

Russian Revolution - Webquest

Directions: Complete the following questions using the links listed below.



Answer questions 1-7 by using <http://www.history.com/topics/russian-revolution>

1. When did the Russian Revolution begin?

1917

2. According to the website, why did Russian lose faith in the leadership of Czar Nicholas II?

Government corruption was rampant, the Russian economy remained backward, and Nicholas repeatedly dissolved the Duma, the Russian parliament established after the 1905 revolution, when it opposed his will.

3. What was the immediate cause of the Russian Revolution?

The immediate cause of the February Revolution—the first phase of the Russian Revolution of 1917—was Russia's disastrous involvement in World War I (1914-18). Militarily, imperial Russia was no match for industrialized Germany, and Russian casualties were greater than those sustained by any nation in any previous war.

4. Briefly explain the events from March 8th to March 15th, which would eventually lead to the abdication of Nicholas II. (The February Revolution)

Demonstrators took to the streets of Petrograd (St. Petersburg) against the Czar. As the clash between the demonstrators and the police forces began to become violent, pressure began to mount against the Czar to give up his throne. Nicholas abdicated on March 15th.

5. What party was Vladimir Lenin the leader of?

Bolsheviks

6. Lenin became the virtual dictator of the first Marxist state in the world.
7. What did Lenin's government do immediately following his rise to power?

His government made peace with Germany, nationalized industry and distributed land.

Answer questions 8-9 by using <http://alphahistory.com/russianrevolution/tsarist-government/>

8. In the years before the revolution, Russia was ruled by a Czar (also spelled Tsar). Using the first paragraph of the reading on the website, explain how a Czarist government worked.

It was an autocracy: all political power and sovereignty was vested in a hereditary monarch. The tsar was bound by only two restrictions: adherence to the Russian Orthodox Church and the laws of succession. In all other matters, the tsar and his will were considered supreme. The Tsarist government was essentially government by decree: the tsar issued declarations or proclamations and his ministers, governors and bureaucrats implemented them.

9. Why do you suppose ordinary Russians came to revolt against the Czarist Regime in Russia?

Russians resented the rule and authority of the Czar while they were struggling from economic crisis, food shortages and losses in WWI.

Answer questions 10-11 by using <http://alphahistory.com/russianrevolution/bloody-sunday-1905/>

10. Using the first paragraph of the reading on the website, explain the basic events of "Bloody Sunday".

Bloody Sunday 1905 began as a relatively peaceful protest by disgruntled steel workers in St Petersburg. Angered by poor working conditions, an economic slump and the ongoing war with Japan, thousands marched on the Winter Palace to plead with Czar Nicholas II for reform. But the czar was not present and the workers were instead gunned down on the streets by panicky soldiers.

11. In what way did the events of "Bloody Sunday" impact the overall Russian Revolution?

At another time in Russian history, the mass killing of dissident civilians might have frightened the rest of the population into silent obedience – but the authority of the tsarist regime had been diminishing for months. Popular respect and affection for the tsar, already in decline prior, took a sudden turn for the worse. 'Bloody Sunday' triggered a wave of general strikes, peasant unrest, assassinations and political mobilisation that became known as the 1905 Revolution.

12. Overall, how did the Russian Revolution impact Russia and the citizens of Russia? Explain.

Russia changed from a Czarist government to a Marxist state with a dictator. Russian citizens became more financially secure and had better access to food. As well, soldiers returned from WWI after a treaty was signed with Germany.