian leadership attempted to manage society in order to ensure social conformity. Centres should point out that although there were dramatic changes in society with new cultural forms, much stayed the same. In order to consider issues of change and continuity across the whole period, centres should examine:

- how social policy was directed by considerations of the desire to maintain social cohesion in order to protect the Tsarist regime
- the creation of a Bolshevik society in Russia and the extent to which social developments under the Bolsheviks transformed society in the period
- the development of a relatively new social awareness post-Stalin that on the one hand looked back to the nostalgia of Soviet times and yet became excited by the prospect of a freer society
- the consequences of these developments in terms of their effect on the quality of life of different groups within society.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

The economic development of Russia across the period	<p>Centres should focus on understanding the changing conditions that led to the economic development of Russia in the period. Centres should also focus on the motives behind economic change linking any developments to the economic philosophies of the differing leaderships. Centres should examine the relative success of the regimes in solving the rural question and the desire to create a modern industrial state. In order to consider issues of change and continuity across the whole period, centres should examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the economic changes inside Tsarist Russia where not everyone shared in the benefit• how economic policy between 1917-1953 was directed by considerations of economic necessity, economic stability and socialist principles• the impact of economic developments under Lenin and Stalin and how they affected different groups within society as well as considering whether they created a modern dynamic economy.• the conditions that led to economic stagnation in the post-Stalinist era• the difference in economic policy culminating in the reforms of Gorbachev and the effects on economic efficiency and performance• whether economic change had a positive or negative effect on people's lives across the period
The changing popularity of the Russian system of government across the period	<p>In order to consider issues of change and continuity across the whole period, centres should examine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the changing patterns of support for and opposition to government across the period• the conditions which led to social conformity in Russia across the period• the impact of the social engineering which took place within Russian society at different times• the extent to which the popularity of the differing systems of government was driven by different approaches to social issues such as welfare and culture and often by misjudgements by the political leadership.

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THEME 2: Social and economic impact on the lives of the Russian people c.1881-1989

Part 3 Resources

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Ben Fowkes	Eastern Europe 1945-1969	Longman	0-582-32693-1

Audio - Visual resources

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Stalin [DVD] (1992)

Internet sites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/russia/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-17840446>

<http://www.watchmojo.com/video/id/10331/>

<http://spartacus-educational.com/Russia.htm>

<http://www.activehistory.co.uk/404.php#>