



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination  
January 2009

## History

## HIS2E

**Unit 2E: The Reign of Peter the Great of Russia, 1682–1725**

**Friday 16 January 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm**

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book.

**Time allowed**

- 1 hour 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is HIS2E.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- There are 36 marks for each question.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

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Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

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1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** The personal grievances of the Streltsy began to expand into a larger, political grievance against the Tsar: their faith and their country were being undermined. The Tsar was no longer a Tsar! A true Tsar should sit enthroned in the Kremlin, remote, appearing only in great processions, covered with jewels and robes. This  
5 tall Peter, who shouted and drank with carpenters and foreigners all night in the German suburb, could not be a true Tsar; and they pointed to his epileptic seizures as evidence that he was a child of the Devil. The Streltsy realised their duty: to overthrow this false Tsar, and re-establish the old traditional ways.

Adapted from R MASSIE, *Peter the Great: His Life and World*, 1981

**Source B** However haphazardly, Peter succeeded in fundamentally changing the manners and outlook of what, under his reforms, had become Russia's ruling class. At first they were reluctant converts, but they gradually warmed to the new culture, and even welcomed it enthusiastically as a mark of their social status. His reforms  
5 took the first step towards creating a privileged ruling class, with a culture different from that of the common people and of the clergy. The distance between popular and elite culture in Russia was immeasurably widened. Peter enormously intensified the division in Russian society which already existed.

Adapted from G HOSKING, *Russia: People and Empire, 1552–1917*, 1998

**Source C** Source removed for copyright reasons.  
The source discussed how Peter's reforms were extremely costly in terms of manpower and increased taxation, and how the peasantry rebelled against them.

(a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the attitudes of Peter the Great's subjects towards his reforms. (12 marks)

(b) Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How far did Peter the Great transform Russian society? (24 marks)

**EITHER**

- 2 (a) Explain why the regency ended in 1689. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'Peter the Great failed to strengthen government in Russia.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**OR**

- 3 (a) Explain why Russia went to war against Sweden in 1700. *(12 marks)*
- (b) 'Russia's success in the Great Northern War of 1700–1721 was due mainly to Peter the Great's reform of the army and navy.'  
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**

**There are no questions printed on this page**

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Question 1 Source A: R MASSIE, *Peter the Great: His Life and World*, Weidenfield & Nicolson, a division of the Orion Publishing Group, 1981

Source B: G HOSKING, *Russia: People and Empire 1552–1917*, Fontana, 1988. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.  
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