

Task Name: Half-Yearly Exam	Unit: Power and Authority in the Modern World & Russia and the Soviet Union
Task Distributed: 11/03/26	Task Due: Wednesday 25 th March 2026
Task Type: Written Exam	Syllabus Outcomes: MH12-1, MH12-4, MH12-5, MH12-6, MH12-10
Task Weighting: 20% of HSC assessment and 100% of School Report	Task number for Course: 2

Task Description:

The Half Yearly Exam consists of TWO sections.
Students will have 5 minutes reading time and 2 hours to answer all questions.

Section I: Power and Authority in the Modern World 1919-1946

- Short answer questions
- Short answer source-based questions
- Total marks: 40
- Allow 75 minutes for this section

Section II: Russia and the Soviet Union 1917-1941

- Choice of TWO essay style questions
- Students choose ONE essay question to complete
- Total marks: 25
- Allow 45 minutes for this section

Total exam mark: 65

NESA Glossary of Key Words

- **Analyse:** Identify components and the relationship between them. Draw out and relate implications.
- **Assess:** make a judgement of value, quality, outcomes, results or size.
- **Describe:** provide characteristics and features
- **Explain:** relate cause and effect; make the relationships between things evident; provide why and/or how
- **Evaluate:** identify components and the relationship between them; draw out and relate implications

Understand the verb associated with the task. The verb will provide an understanding of the detail needed to successfully answer the question.

Details of Submission:

- The task will be completed in exam conditions during the exam block on 25th March 2026
- Students will have 2 hours to complete the task and 5 minutes reading time.
- Student must write using black or blue pen.
- Writing paper will be provided. Extra writing booklets are available.
- Students are NOT permitted to bring notes into the exam.

Absences on the day will be dealt with in accordance with school policies.

Assessment Procedures

All students should be fully aware of the school assessment procedures. Students should access their 2026 Assessment Guide for more information.

Feedback provided

- The task will be typically returned to students within two school weeks of the submission date.
- At this time feedback including information on how to improve will be delivered through mechanisms such as marking criteria, and/or written comments.
- Students can clarify or seek further feedback by arranging to meet with their teacher.

Self-Reflection Component

Students will be required to complete a self-reflection worksheet at the time students receive their assessment mark and teacher feedback. Self-reflection is an important part of the learning process as it provides an opportunity to reflect on the strength of your performance, as well as areas that have been identified to strengthen in future tasks.

What Areas of Learning will this Assessment Task Report On?

In this task you will be assessed on your ability to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the Core Study (Power and Authority) and the National Study (Russia and the Soviet Union 1917–1941)
- Apply knowledge of the course content and historical terminology
- Demonstrate ability to integrate and analyse sources

Marking Criteria:

Marking criteria for Section I will be provided after the exam and will be modelled on the marking criteria for Section I of the HSC.

Marking Criteria for Section II is displayed below:

Criteria	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a clear judgement with a sophisticated and sustained argument which demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the issue(s) raised in the question• Supports the argument with extensive and accurate historical knowledge including relevant evidence and interpretation• Presents a well-structured, logical and cohesive response using appropriate historical terms and concepts	21–25
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a judgement with a coherent argument which demonstrates a sound understanding of the issue(s) raised in the question• Supports the response with detailed and accurate historical knowledge including relevant evidence and interpretation• Presents a well-structured response using appropriate historical terms and concepts	16–20
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a relevant but largely narrative or descriptive response which may contain an implied judgement or understanding of the issue(s) raised in the question• Uses sound historical knowledge including some relevant evidence• Presents a structured response using some appropriate historical terms and concepts	11–15
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presents a generalised, mostly relevant or descriptive response• Uses some historical knowledge• Communicates using some historical terms and/or concepts	6–10
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Makes general statement(s) in relation to the question• May use some historical terms and/or concepts	1–5