**History Bridging Unit**

**Russia**

Personalised Learning Checklist. Ensure you complete this as you go along!

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| **Topic** | **Notes completed** | **Confidence and competence**  **1-3 (1 is very confident)** |
| Long term problems in Russia |  |  |
| Optional stretch activity:  Independent reading about Russia 1905-1917 |  |  |

**Reading and information gathering:**

* Corin 2-23
* Watch Lucy Worsley’s Empire of the Tsars: Episode 3

**Task 1:** Reading and annotating reading texts

* Read the text that you have been given.
* Underline the key points and annotate them with your thoughts about what this tells you about Russia

**Task 2:** What were the long term problems in Russia before 1914?

Pg. Corin 4-8

Complete the worksheet where you explain how each of the different sub-headings created problems in Tsarist Russia. Ensure that you use 2-3 bits of SPED evidence and explain in depth.

**Optional stretch:** Independent reading about Russia 1905-1917

* <http://spartacus-educational.com/RussiaIssues.htm>
* http://spartacus-educational.com/RussiaEvents.htm

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| **GEOGRAPHY AND PEOPLES** | **SOCIETY AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE** | **TSAR** |
| 1. Vast empire: 8 million square miles – 5000x2000 miles   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Population growth to 165 million people   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Variety of races, languages, religion and culture. 55.6% were Russian, 22.4 % Ukranian, 7.9% Polish etc.   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Major cities and capital based in European Russia only. Only ¾ Russians lived in European Russia (West of the Ural Mountains)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Predominantly rural country. 11:1 village to town dweller ratio (compared to 2:1 in Britain)   Explain why this was a problem: | 1. Mainly peasant population 85% (‘dark masses’) (use pg.7 of Lynch for peasant problem)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Small (although growing) Working class 4%   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Limited Middle class and Intelligentsia 1.5%   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Tiny, dominant Upper class 12%   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Ruling class 0.5%   Explain why this was a problem: | 1. Autocracy – absolute rule   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Assassination of Alexander II   (Why did this cause issues? What does this tell us about attitudes towards the Tsars and autocracy?)  Explain why this was a problem:   1. Personality of Alexander III   (What were his weaknesses as a ruler?)  Explain why this was a problem: |

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| **THE POLITICAL SYSTEM** | **THE ECONOMY** | **INSTITUTIONS IN RUSSIA**  **(Church, army, bureaucracy)** |
| 1. State censorship of expression and press   Explain why this was a problem:   1. An embittered intelligentsia   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Growth of extremism and underground revolutionary groups e.g. The People’s Will   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Repression and the Okhrana   Explain why this was a problem:   1. No Duma (Representative Parliament)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Prohibition of political parties   Explain why this was a problem: | 1. Predominantly ‘agrarian’ (agricultural) economy and backward agricultural methods   Explain why this was a problem:   1. 85% rural peasant population and the Emancipation of the Serfs 1861   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Limited industrial growth (heavy industry such as coal, iron etc)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Ineffective banking structure   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Inadequate infrastructure (transport and communication)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Taxation (pg. 4 Waller). Peasants, workers and tradesmen provided 90% imperial revenue from taxation.   Explain why this was a problem. | 1. Autocratic government   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Corrupt bureaucracy (civil service)   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Conservative Orthodox Church. In charge of education and Tsar’s education.   Explain why this was a problem:   1. Oppressive army   Explain why this was a problem: |