

LENIN & THE USSR

Agenda:

1. Unit 1 Vocab Quiz
2. Lenin Reading
3. Intro to Lenin Notes
4. NEP Reading
5. Lenin Documentary

Russian Revolution Quiz through Lenin's Death:

- February 25 (ODD PERIODS)
- February 26 (EVEN PERIODS)



LENIN READING

- Read the article on Lenin's rise to power and the creation of the USSR.
- Answer the questions on the worksheet



LENIN TAKES POWER

- Provisional Gov't was weak & kept Russia in WWI
 - Workers go on strike & soldiers refuse to fight
- People want: "Peace, Land, Bread"
 - Peace=out of WWI
 - Land=Peasants want land
 - Bread=End to starvation

HOW CAN LENIN FULFILL HIS PROMISE?

- Think of his slogan...what can he do to keep his promise?

OCTOBER REVOLUTION

- 1917-Lenin gets Russia out of WWI through the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- Civil War: 1917-1920
 - “Reds” (communists) versus “Whites” (loyal to Czar)
 - Murders Czar & family
- Lenin wins (rules 1917-1924)
- Creates the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
- Censorship & secret police



GOVERNMENT

- 1922- Communists produce a constitution (democratic and socialist)
 - Elected legislature
 - Gave all citizens over 18 the vote
 - Political power, resources, & means of production now belonged to workers and peasants
- Reality was different from theory
 - Communist party were supreme (NOT the people)
 - Party used army & secret police

SYMBOL OF SOVIET UNION



- Hammer and Sickle
- Symbolized union between peasants and workers

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RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR

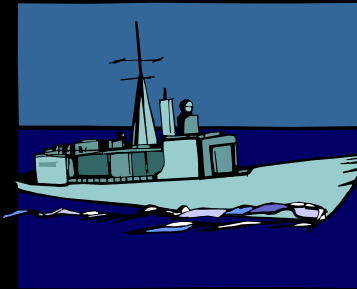
- War Communism: Communists nationalized banks, mines, & factories
 - Peasants forced to give food to red army
- Results: Communists win but complete breakdown of Russian economy and society
 - Millions are starving & industrial production is low
 - 5 million dead of starvation
 - Lenin must now deal with these issues.....

Consequences of War Communism.



1-Cities in chaos:
*orphaned children
*Social unrest

2-Sailors protested
about their living
conditions



3-Agricultural
Collapse –
5 million die of
starvation

4-Currency
collapse:
Payment in
food and
fuel





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The famine affected both the countryside and the cities. There were reports of cannibalism in some districts.

"Sometimes mothers and fathers feed their children human meat as a last resort. Sometimes a starving family eats the body of one of its junior members.

Sometimes parents at night seize part of a body from a cemetery and feed it to their children".

What does this tell you about the conditions in Russia at this time?



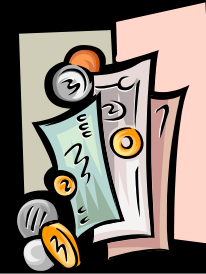
New Economic Policy (NEP):

- Lenin's plan for dealing with the effects of war communism

Lenin's answer –
The New Economic
Policy

#1-Peasants:

- Peasants now had to supply amount of what they grew to the government
- Any extra they were allowed to keep or even sell for profit!



#4 -New Rouble was introduced to end inflation.

Electricity added & expanded to rural areas

#2- Small factories (those employing less than 20 workers) were privatized. (capitalist

#3- However, all important industries, such as coal and steel remained nationalized (com)

NEP READING

- Read the selection on Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP)
- Answer the corresponding questions on the worksheet

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LENIN BIOGRAPHY

- As we watch the documentary on Lenin, answer the questions on the corresponding worksheet.

NEXT UP...STALIN

- Lenin said about Stalin:
“Comrade Stalin...has concentrated enormous power in his hands, and I am not sure that he always knows how to use that power with sufficient caution.”
- What do you think Stalin might do?

