



History Revision Booklet

AC Russia, 1894–1945: Tsardom and Communism

Answers



RUSSIA, 1894–1945: TSARDOM AND COMMUNISM

TIMELINE (1)

1894

Russia largest country in world

Nov - Nicholas II became Tsar



1905

Jan - Bloody Sunday

June - Potemkin Mutiny

Oct - St Petersburg Soviet created

Oct - October Manifesto published

1906

April - Fundamental Laws published

April - First Duma opened

Stolypin's Land Reform

1912

April - Lena Goldfields Massacre

1914

Russia entered WWI

1915

Tsar Nicholas II assumed personal command of Russian Army

1916

Dec - Rasputin assassinated

1917

February - February Revolution

March - Tsar abdicates

April - Lenin leaves exile to return to Russia

June - The June Offensive

July - July Days

July - Kerensky became leader of the Provisional Government

August - Kornilov Revolt

October - October Revolution

October - Bolsheviks seized power

December - Cheka created

1918

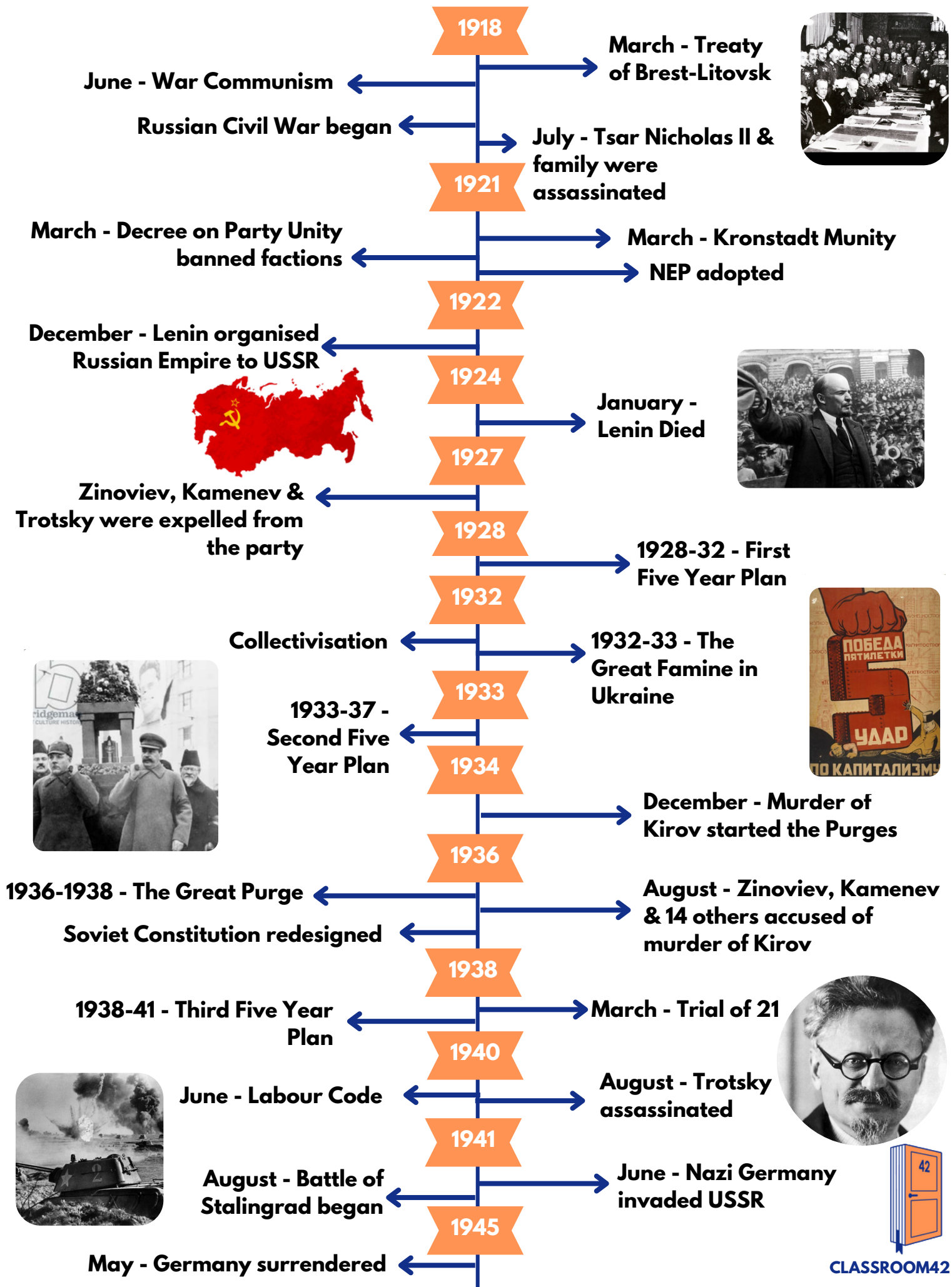
January - Constituent Assembly shut down by Lenin

March - Trotsky became Commissar for War



RUSSIA, 1894-1945: TSARDOM AND COMMUNISM

TIMELINE (2)



By 1914 Russia was 4th largest producer of coal, pig iron and steel in world



Extreme poverty and little demand for goods

Banking system was backwards

Russia's Economy

Industrialisation was uneven across the Empire

Living Conditions in Cities

- People moved here to seek work as industry developed
- Food supplies were scarce
- Trade unions were illegal so could not fight poor working conditions
- Living conditions were poor

Living Conditions in Villages

- Bad harvests meant famine & disease were common
- Limited access to modern farming techniques and education
- Peasants made up 80% of Russia's population

Pillars of Nicholas II's Autocracy

- Autocratic Government
- The Nobility
- The Tsarist Legal System
- The Okhrana
- The Orthodox Church
- The Army



Tsar Nicholas II



Political Opposition to the Tsar

- ➔ Many groups wanted social, economic and political reform in Russia
- ➔ The Social Democratic Party was set up in 1898 and believed in the ideas of Karl Marx and communism
- ➔ In 1903 this party split into the Mensheviks and the more revolutionary Bolsheviks

Tsar's Abdication

Nicholas II was forced to abdicate in **March 1917**, allowing power to pass to the Provisional Government

1. THE END OF TSARDOM

Russia's defeat in the **Russo-Japanese War**

Discontent among **peasants**

Discontent among **industrial workers**

Causes of 1905 Revolution

Bloody Sunday

Rasputin

- Gained favour with **Tsar Nicholas II** and **Tsaritsa Alexandra** in early 1900s
- Rumours of Rasputin's **licentious behaviour** undermined royal family
- Seen as symbolic of the **moral corruption**



Rasputin

January 1905 - Bloody Sunday

Father Gapon led unarmed civilians in a demonstration, they were met by violence from the Imperial Guard resulting in **500 deaths** of demonstrators



Oct 1905 - October Manifesto

Introduced allowing Russia to have elected parliament - **Duma**, loosened censorship and free speech

WWI

Nicholas II took command of the army in 1915 and was **blamed** for the failed organisation and shortages of supplies
Labour shortages led to food shortages and Russia's **industrial output decreased** by around **20%** from 1939-1917

Attempts to reform Russia

- ♦ **Conservatives** saw reforms too radical, **reformers** wanted them to go further
- ♦ Reform fuelled **radicalisation**
- ♦ **Duma** had little power and quickly dissolved

Stolypin's Policies

- Improvements to **agricultural** infrastructure
- Financial incentives
- **Mirs** could no longer prevent individuals from buying land
- **Resettlement** programmes
- Used **police** and **army** to crush revolutionaries
- **Election reform**
- **Court Martials**



The End of Tsardom

Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Name the one opposition to the Tsar:

Social Democratic Party, Mensheviks, Bolsheviks etc.

2. How many people were killed during Bloody Sunday?

Around 500

3. Which controversial individual became associated with the royal family?

Rasputin

4. Give one pillar of Nicholas II's Autocracy:

Autocratic government, Nobility, Tsarist Legal System etc.

5. When did the Tsar abdicate?

2nd March 1917

6. Which manifesto allowed Russia to have an elected parliament?

October Manifesto

7. What percentage of the population was made up of peasants?

Around 80%

8. Whose theories did the Social Democratic Party follow?

Karl Marx

9. Give one reason for the downfall of the Tsar:

Association with Rasputin, blamed for failed organisation of army, blamed for labour and food shortages etc.

10. Whose policies included agricultural improvements, election reforms and court martials?

Stolypin

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Provisional Government

- 12 members of the Duma, not elected
- Other members were mix of Octobrists and Cadets
- Faced many problems:
 - Crisis in economy
 - WWI
 - Leadership
 - Dual Power



Continued war with Germany and several military failures

Refused to introduce land reform for peasants

Failures of Provisional Government

Failed to deal with food shortages

Failed to deal with opponents

April Thesis

- Lenin called for **nationalisation** of banks and for the Soviet control of state power and industry
- 'Peace, Bread, Land'



→ **Trotsky** - elected president of Petrograd Soviet after Kornilov revolt and created Red Guard, effective organiser



→ **Lenin** - April Theses were popular, effective leader, convinced members of Bolshevik Party to follow his plan

Kornilov Revolt

WWI

Reasons for Growth in Bolshevik Support

Economic Hardship

Disillusionment with the Provisional Government

Lenin's leadership & April Theses

Cheka - secret police, main techniques

- Mass arrests
- Forced confessions
- Informant networks
- Arrest quotas

2. LENIN'S NEW SOCIETY (1)

October Revolution 1917

The Bolsheviks stormed the Winter Palace in Petrograd and seized governmental power and control of the military

Red Army

- Established in **Jan 1918**, filled with peasants, workers and former Imperial Russian Army officers
- Important tool for Bolsheviks to **unify country** and **enforce communism**

Social Revolutionaries received most votes in election, but Lenin used Red Guards to close down **Constituent Assembly**



Political opposition parties were banned

How did Bolsheviks consolidate power?

→ All non-Bolshevik **newspapers** were closed down



Tsar Nicholas II and his family were executed in July 1918

Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
Signed on **3rd March 1918**, ending Russia's involvement in WWI

Russia lost Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Georgia, Ukraine and some of Poland & lost 26% of population
Russia had to pay **300 million roubles** in reparations
It was nulled by the Armistice on 11th November 1918 when Germany surrendered to Allies.



→ The **Decree on Land** abolished private ownership and land was given to peasants



→ The **Decree on Peace** called for peace to be negotiated between all countries at war



→ The **Decree on Worker's Rights** improved working conditions



Civil War 1918

- Broke out between the **Bolsheviks** and the **Whites**, Greens and foreign powers
- **10 million people** died
- Food was rationed and supplies were distributed over railways
- The Bolsheviks started to centralise power
- The Whites were **uncoordinated** so the Reds were able to defeat their armies one by one

The **Whites** struggled to build support as they were not clearly fighting in the interests of Russian people, whereas the **Bolsheviks** wanted to give **power to all Soviets**



Propaganda

- Leaflets, posters, cinema and speeches were used by the Bolsheviks to portray them as the party who would defend Russia
- Also used to spread fear that foreign countries would take control of Russia

Grain taken from peasants

Bolsheviks took control of banks

Nationalised all industries

Food rationing

War Communism

Private trade was banned



Kronstadt Mutiny 28th Feb 1921

- Reaction to **war communism**
- The crew of the **Petropavlovsk** ship mutinied & demanded equal rations and free trade in grain
- **50,000 troops** from Red Army attacked naval base and crushed mutiny by 17th March
- **500 sailors** were shot immediately and further 2,000 were executed
- **10,000 Red Army soldiers** were killed

New Economic Policy

- **Private ownership** of business that employed less than 20 people was allowed
- **Free trade** in grain
- Government kept control of large businesses



Effects of NEP:

- **Grain production** increased by 50% in 1923
 - In 1922, new currency **chervonets** helped stabilise value of money
- 1923 **Scissors Crisis** - prices of manufactured goods rose and price of food fell

2. LENIN'S NEW SOCIETY (2)

Tsarist monuments were removed



1919 Decree on Illiteracy made learning to read and write compulsory

Social and Cultural Changes

Church and state were legally separated

Russian calendar was replaced by Western calendar

Schools were nationalised

Achievements of Lenin & Trotsky



Lenin

- Issued decrees
- Established institutions
- Withdrew Russia from WWI
- Nationalised key industries
- Founded USSR
- NEP

Trotsky

- Negotiated peace with Germany
- Established Red Army
- Encouraged rapid industrialisation
- Reconquered Ukraine
- Promoted socialism abroad



1922 - **Lenin** organised the Russian empire into a united nation named **USSR**



Lenin's New Society

Quiz Questions



Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!

1. Give one decree that the Bolsheviks introduced:

Decree on Land, Decree on Peace, Decree on Worker's Rights

2. When was the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk signed?

3rd March 1918

3. Who established the Red Army?

Trotsky

4. When was the Kronstadt Mutiny?

28th February 1921

5. How many Red Army soldiers were killed during the Kronstadt Mutiny?

10,000

6. Give one feature of war communism:

All industries nationalised, rationing, private trade banned, Bolsheviks took control of banks, grain taken from peasants

7. What were the secret police called?

Cheka

8. How many members were in the Duma?

12

9. What percentage of population did Russia lose as a result of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk?

26%

10. In what year was the Decree on Illiteracy ordered?

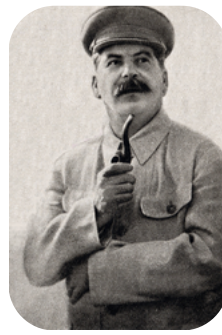
1919

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Lenin died in 1924 and there were 5 candidates to take over

In 1922 Lenin wrote a '**Testament**' weighing up strengths and weaknesses of the candidates:

- **Stalin** - should be dismissed as did not know how to handle power
- **Kamenev & Zinoviev** - should not be trusted
- **Bukharin** - was a favourite but did not fully understand Marxism
- **Trotsky** - was arrogant but most capable



Stalin organised **Lenin's funeral** and told **Trotsky** the wrong date
He also convinced Kamenev and Zinoviev **not to release Lenin's Testament**
These acts helped Stalin to gain support

Stalin turned against his opposition and accused **Zinoviev, Kamenev and Trotsky** of factionalism, and they were **expelled** from the Party in 1927



Show Trials

- **Trial of 17** - 17 party officials accused of plotting to overthrow government, Kirov's murder and disrupting Five Year Plan - 13 executed and 4 sent to gulags
- **Trial of 16** - Zinoviev, Kamenev and 14 others were accused of Kirov's murder and executed
- **Trial of 21** - Bukharin and 20 others were accused of plotting to overthrow government, Kirov's murder and disrupting Five Year Plan and executed



The Great Purge 1936-1938

- Stalin was paranoid so ordered purges of all people considered a threat to his rule
- For example, it is believed Stalin was responsible for the shooting of **Kirov**, a popular alternative to Stalin
- **7-8 million** were **arrested**, **2 million dead** and in the **gulags** and **1-1.5 million executed**

Stalin's Cult of Personality was achieved through:

- All images of Stalin showed him in a positive way
- Towns and streets were named after him and many statues
- History was re-written to emphasise Stalin's contribution
- Given titles such as 'Brilliant Genius of Humanity'

3. STALIN'S USSR (1)



The NKVD (secret police)

There were mass arrests, forced confessions and executions
Order 00447 passed in July 1937 - set quotas for arrests - 1/4 were shot and rest sent to gulags

Economic expert

Great thinker



Stalin's Cult of Personality



Father-figure

Saviour of USSR

Gulags - food was rationed, many died from starvation or dangerous work, **terrible living conditions** full of disease



Censorship

- All **books, newspapers and magazines** were controlled and had to present the government positively
- **Glavlit** controlled economic data and suppressed bad news stories
- **Church leaders** were arrested and places of worship destroyed

Social Realism

Official Communist Party policy from 1930-53
All art and culture had to follow this artistic style
Glorified life in Russia and showed it as a utopia



Collectivisation

- Forced peasants to **share resources** and **work to government targets**, profits were shared equally among members of collective
- In December 1929, Stalin announced the 'liquidation of the kulaks as a class'
- Any peasant that opposed collectivisation was labelled a kulak and attacked
- Thousands** were **killed** and up to **10 million** were taken to **labour camps** in Siberia

First Five Year Plan 1928-32

→ Developed heavy industry & built 1,500 new industrial plants & 100 new towns

Second Five Year Plan 1933-37

→ Heavy industry remained top priority, communications developed, chemicals and metallurgy industries grew

Third Five Year Plan 1938-41

→ Increasing amount of resources switched to armaments as WWII loomed



Gosplan - State Committee for Planning - responsible for ensuring 5 Year Plans were met



3. STALIN'S USSR (2)

Social

- Around 20 million people were killed
- 6 million houses were wrecked
- 2,000 towns and cities were destroyed

Problems Caused by Great Patriotic War

Economic

- Around 100,000 collective farms were destroyed
- Food shortages
- USSR's industrial output did not return to 1940 levels until almost 10 years later

Political

- The Soviets increased political control
- All aspects of life were subject to strict controls

Effect on Women

- Drawn into the workforce on a large scale
- Housed in barracks
- Arduous working conditions
- Childcare shortages
- Propaganda promoting domestic roles



Was Russia modernised under the 5 Year Plans?

- ✓ Rapid growth of industry
- ✓ Huge infrastructure projects
- ✓ Significant military build-up
- ✓ Urban population growth
- ✗ Low standard of living
- ✗ Increased political repression
- ✗ Famine and continuation of agricultural struggles

Stalin's Wartime Leadership

- Dedicated over 50% of the national income spent on war effort
- STAVKA set up to lead war effort
- Orthodox churches reopened
- USSR defeated Nazi Germany in 1945



Stalin's USSR

Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Which Five Year Plan switched to armaments?

Third 5 Year Plan

2. Name the 5 possible candidates to take over Lenin:

Stalin, Kamenev, Zinoviev, Bukharin & Trotsky

3. How many people were arrested in the Great Purge 1936-38?

7-8 million

4. What percentage of national income did Stalin dedicated to WWII spending?

50%

5. Give one aspect of Stalin's Cult of Personality:

Economic expert, great thinker, father figure, saviour of USSR

6. Which class did Stalin announce the liquidation of in December 1929?

Kulaks

7. What were the labour camps called that had terrible living conditions?

Gulags

8. Give one social impact of the Great Patriotic War.

20 million were killed, 6 million houses wrecked, 2000 towns destroyed etc.

9. What were the secret police called?

NKVD

10. Give one way in which Stalin's Cult of Personality was achieved:

Towns and streets named after him, history re-written, all images showed Stalin in positive light, given titles

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