Unit 4. Russian Revolution

1. Causes of the Russian Revolution

1. Choose the correct ending for each sentence.

a) The Russian Empire in the early XX century…

- was a constitutional monarchy with a census suffrage.
- was an absolute monarchy with a census suffrage.
- was an absolute monarchy, and the Orthodox Church was a great ideological pillar of the regime.
- was an absolute monarchy, and the Catholic Church was a great ideological pillar of the regime.

b) The Russian economy…(choose more than one option)

- was a feudal economy, controlled by the aristocracy, most of the population were peasants and lived in very bad conditions.
- was a capitalist economy, with high levels of industrialisation in the countryside, which forced urban exodus and people lived in very bad conditions.
- had low levels of industrialisation in some cities, and the industrial proletariat worked in very poor conditions.

c) People organised in different political parties. (Choose the correct options)

- Bolsheviks and Mensheviks split from the Constitutional Democratic Party (liberal bourgeoisie)
- The communist party (1898), RSDLP, split into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks and favoured a revolutionary path, while the Socialist Revolutionary Party (SRs) was influential among peasants.
- The Constitutional Democratic Party represented the ideals of the liberal bourgeoisie.
- Bolsheviks (majority) were led by Lenin, whereas Mensheviks (minority) were led by Martov.

d) The 1905 revolution… (Choose the correct options)

- Was a violent demonstration demanding the end of absolutism, which the tsar ended with brutal repression (Bloody Sunday)
- Was a peaceful demonstration demanding the end of absolutism, which the tsar ended with brutal repression (Bloody Sunday)
- caused that workers, peasants and soldiers organised themselves into Soviets (councils)
- could not achieve its demands: the tsar early dissolved the parliament (Duma), the universal suffrage and the agrarian reform that had been promised.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

e) What were the problems caused by the WW1 to the Russian population? (choose the correct options)

- The lack of industrialisation caused that the transport system was inefficient and its arm industry could not cope with demand.
- The industrialisation favoured the transport system, and made it quicker to transport people and goods to the battle front. This caused a higher number of deaths.
- The economy of war caused famine, especially in cities, and social unrest.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Phases of the Russian Revolution

2. Put in order the following events.

A Republic was proclaimed and the provisional government called for constituent elections.	A revolution quickly spread to Moscow and industrial Regions.
The Bolsheviks, supported by the Soviets, prepared an insurrection on 25 October 1917, that overthrew the provisional government.	The tsar abdicates after a large demonstration on 23 February 2017 in Petrograd and a general strike and riots in barracks.
In 1918 a civil war began between the Red Army (Soviets led by Trotsky and the Bolsheviks) and the White Army (privileged groups with the help of the Allies)	The first elections were won by the bourgeois parties (Kadet and Esers), but could not improve people's living conditions and remained committed to their allies in the war.
The civil War ended with a high number of causalities, and the Red Army won the war. The Soviet regime had been hardened.	The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk (1918) with Germany was signed and Russia accepted territorial losses in exchange for peace.
The new government decreed first revolutionary measures: land expropriation and worker's committees were given control of factories.	The USSR was a federal state united by a single party (CPSU) that became a totalitarian system that lasted until 1991.
The provisional government convened the elections for the Constituent Assembly, but the Bolsheviks got only a quarter of the seats.	Lenin dissolved the Assembly and put an end to political pluralism in the Soviet Russia.

Drop the events in chronological order

1.	7.
2.	8.
3.	9.
4.	10.
5.	11.
6.	12.

LIVEWORKSHEETS