

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



2 2 6 G 8 1 4 5 / 1 A / C

IB/M/Jun22/E5

8145/1A/C

Interpretation A Adapted from the memoirs of Alexander Kerensky, 'Russia and History's Turning Point', published in America, 1965.

Kerensky was a Russian lawyer and key figure in the Russian Revolution of February/March 1917. He became the leader of the newly formed Provisional Government. He left Russia during the Civil War.

The Tsarina's belief in Rasputin meant she asked him for advice not only on personal matters but also on politics. The Tsar's closest advisers tried to warn her about Rasputin but they were powerless to do anything. In the Tsar's absence, the Government was entirely under the control of the Tsarina and Rasputin. They only appointed people who wanted to stop any increase in the powers of the Duma.

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Interpretation B Adapted from a biography about the Tsarina written by Countess Sophie Buxhoeveden published in England, 1928.

The Countess was the senior Lady-in-waiting to, and close friend of, the Tsarina. She was present at meetings where the Tsarina made government decisions.

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END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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