



A-level HISTORY

Component 1E Russia in the Age of Absolutism and Enlightenment,
1682–1796

Friday 23 May 2025 Morning Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/1E.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Extract A

Extract A not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

The extract is adapted from pages 340 – 341 and 354 of Catherine II: The Republican Empress by David M. Griffiths, printed in Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas, Neue Folge, Bd. 21, H. 3 in 1973.

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/41047623>

Adapted from DM Griffiths, Catherine II: The Republican Empress, 1973

Extract B

Extract B not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

The extract is adapted from pages 189 – 190 and 354 of Catherine the Great by Henri Troyat, printed by Phoenix in 2000, ISBN 1842120298.

Adapted from H Troyat, Catherine the Great, 2000

Extract C

Extract C not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions.

The extract is adapted from pages 322 – 329 of Catherine, Montesquieu, and Empire by Max J Okenfuss, printed by Jahrbücher Für Geschichte Osteuropas, vol. 56, no. 3 in 2008. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41052100>

Adapted from MJ Okenfuss, Catherine, Montesquieu, and Empire, 2008

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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to Catherine the Great and the Enlightenment.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 How important were Peter the Great's military reforms to his foreign policy success?
[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent did Russian society change during Peter the Great's reign?
[25 marks]

0 4 'Catherine's greatest foreign policy success was the partition of Poland.'
Assess the validity of this view.
[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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