



মহাশিক্ষা বিভাগ (সি)
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

CLASS IX

HISTORY

UNIT I

CHAPTER 2 - THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

SOLUTIONS

TEXTUAL QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

A. LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. How did the Socialism emerge in Europe?

Ans: After the **Industrial Revolution**, there emerged a new system called **Capitalism** in which there were the employers, the factory owners and the workers. The condition of the workers was miserable. **Social Inequality** grew up between the workers and the capitalists. In the mid nineteenth century Europe, a new system called **Socialism** based on the ideas of many **Social Reformers and Philosophers** emerged demanding the creation of a new society by removing the capitalist system. These socialist thinkers were against the private property. The first **Socialist Thinker** was a French radical named **Francois Noel Babeuf**. He established an organisation called **Society of Equals** and tried to remove all Social Inequality. Other notable early **Socialist Thinkers** were **Saint Simon, Charles Fourier, Louis Blanc and Robert Owen**. They were known as **Utopian Socialists**. **Karl Marx and Frederic Engels** propounded **Scientific Socialism or Communism** in Europe. They wanted to establish a classless socialist society by overthrowing the capitalism through a revolution.

Q2. Describe the Social and economic conditions of Russia before 1905.

Ans:

(i) **Social Condition:**

Before **1905**, the **Russian Society** was classified into two classes. **The Upper Class** consisted of the **Nobility, the Landlords and Factory Owners** and **Lower Class** consisted of the **peasants and workers**. The era of feudalism ended in Russia with the **abolition of serfdom in 1861** but the **abolition of Feudalism** remained on paper. The upper class continued to receive power and authority from the Tsar and they still enjoyed special rights and privileges. But the lower class had no respect for the upper class people.

(ii) **Economic Condition:**

Russia was still a **Semi-Feudal country**. 85% of the Russian population was Agriculturists. There were 30,000 big landed estates and ten million poor peasants in the European Russia alone. The serfs were denied of the ownership of land. They were overburdened with semi feudal dues and rents.



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They had no lands for agriculture and the lands were owned by **the Nobility, the Crown and the Orthodox Church**. The conditions of the workers were also precarious. They were exploited as they had to **work for 15 hours a day**. Their wages were cut down by the factory owners.

Q3. Explain the causes and results of Russian Revolution of 1905.

Ans:

Causes of Russian Revolution of 1905:

The year 1904 was a bad year for the workers in Russia. There was **decline of real wages and the prices of the essential goods were rising**. There was a call of the workers for an industrial action when four members of the Assembly of Russian workers were dismissed at the **Putilov Iron Works**. Over 110,000 workers in **St. Petersburg** went for strike demanding an 8 hour working day, increase in wages and improvement in the working condition. On Sunday, 9th of January 1905 a procession of workers led by **Father Gapon** reached at the winter palace in St. Petersburg to submit a petition. The police fired on the procession and killed 100 workers and wounded about 300. This led to the Revolution of 1905.

Results of Russian Revolution of 1905:

The revolution of 1905 was of a great significance. **Lenin** described it as a “**Dress Rehearsal**” of the Revolution of 1917. It resulted to **the establishment of Duma and Russia Constitution of 1906**. But the revolution was suppressed in two years. Many liberals and revolutionaries including Lenin went into hiding in foreign countries.

Q4. What led the February Revolution of 1917?

Ans:

Tsar Nicholas II continued his arbitrary rule even after the Revolution of 1905. He did not care about the feeling of his people and instead he suppressed all Political and Revolutionary activities. All parties were declared illegal. As the results of the First World War, there was an acute food shortage and workers were feeling discontent, hunger and anger to give a blow to the empire. There was a discussion in the winter palace about **the dissolution of the Duma** by the Tsar. On 22nd February, 1917 a factory in **Petrograd** was locked out by the factory owner. The workers of 50 factories called a sympathy strike on the next day. The striking workers marched to the central square of the city and surrounded the Government Office. The Government imposed curfew and called up the cavalry to control the situation. But the Cavalry mutinied, refused to fire at the demonstrators and voted to join the workers. All these situations led to the outbreak of the February Revolution of 1917.

Q5. Describe the course of the October Revolution of 1917.

Ans:

After the February Revolution, 500 Soviet sent their representatives to all Russian Congress of Soviets. The Provisional Government took stern action against the workers. Then **Lenin** decided to capture power from the Provisional Govt. now led by **Prime Minister Kerensky**. A **Military Revolutionary Committee with Leon Trotsky** as its head was appointed to seize power through a revolution. The uprising began on 24th October, 1917. Kerensky left the city. By night, committee controlled **the city of Petrograd** and all the ministers surrendered. By December, 1917 the **Bolsheviks** captured Moscow – Petrograd areas. Lenin implemented the



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Bolsheviks programme. Industries and banks were nationalized in November 1917. Land was declared a social property. The peasants were allowed to seize the Lands of the Nobles. Lenin who had control of the Armed Forces dissolved the Constituent Assembly. Lenin who controlled the Bolshevik Party **Soviet Constitution** was adopted. All provinces and regions joined the **Socialist Republic**. On **December 30, 1922, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic was formed.**

Q6. Explain why did the Tsarist Rule collapse in Russia.

Ans: The Tsarist Russia was arbitrary and autocratic. There was no political freedom in the state. When Russia was influenced by the liberal ideas of democracy and Socialism, **Tsar Nicholas II** opposed any reforms. He did not care about the feeling of his people and instead he suppressed all political and revolutionary activities. He was greatly influenced by his wife **Tsarina Alexandria** and a holy man called **Rasputin**. Even without consulting Duma, Russia joined the First World War. Russia suffered defeat in the war and as a result, many problems came up in Russia. The war destroyed Crops, Industries and Railways Lines. Russia suffered 7 million casualties by 1917. It led to **food riots** in the cities. The war had destroyed the Russian Empire and situation led to the outbreak of **February Revolution of 1917** in Russia. Tsar Nicholas-II was compelled to abdicate his throne after the February Revolution in 1917 and in this way the Tsarist rule collapsed in Russia.

B. SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. What is Socialism?

Ans: **Socialism** is an economic and political ideology under which all means of production, distribution and exchange in the economy of a country are owned and controlled by the State. In the mid-nineteenth century Europe, the ideas of socialism was developed demanding the creation of a new society by replacing the capitalist system. The Socialist Thinkers were against the private property. They wanted to remove all the social inequality and establish a classless socialist society. **The Scientific Socialism or Communism** was propounded by **Karl Marx and Frederic Engels**.

Q2. What is Capitalism?

Ans: **Capitalism** is an economic system by which ownership of capital/wealth, the production and distribution of goods are controlled by the private individuals. There were the employers, the factory owners and the workers in the system. The rich individuals were the owners of the factories. The condition of the workers was miserable under this system and social inequality grew up between the workers and the capitalists. It was brought about by the Industrialization.

Q3. Who are Capitalists?

Ans: The economic system of capitalism was brought about by the industrialization. In this system, all the means of production and distribution are controlled by few rich individuals and these



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rich individuals are called Capitalists. These Capitalists have a huge amount of money to finance the factories and industries.

Q4. What type of society did the utopian Socialist envisage?

Ans: The early Socialist Thinkers like Saint Simon, Charles Fourier, Robert Owen and Louis Blanc were known as utopian Socialists. They wanted to replace the capitalist system with the creation of new society where there would be no private property and no exploitation of the workers. They wanted to bring changes in the working condition of the workers and their writings had encouraged the workers to launch many movements. They were called utopian socialist as their programme was vague and more idealistic rather than being practical.

Q5. Mention the important difference between the utopian socialism and scientific socialism.

Ans: The utopian Socialism was preached by the early socialist thinkers like Saint Simon, Charles Fourier, Robert Owen and Louis Blanc whereas the scientific socialism was propounded by Karl Marx and Frederic Engels. Utopian socialism was very definite and clearly thought out. The idea of utopian socialism could not bring any substantial change in the condition of the working class but the scientific socialism had brought many changes.

Q6. What are the contents of the communist Manifesto?

Ans: The first section of the **Communist Manifesto** deals with the history of **the society as a struggle of class**. The second section deals with the position of the communists within the **Proletariat Class, the Communist Revolution and the Nature of the Communist Society**. The third section deals with the other types of **socialism, reactionary, bourgeoisie and utopian**. The fourth section deals with their **revolutionary strategy**. It ends with the slogan **“Working men of all countries unite”**.

Q7. Mention the achievements of the first International.

Ans: The first International extolled the socialists of France in their radical activities. Workers in England and Germany began forming associations to fight for better living and working conditions. In Germany, the **Social Democratic Party** was established in 1875 under the leadership of **Ferdinand Lassalle**.

Q8. State the conditions of the peasantry during the latter part of the 19th century.

Ans: During the 19th century, Russia was an **Agrarian Country with 85%** of its population as agriculturists. The peasants had no sufficient land for agriculture. The Serfs were emancipated from **serfdom in 1861** but they were denied of the ownership of land. They were overburdened with **Semi-Feudal** dues and rents. They cultivated most of the lands in the countryside. But these lands were mostly owned by the Nobility, the Crown and the Church. Their conditions were precarious and they wanted the lands owned by the Nobles.



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Q9. Point out the difference between Bolsheviks and Mensheviks.

Ans: The **Bolsheviks** stood for the **destruction of the capitalist mode of production**, creation of dictatorship of the proletariat and socialist society whereas the **Mensheviks** stood for achieving a **bourgeoisie democratic revolution to overthrow the Tsarist autocracy** and establishment of a **Democratic Republic**. The **Bolsheviks** thought that in a **repressive society like Tsarist Russia** the party should be disciplined and should control the number and quality of its members whereas the **Mensheviks** thought that the party should be **open to all**.

Q10. What were the main programmes implemented by Lenin?

Ans: The main programmes implemented by Lenin were as follows:

- i) Industries and Banks were nationalized in November, 1917.
- ii) The government took over the management of all industrial enterprises and land was declared a Social Property.
- iii) The Peasants were allowed to seize the lands of the Nobles and buildings in the city were appropriated to the workers. The use of old titles of aristocracy was banned.

C. VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. Who formed the society of Equals?

Ans: Francois Noel Babeuf formed the Society of Equal.

Q2. What was the Babeuf's conspiracy?

Ans: Francois Noel Babeuf made an attempt to overthrow the government to establish an equal Society but it was a failure. His attempt was called the Babeuf's conspiracy.

Q3. On whose initiative did the communist League formed?

Ans: The communist League was formed on the initiative of Marx and Engels.

Q4. When was the International working Men's Association established?

Ans: The International working Men's Association was established in 1864 in London.

Q5. Name the last Russian Emperor of the Romanov dynasty.

Ans: Tsar Nicholas II was the last Russian Emperor of the Romanov dynasty.

Q6. Who abolished the serfdom in Russia?

Ans: Tsar Alexandra II abolished the serfdom in 1861 in Russia.



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Q7. Who was Tsarina Alexandra?

Ans: Tsarina Alexandra was the wife of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia.

Q8. Who founded the Russian Social Democratic Party?

Ans: Vladimir Lenin founded the Russian Social Democratic Party in 1898.

Q9. Who were the Bolsheviks?

Ans: The followers of Lenin were known as Bolsheviks.

Q10. What was the Duma?

Ans: The Duma was the Russian Parliament created by Tsar Nicholas II in Russia after the revolution of 1905.

Q11. Who issued the “April Thesis”?

Ans: Vladimir Lenin issued the “April Thesis”

Q12. Who was Leon Trotsky?

Ans: Leon Trotsky was head of the Military Revolutionary committee that was established by the Bolsheviks Party to seize the power from the Prime Minister Kerensky.

EXTRA QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q1. Why were the utopian Socialist called so ?

Ans: The early socialist like Saint Simon, Charles Fourier, Robert Owen and Louis Blanc wanted to create a new Classless Society. But these Socialist Thinkers could not bring any substantial change in the condition of the working class. This programme was vague and more idealistic rather than practical. Thus, they were known as Utopian Socialists.

Q2. Write the name of two prominent industrial and financial areas of Russia before the First World War.

Ans: St. Petersburg and Moscow.

Q3. What were the views of Karl Marx about Capitalism?

Ans: Karl Marx was always against the capitalism. According to him, the profits of capitalists were produced by workers and in return, the conditions of workers remain miserable. The condition could not be improved as long as the profits were expropriated by the capitalists. Thus, he wanted to establish a classless communist society.



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Q4. Write a short note on Bloody Sunday.

Ans: Over 1,10,100 workers under the leadership of father Gapon arrived at the winter palace in St. Petersburg to submit a petition. The Police and Cossacks fired at the procession. 100 workers were killed and about 300 were wounded. This incident happened on Sunday, 9th January, 1905 and that is why it was popularly known as **Bloody Sunday**.

Q5. What did Lenin promise in the “April Thesis”?

Ans: In the “April Thesis”, Lenin promised to end the war, transfer land to the peasants and nationalize the banks.

Q6. Why were the Socialist thinkers against the private property?

Ans: The Socialist Thinker, were against the private property because they regarded it as the root of all social evils.

Q7. When was the Communist Manifesto published?

Ans: The Communist Manifesto published was in February, 1848.

Q8. Why did Tsar Nicholas II dissolve the first and second Duma?

Ans: Tsar Nicholas II dissolved the first and second Duma as he did not want any questions regarding his authority in Duma.

Q9. Name the leader who led the Procession of workers to Winter Palace in 1905.

Ans: Father Gapon.

Q10. In which year did the USSR break up?

Ans: The USSR broke up in 1991.

Q11. What was the impact of Russian Revolution in the world history?

Ans: Russian Revolution has a very significant impact in the World history. The socialist ideas of the revolution spread widely and they also influenced the social, economic and political movements of different countries.

Q12. Who were the Liberals?

Ans: Liberals were a group of those people who wanted a nation which tolerated all religion.

Q13. Name the newspaper founded by Lenin?

Ans: The **Iskra** (the spark).



Q14. Which group supported women's suffragette movement?

Ans: The Radicals supported the women's suffragette movement.

Q15. Who were the Bourgeoisie?

Ans: Bourgeoisie were the rich middle class who controlled the political economy of the country.

Q16. Which factor led to the rise of capitalism?

Ans: Industrialization.

