

Option D: Russia and the Soviet Union 1917–1945**Attempt BOTH Question 10 and Question 11****Question 10** (20 marks)

- (a) Assess the impact of War Communism and the New Economic Policy (NEP) on both the peasantry and proletariat in Russian society between 1918 and 1928. **20**

OR

- (b) Explain how the economic policies of the Communist Party after 1928 contributed to Soviet victory in the Great Patriotic War. **20**

Question 11 (20 marks)(a) **Alexandra Kollontai**

- (i) Describe the significant events in the career of Alexandra Kollontai between 1917 and 1945. **10**
- (ii) ‘Despite her early achievements in the liberation of women, Kollontai was unable to withstand the reversals in the status of women under Stalin.’ **10**

In the light of this statement, assess the role of Alexandra Kollontai in achieving social reforms for women.

OR(b) **Leon Trotsky**

- (i) Describe the significant events in the life of Leon Trotsky between 1917 and 1940. **10**
- (ii) ‘In December 1922 Lenin said of Trotsky that he was the most capable man in the Central Committee, although showing excessive self-confidence.’ **10**

In the light of this statement, assess the reasons for Trotsky’s defeat in the power struggle with Stalin.