

GCSE HISTORY

Paper 1 Section A/C: Russia, 1894-1945: Tsardom and communism

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretations A and B for use in answering Questions 01, 02 and 03



Interpretation A

Adapted from 'Year One of the Russian Revolution' by Victor Serge, published in France in 1930.

Serge's family were opponents of Tsardom and had been forced to leave Russia. He arrived in Petrograd in January 1919 and joined the Communist Party and worked closely with the leaders. He was a supporter of a worldwide Communist revolution.

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Interpretation B

Adapted from 'Living my Life', the autobiography of Emma Goldman, published in America in the 1930s.

Goldman was a Russian who believed in individual freedom above government authority. Initially she supported the October/November Revolution which brought the Bolsheviks to power. She changed her mind and left Russia after witnessing the way in which Lenin's Government treated anyone who criticised it.

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END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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