

Russian Revolution DBQ Test

Directions

Examine the primary source cartoon and primary source quotes below and answer the questions in a separate document.

Document 1:



From a Russian newspaper 1917

Document 2:

"I am not yet ready to be Tsar. I know nothing of the business of ruling."
-Nicholas II

Document 3:

"His character is the source of all our misfortunes. His outstanding weakness is a lack of willpower." Sergei Witte

Document 4:

Kerensky, the leader of the government that took over from the Czar in 1917 said in his memoirs, *Crucifixion of Liberty* in 1934;

"The daily work of a monarch he found intolerably boring. He could not stand listening long or seriously to ministers' reports, or reading them."

Document 5:

Telegram despatched by the Serbian Crown Prince, Alexander, to Russian Czar Tsar Nicholas II in the midst of the so-called July Crisis of 1914.

"Yesterday the Austro-Hungarian Government presented to the Serbian Government a note about the murders at Serajevo. Ever since this horrible crime was committed Serbia has condemned it. We are willing to investigate the plot and we will severely punish any Serbians who are found to be involved. But, the demands from Austria-Hungary are unnecessarily humiliating for Serbia. However, they say we must agree to all of them in forty-eight hours or Austria-Hungary is threatening us with war. We are prepared to accept some of the conditions but we need more time and the Austro-Hungarian army is already preparing for war. We are unable to defend ourselves and we beg your Majesty to help us. The friendship which your Majesty has always shown toward Serbia gives us confidence that our appeal to your noble heart will be answered."

-CROWN PRINCE ALEXANDER Belgrade, July 24 1914

Document 6:

On 12 March 1917 Rodzianko, the President of the Duma, telegraphed the Tsar:
"The situation is getting worse. Something has to be done immediately. Tomorrow is too late. The last hour has struck. The future of the country and the royal family is being decided."

The Tsar read it and said:

"Again, that fat-bellied Rodzianko has written me a load of nonsense, which I won't even bother to answer."

Document 1 Guiding Questions:

1. This cartoon was published in 1917. How is this date significant to what was happening in Russia and WWI?
2. What is the opinion of the Russian people toward Czar Nicholas? Use evidence from the political cartoon.
3. What is the Czar doing? What do you see in the background? How can cartoons like this change public opinion?
4. What two examples of symbolism in this cartoon?

Document 2 Guiding Questions:

1. Provide 2 examples from Czar Nicholas' reign that prove he really was not ready/equipped to rule?

Document 3-4 Guiding Questions:

1. Provide one example of historical fact from Czar Nicholas' reign that proves these quotes true.

Document 5 Guiding Questions:

1. Why did Czar Nicholas agree to help Serbia?
2. Why was this a poor decision?
3. What happened in July 1914 that encouraged Austria-Hungary to set a 48 hour deadline?

Document 6 Guiding Questions:

1. What is getting worse?
2. How did the Czar's response help lead to the revolution?

Putting it all Together:

1. In 2-3 written paragraphs answer this question:
Based upon these sources, what is the cause of the Russian Revolution? Support with 4 pieces of evidence and cite them.