

1. How did the Bolsheviks consolidate their control?

1	Creating a one-party state	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bolsheviks replaced the Cabinet with the Sovnarkom The Bolsheviks abandoned the title 'Minister' and replaced it with 'People's Commissar'
2	Electing the Constituent Assembly	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Provisional Government had organised elections for the Constituent Assembly for November Lenin had to honour this arrangement The SRs won with 53% of the vote.
3	How did Lenin control the Constituent Assembly?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lenin demanded that the Assembly were subservient to the Sovnarkom and the soviets. When the Assembly met in January and rejected this condition, Lenin brought the Red Guard to block the elected representatives entry This effectively closed the Assembly
4	How did Lenin justify closing the Assembly?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> He said that the election didn't reflect the will of the people He said the Soviets were a better form of democracy while the Assembly was a form of bourgeois democracy He claimed "dictatorship of the proletariat" was the way forward to benefit the workers and peasants.

Key dates

1	Oct 1917	First Decrees (Peace, Land, Press) & Sovnarkom created
2	Dec 1917	Further decrees (Bank & Military) & Cheka created
3	Jan 1918	Constituent Assembly dissolved
4	Feb 1918	Nationalisation of industry
5	Mar 1918	Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
6	July 1918	Soviet Constitution established

2. Ending involvement in WWI

1	Why withdraw?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bolsheviks promised peace and much of their support came from tired soldiers Lenin was worried about civil war – he could recall troops and get ready to fight the Bolshevik opponents. Russia's military was exhausted and could not continue to fight. Lenin was convinced Germany was about to have its own Communist Revolution
2	Why was it difficult?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ceasefire was agreed in December but negotiating a treaty took several months Germany was already occupying large areas of Russia and demanded major concessions Trotsky did not support Lenin's mantra of 'peace at any cost'
3	What was the impact of signing?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The treaty caused major splits in the Bolsheviks: Bukharin led the 'revolutionary war group' that argued against peace at all costs. Trotsky delayed negotiations hoping for a German revolution, but this angered the Germans who continued their military advance into Russia. The resulting treaty was extremely unpopular: The Left SRs resigned from the Government in protest. The treaty led to a significant decline in support for the Bolsheviks and increase in support for the SRs and Mensheviks The Bolsheviks lost the elections to the soviets across Russia in April and May 1918.
4	Losses from the treaty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 62 million people (1/6 Russia's population) 2 million km² of land 1/3 Russia's agricultural production land ¼ of Russia's railway lines ¾ of Russia's iron and coal supplies 3 billion roubles in war reparations

Key word	Definition
All Russian Congress of Soviets	A group of deputies elected from local soviets who would meet and organise the running of the country
Central Executive Committee	Congress deputies elected the Central Committee.
Constitution	A set of laws a country is run by
Red Army	Replaced the Red Guard – the Bolshevik army
Sovnarkom	The government of the new revolutionary regime

4. Consolidating the one party state

1	How did they increase their power further?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nationalisation of industry and land ownership increased the Bolsheviks' power In March 1918, Trotsky was made head of the new Red Army to control growing unrest
2	What was the Soviet Constitution?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In July 1918 the Bolsheviks set out a new Soviet Constitution. It appeared democratic but in reality, power rested with Lenin
3	What did it say about the Congress of Soviets?	<p>Expectation: The Congress of Soviets would represent the interests of Local Soviets and be elected from local soviets</p> <p>Reality:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Congress didn't meet often The Congress was only elected from Bolshevik candidates
4	What did it say about the Sovnarkom?	<p>Expectation: The Sovnarkom should be appointed by the Congress</p> <p>Reality:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Sovnarkom was chosen by the Central Committee rather than the Congress The Sovnarkom consisted of only Bolsheviks
5	What did it say about Soviets?	<p>Expectation: Soviets should represent the masses</p> <p>Reality:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> From July 1918, members of the former 'exploiting classes' were banned from voting or holding office Worker votes were worth 5x peasant votes

1. Causes of the Russian Civil War

1	How did the Bolsheviks create enemies?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Their political opponents were not prepared to accept their absolute rule. Their policies and actions resulted in them having many more enemies.
2	Why else did people fight?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Some fought the Civil War to achieve independence from the Russian Empire, but others fought to prevent it
3	How did the Allies encourage war?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Russia's old allies called for direct military action against the Bolsheviks They were angry with the Russian withdrawal from the war and the cancellation of the Tsar's debts
4	Why did Lenin fight?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lenin wanted a conflict to destroy his opponents in a short war rather than be challenged by them throughout Bolshevik rule.

2. Who fought in the Russian Civil War?

1	Reds	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bolshevik Red Army, led by Trotsky
2	Whites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The various armies and groups made up of the Bolsheviks' opponents Led by former Tsarist officers. Had very little in common with except their hatred of the Bolsheviks
3	Greens	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> A largely peasant army fighting for independence Fought a guerrilla campaign in the Ukraine. They sided with, and fought against, both Reds and Whites at different points in the Civil War
4	The Allies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Britain, France and the USA all sent troops to help the Whites
5	The Czech Legion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Formed from Czech nationalists who had arrived in Russia during the war against Germany. Joined forces with the Whites after the Bolsheviks tried to block and arrest some of the Czech soldiers
6	The Poles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fought to gain control of western Ukraine

3. The murder of the Tsar

1	What happened?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> On 16th-17th July 1918, a local Cheka detachment executed Nicholas II and his family It is almost certain that Lenin authorised this killing
2	Why was it important?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Tsar and his family were important figureheads for the Whites Their murder was a big blow for White morale

4. Why did the Reds win?

1	Geo-graphy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Reds commanded the hub of communications, the factories and mostly densely populated areas. The Whites were widely dispersed and in less developed areas
2	Leadership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Red Army was well disciplined under Trotsky, who ensured they were fed and supplied. The White leadership was disorganized with little discipline
3	The Role of Trotsky	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> He ensured loyalty by shooting deserters. Reintroduced traditional ranks in the army and recruited 50,000 former tsarist officers, He set up political commissars to ensure their loyalty
4	Unity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Reds were united in their aims and ideology. White generals operated independently and fought for different objectives
5	Support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Although peasant support varied, generally the Reds' land policies were more popular than the White
6	Propaganda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Bolsheviks took advantage of the foreign invasion and sloppy discipline of the Whites to show them as degenerate and encouraging foreign invasion. Trotsky also travelled spreading propaganda on his train.

Key people

Kolchak	Led a White army in Siberia and proclaimed himself 'Supreme Ruler of Russia'.
Yudenich	Formed a White army in the north west
Makhno	An anarchist Green leader in the Ukraine
Denikin	Led the White army Southern Volunteer Army
Wrangel	Led a 'Caucasus Volunteer Army' against the Bolsheviks during the civil war.
Dzerzhinsky	Head of the Cheka

5. Government control

1	How did the war increase Bolshevik control?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Half a million Party members fought for the Red Army - used to obeying orders and acting with extreme force In wartime it was essential that orders from the centre were communicated quickly - this centralisation stayed after the war Central controls were brought in to deal with food shortages.
2	How did the war change how the country was run?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To organise the war the Soviet bureaucracy grew larger - there were more bureaucrats than workers In 1919 the Politburo was created - they took over the running of the country and replaced the Sovnarkom
3	What was the Red Terror?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> After two assassination attempts on Lenin in 1918, the Red Terror started to emerge The Cheka grew from 120 employees in March 1918 to 143,000 by 1921
4	What did the Cheka do?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Round up political opposition and enforced the central government commands Official records put Cheka executions at 13,000 between 1918 & 1920 but the real figure was more likely around 300,000 To house all their victims, the Bolsheviks set up concentration and labour camps.

1. State Capitalism

1	Why?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lenin's policy was a pragmatic response to the problems facing Russia in 1918. 2. It was a middle way between capitalism and socialism until the USSR was ready to fully embrace socialism.
2	What were the features of State Capitalism?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nationalisation was introduced to create greater efficiency 2. All nationalised industries were run by the Vesenkha 3. Small factories were not nationalised. They were controlled by workers or handed back to capitalists.
3	What did the Vesenkha do?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Re-established worker discipline by offering higher pay to productive workers 2. Ensured factories were properly managed by placing them under the control of well-paid specialists 3. Co-ordinated economic production to meet the needs of the new society.
4	What were the problems of State Capitalism?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Many Bolsheviks didn't want a middle way and demanded full state control 2. Allowing factories to be taken over by their workers causes a sharp drop in production due to poor management skills 3. Letting peasants have control over the selling of grain meant higher prices but state controlled industries needed cheap grain so workers didn't have to be paid higher wage

2. Economic problems during the Civil War

1	Falling industrial production	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Factory supplies were disrupted by fighting 2. Workers left to join the Red Army or return to the country – urban population fell from 3.6 million to 1.4 million between Jan 1917 & Jan 1919 3. Drop in production led to inflation 4. With no products to buy, peasants stopped selling their grain
2	Food shortages in the cities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Important agricultural regions were lost in the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk 2. Trade blockades by the allies meant a lack of imports 3. Peasant hoarding led to food shortages 4. Early 1918 bread ration in Petrograd was only 50g per person a day 5. People bought food & traded it through the black market
3	Disease and starvation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unsanitary living conditions, food shortages and lack of medical supplies & doctors led to millions of deaths 2. Around 5 million people died from starvation & disease

3. War Communism

1	Why?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By May 1918, the country was in a state of economic collapse 2. Reorganisation of the economy was important to the survival of the Bolsheviks
2	What were the features of War Communism?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grain requisitioning: The Cheka could seize grain and other food without payment. 2. Rationing: the Supply Commissariat rationed the seized foods. The largest rations went to workers and soldiers, and smallest rations given to members of the bourgeoisie. 3. The abolition of money: Workers were being paid through their rations and many public services, such as tram services. 4. Private trade was made illegal. 5. Complete nationalization 6. Conscription: workers were assigned either to work in factories, or fight in the army.
3	What was the impact of War Communism?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kulaks were the worst hit with their land and produce requisitioned 2. Food shortages led peasants to eat the animals they used for ploughing, further reducing food production. 3. There were even reports of cannibalism. 4. Industrial output also slowed – by 1921, industrial output was only 20% of pre-war levels 5. Some workers welcomed state control as it meant their factories stayed open, while others went on strike and fled to the countryside. 6. Droughts in 1920 and 1921 made the situation worse, threatening further famine.
4	What was the Tambov Revolt?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Autumn 1920, peasants in Tambov, led by Aleksandr Antonov, rebelled against requisitioning and Cheka brutality. 2. By January 1921, Antonov had a force of 50,000 anti-Communist fighters. 3. Revolt lasted until June 1921 4. 100,000 Red Army soldiers put down the revolt brutally, destroying whole villages
5	What was the Kronstadt Uprising?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In 1921, further reductions in food rationing led to strikes and riots in the cities 2. In March, Sailors at the Kronstadt naval base rebelled against the suppression of the Petrograd strikes 3. The sailors demanded democratic reforms. ('Soviets without Communists') 4. Trotsky sent the Red Army to put down the uprising 5. 15,000 rebels were imprisoned and the ring leaders were shot. 6. Some members of the party believed the Bolsheviks were becoming too authoritarian.

Key word	Definition
GOELRO	Organisation formed in 1920 to organise the production and distribution of electricity
Gosplan	The state general planning commission which helped coordinate economic developments from 1921
Kulak	A rich, land owning peasant
Nationalisation	When the state takes over control of an industry or service
Nepmen	Speculative traders who bought up produce from peasants to sell on for their own profit
Nomenklatura	A system where influential posts in government and industry were filled from a pre-approved list
Requisitioning	When the government demand the use or supply of a resource or service by official order.
Veshenka	The Council of the National Economy was responsible for state industry from 1917-1932

4. The New Economic Policy

1	Why?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In response to the civil unrest, a new direction was needed to ensure the government's survival
2	What were the features of the NEP?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gosplan was set up to advise on the NEP 2. Farming was left to the free market. Peasants could buy, sell and produce freely. 3. Requisitioning ended and was replaced by a tax in kind. 4. Small factories and workshops were denationalised and many were returned to their former capitalist owners. 5. Large factories and major industries remained nationalised. 6. Money was reintroduced.
3	Was the NEP effective ?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The NEP and the end of the Civil War helped to stabilise the Russian economy 2. Private businesses reopened and grew quickly. Cities regained services like shops and restaurants 3. Agriculture recovered as peasants grew more to earn money 4. However this created a scissor crisis – food prices dropped, while industrial goods prices remained high as the production was slow 5. The Bolsheviks introduced money tax forcing peasants to sell grain to pay and the industrial goods price was capped. 6. Nepmen helped the economy but were seen as representatives of capitalism.
4	What was the political impact?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To many Bolsheviks the NEP was seen as a step backwards 2. To combat opposition, Lenin introduced a ban on factions in 1921 punishable by expulsion from the party. At the same time Menshevik and SR parties were banned. 3. The Cheka (renamed the GPU in 1922) were given more power to root out counter-revolutionaries and repress Nepmen. 4. Censorship was increased and the Church came under more pressure 5. The nomenklatura system was introduced in 1923 which ensured complete loyalty from the party members

1. The Situation of Russia's foreign relations

1	What was Russia's relationship like with Western powers?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Russia's former allies felt betrayed by the peace negotiations with Germany 2. Russia was not invited to the Paris Peace Conference nor involved with the formation of the League of Nations
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2. Foreign intervention in the Civil War

1	Why?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Countries like Britain, France and the USA wanted to help the whites win so Russia could be kept in WW1 2. The Allies had sent large amounts of ammunition to Russia for WW1 and they didn't want the Bolsheviks to control them 3. After the end of WW1, the foreign powers aimed to combat Bolshevism 4. But for all countries there was mixed opinion on how much to get involved
2	How?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Allies sent troops to help the Whites – although they were spread across Russia and the numbers were small 2. North – British forces attacked at Murmansk, British Navy blockaded trade to Russia through the Baltic Sea 3. East – 11,000 US troops landed at Vladivostok and Japanese troops invaded Eastern Siberia 4. South – Baku (oil region) was occupied by the British & British and French forces blockaded trade through the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea
3	Impact	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Some early impact, helping the Whites achieve initial advances 2. Foreign intervention did not significantly impact the outcome of the Civil War 3. Most foreign intervention was too small scale to impact the Bolshevik control 4. The most significant impact was that the foreign powers isolated Russia

3. The Russo-Polish War

1	How did fighting begin?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Bolsheviks attempted to export the revolution and in 1920 the Red Army invaded Poland. 2. The Bolsheviks expected the Polish working class to support the Red Army and revolt against the Polish Government.
2	Was it a success?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The invasion failed as the Poles resisted what they saw as traditional Russian expansionist aggression. 2. Conflict lasted from Feb 1919 to Oct 1921 3. The Treaty of Riga was signed in March 1921 4. This event represented a failure to spread communism

4. Spreading Communism

1	What was the Comintern?	1. The Comintern was an international organisation that aimed to promote Marxism and the spread of communism around the world.
2	What happened at it's meetings?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the first Comintern Congress in March 1919 there was initial positivity with delegates from all over the world. 2. As the congresses continued in 1920 and 1921 Lenin began to dominate the conversation with his ideas. This alienated some parties broke away
3	Was it successful?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By 1921, there was only limited support for world revolution as support for 'bourgeois democracies' increased – like the Weimar Republic in Germany. 2. After the Third Comintern Congress Lenin shifted focus to protecting Russia.

4. Relations with Germany

1	Why ally with Germany?	1. Both Russia and Germany had been isolated by the West since the end of WW1
2	Who signed the treaty of Rapallo?	1. In 1922, the Soviet Union's foreign minister Georgy Chicherin met with representatives from Weimar Germany after a conference in Genoa.
3	What did it agree?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Both nations promised to 'co-operate in a spirit of mutual goodwill in meeting the economic needs of both countries'. 2. The re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and Germany. 3. Russia provided Germany's military training grounds and resources. 4. Russia would be allowed special trading rights in Germany.

6. The Zinoviev letter

1	What was the USSR's relationship with Britain like?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The USSR had an improved relationship with Britain 2. Signed the Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement in March 1921, which facilitated greater trade
2	What was the Zinoviev letter incident?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The British Communist Party was formed with the support of the Comintern, 2. They sought to influence the British Labour Party. 3. On 25th October 1924, the Daily Mail published a letter allegedly written by Zinoviev, the then head of the Comintern. 4. The letter called for the British Communist Part to infiltrate the Labour Party
3	Impact of the letter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Zinoviev Letter reinforced the view that the British Labour Party was too closely linked to Soviet Russia. 2. Zinoviev claimed the letter had been forged, but the Conservatives won the election 4 days later. 3. The new Conservative government was much more hostile to Soviet relations.

7. Summary of Lenin's Rule by 1924

1	Social	1. Despite having promised peace, land and bread, he had led Russia into a brutal civil war and his policies had created a famine.
2	Political	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lenin had succeeded in his prime goal: the Communists had seized and retained power. 2. Soviet democracy had been usurped by the party.
3	Ideology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The NEP was unpopular within the Communist Party because it was a compromise with capitalism 2. Lenin hoped that, in the fullness of time, the party would lead Russia and the world to communism.