



Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2022

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level

In History(WHIO1) Paper 1B

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WHI01 1B : Russia in Revolution, 1818-1917

The entry for this paper was slightly increased compared to previous series. Candidates chose two questions from four.

Question 1

This was reasonably well answered. Candidates showed a range of knowledge in relation to Alexander III's rule and many were able to consider whether or not he was completely oppressive. Those candidates who gave criteria in relation to their judgements scored highly.

Question 2

This question was reasonably well answered, however, there were candidates who did not focus on the political reforms and allowed themselves to give a broad sweep of all of his reforms. As a consequence they tended not to the focus or give a judgement on the issue raised in the question – that of whether or not the political reforms were effective.

Question 3

This question was popular with candidates. Many saw the war a catalyst for the discontent with Romanov rule and compared that to the damage done by the Tsarina. Some candidates saw that the two were linked and used that as the criteria for their judgement.

Question 4

This question was popular and in many instances well answered. Candidates were knowledgeable about Trotsky and the Military Revolutionary Committee and balanced this with other factors, e.g. role of Lenin, Bolshevik support and the weaknesses of the Provisional Government and its decision making.

Points to consider:

- This is a 'Depth study with Interpretations' which means that knowledge on its own is not enough. Knowledge needs to be applied to the interpretation that is raised by the question and judgements made.
- The time allowed for this examination is sufficient to allow a small amount of planning time for each answer.
- When judgments are made they need to be supported with criteria – it is not sufficient to state that a factor or consequence/effect/impact is the most 'important' or 'significant' without explaining the basis upon which that judgment has been made.