

Place your name on the back of this sheet of paper and nowhere else. Staple your answers face up on the front of this sheet of paper. Failure to follow these directions will cost you 10 points. Your assignment will be typed, except graphs can be drawn by hand and mathematical equations can be done by hand. Failure to type it will cost you 10 points. If you use double-sided printing or print on the back of scrap paper, I will give you one additional point.

- 1) (20 points) What was Lenin's NEP? Do you think it was a good policy? Explain your logic.
- 2) (10 points) If you go to this link, you will see many graphs and charts. In my opinion, most of them would imply that people should not be nostalgic for the USSR. However, there is one graph which would explain the nostalgia for many of the countries and one which would explain it for a few countries. Which data set do you feel explains the nostalgia in the last chart. Explain your logic. (Of interest, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania (the Baltic countries) and Turkmenistan are not listed in the last chart. I believe the three Baltic countries would not be nostalgic for the USSR.) <https://www.russiamatters.org/blog/back-ussr-are-residents-former-republics-better-30-years-late>
- 3) (10 points) In the link from Question #2, GDP per capita kept going down for a few years after the USSR fell apart. Why do you think this occurs?
- 4) (20 points) There are many potential causes for the collapse of the USSR. They include: the arms race with the USA under Reagan, the war in Afghanistan, *glasnost*, *perestroika*, and the inefficiency of communism. Which do you think was the biggest cause? Explain why you feel that had such a strong effect.
- 5) (10 points) What do you feel is the strongest part of the current Russian economy? Explain why you chose that.
- 6) (10 points) What about the USSR's economy do you feel Marx would have disliked the most? Explain your logic.
- 7) (20 points) I feel the Soviet Union should have transitioned from communism to capitalism slowly. Give two reasons for that. Explain why that means they should have taken their time.

Below are my links for my presentation on Russia.

<https://www.bofbulletin.fi/en/blogs/2026/rough-times-for-the-russian-economy/>

https://russiapost.info/economy/financial_crisis

<https://www.bricscompetition.org/news/russias-antitrust-authority-to-review-markups-on-26-food-categories>

<https://www.pgplaw.com/analytics-and-brochures/articles-comments-interviews/russia-an-introduction-to-competition-antitrust/>

<https://www.cisatrust.com/country-profiles/russias-tax-system/>

<https://www.heritage.org/index/pages/country-pages/russia>

<https://freedomhouse.org/country/russia>

<https://www.transparency.org/en/countries/russia>

<https://tradingeconomics.com/russia/indicators>

<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?end=2023&locations=RU&start=1993&view=chart>