

# Grade 9 Answer

## Consequence Question

4  
Marks

### Question:

**Explain one consequence of Gorbachev's 'new thinking'. (4 marks)**

### Answer:

**One consequence of Gorbachev's 'new thinking' was the increase in political and social freedoms in the Soviet Union. The policy of Glasnost aimed to make the government more transparent and allowed Soviet citizens greater freedom of speech, including the ability to criticize the government and discuss previously taboo subjects like the failures of past policies. This openness led to a surge in public debate, political activism, and demands for further reforms. It also exposed deep dissatisfaction with the Soviet system, which contributed to unrest and a loss of faith in the Communist Party.**

### Feedback:

**This answer would get 4/4 marks because the pupil has identified a consequence (increase in freedoms), and has analysed the consequence using specific information, showing good understanding of the period.**