Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Friday 23 May 2025 – Morning

A Level History A

Y318/01 Russia and its Rulers 1855–1964

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

You must have:
- the OCR 12-page Answer Booklet

INSTRUCTIONS
- Use black ink.
- Write your answer to each question in the Answer Booklet. The question numbers must be clearly shown.
- Fill in the boxes on the front of the Answer Booklet.
- Answer the question in Section A and **any two** questions in Section B.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is **80**.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets **[ ]**.
- Quality of extended response will be assessed in questions marked with an asterisk (*).
- This document has **4** pages.

ADVICE
- Read each question carefully before you start your answer.

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Section A

Read the **two** passages and answer Question 1.

1 Evaluate the interpretations in **both** of the two passages.

Explain which you think is more convincing as an explanation of the weaknesses of the Provisional Government. **[30]**

Passage A

Adapted From Philip Longworth, Russia's Empires. Their Rise and Fall: From Prehistory to Putin, Pages 236-238, John Murray Publishers Ltd, 2005. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

Passage B

Adapted from Orlando Figes, Revolutionary Russia, 1891-1991, Pages 100,101,104,105,106,113,114,115,121,122,123, Penguin Books Ltd, 2014. Item removed due to third party copyright restrictions.

Section B

Answer any **two** questions.

2* ‘Communist leaders in the period from 1917 to 1964 were more willing to accept political change than were the Tsars in the period from 1855 to 1917.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

3* ‘The Russian people experienced little improvement in their personal, political and religious freedoms throughout the period from 1855 to 1964.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

4* ‘The October Revolution of 1917 changed Russian society more than any other war or revolution in the period from 1855 to 1964.’

How far do you agree? **[25]**

END OF QUESTION PAPER

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