Name Class Period Date

1. Give examples of how Nicolas II was unprepared to rule.
2. Why was Alexei’s ailment a threat to Russian stability?
3. What were the Russians petitioning when they marched to the Winter Palace? How many died on Bloody Sunday?
4. What did the October Manifesto do? How did Nicolas feel about the outcome of the Manifesto?
5. How did Rasputin “join” the royal family? What were his “2 faces?”
6. How large was Russia’s army during WWI? How many did they lose?
7. How did Nicolas act around the soldiers?
8. What was the slogan of the Russian people?
9. What did the Duma demand that Nicolas do?
10. Why was the royal family executed?

**Summary of the Russia Revolution:**

**The February Revolution**

The Russian Revolution of 1917 centers around two primary events: the February Revolution and the October Revolution. The February Revolution, which removed Tsar Nicholas II from power, developed spontaneously out of a series of increasingly violent demonstrations and riots on the streets of Petrograd (present-day St. Petersburg), during a time when the tsar was away from the capital visiting troops on the World War I front. Though the February Revolution was a popular uprising, it did not necessarily express the wishes of the majority of the Russian population, as the event was primarily limited to the city of Petrograd. However, most of those who took power after the February Revolution, in the provisional government (the temporary government that replaced the tsar) and in the Petrograd Soviet (an influential local council representing workers and soldiers in Petrograd), generally favored rule that was at least partially democratic.

**The October Revolution**

The October Revolution (also called the Bolshevik Revolution) overturned the interim provisional government and established the Soviet Union. The October Revolution was a much more deliberate event, orchestrated by a small group of people. The Bolsheviks, who led this coup, prepared their coup in only six months. They were generally viewed as an extremist group and had very little popular support when they began serious efforts in April 1917. By October, the Bolsheviks’ popular base was much larger; though still a minority within the country as a whole, they had built up a majority of support within Petrograd and other urban centers. After October, the Bolsheviks realized that they could not maintain power in an election-based system without sharing power with other parties and compromising their principles. As a result, they formally abandoned the democratic process in January 1918 and declared themselves the representatives of a dictatorship of the proletariat. In response, the Russian Civil War broke out in the summer of that year and would last well into 1920.

**Timeline of the Russian Revolution**

**1894**

**October 20 -** Czar Alexander III dies and his son, Nicholas II, becomes the ruler of Russia

**November 14 -** Czar Nicholas II marries Alexandra Fedorovna

**1895**

**December 8** - Lenin is arrested, kept in solitary confinement for 13 months, and then exiled to Siberia for three years

**1903**

**July 17 - August 10** - The Russian Social-Democratic Labor Party (RSDLP) meeting in which the Party splits into two factions: Mensheviks ("minority") and Bolsheviks ("majority")

**1905**

**January 9 -** Bloody Sunday in St. Petersburg begins the 1905 Russian Revolution

**October 17 -** The October Manifesto, issued by Czar Nicholas II, brings an end to the 1905 Russian Revolution by promising civil liberties and an elected parliament (Duma)

**1906**

**April 23** - A constitution is created, reflecting the promises made in the October Manifesto

**1914**

**July 15** - World War I begins

**1917**

**February 23-27** - The February Revolution begins with strikes, demonstrations, and mutinies in Petrograd (also called the March Revolution if following the Gregorian calendar)

**March 2** - Czar Nicholas II abdicates and includes his son. The following day, Nicholas' brother, Mikhail announced his refusal to accept the throne. Provisional Government formed

**April 3** - Lenin returns from exile and arrives in Petrograd via a sealed train

**July 3-7** - The July Days begin in Petrograd with spontaneous protests against the Provisional Government; after the Bolsheviks unsuccessfully try to direct these protests into a coup, Lenin is forced into hiding

**July 11** - Alexander Kerensky becomes Prime Minister of the Provisional Government

**August 22-27** - The Kornilov Affair, a failed coup by General Lavr Kornilov, commander of the Russian Army

**October 25** - The October Revolution - the Bolsheviks take over Petrograd (also called the November Revolution if following the Gregorian calendar)

**October 26** - The Winter Palace, the last holdout of the Provisional Government, is taken by the Bolsheviks; the Council of People's Commissars (abbreviated as Sovnarkom), led by Lenin, is now in control of Russia

**1918**

**March 3** - The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, between Germany and Russia, is signed and takes Russia out of World War I

**March 8** - The Bolshevik Party changes its name to the Communist Party

**March 11** - The capital of Russia is changed from St. Petersburg to Moscow

**June** - Russian civil war begins

**July 17** - Czar Nicholas II and his family are executed

**August 30** - An assassination attempt leaves Lenin seriously wounded

**1920**

**November** - Russian civil war ends

**1922**

**April 3** - Stalin is appointed General Secretary

**May 26** - Lenin suffers first stroke

**December 15** - Lenin suffers second stroke and retires from politics

**December 30** - The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) established

**1924**

**January 21** - Lenin dies; Stalin will become his successor