

Exercise walk-through

The Fall of Communism ■ 9.7

eXercise

You must be able to

- state the purpose of the Soviet reforms and their outcome
- name the four changes to the map after 1991
- explain why the same forces produced different outcomes
- connect the pattern to 6.6's Russian reform

Method — Purpose and outcome

Following a long period of economic stagnation, Gorbachev's internal reforms of perestroika and glasnost, **designed to make the Soviet system more flexible**, failed to stave off the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of its hegemonic control over Eastern and Central European satellites.

Method — Four changes

The collapse of the USSR in 1991 ended the Cold War and led to capitalist economies throughout Eastern Europe. **Germany was reunited, the Czechs and the Slovaks parted, Yugoslavia dissolved, and the European Union was enlarged** through the admission of former Eastern bloc countries.

Method — Same forces, different outcomes

9.4 said new nationalisms brought peaceful revolution in most countries but instability in some former Soviet republics. Reunification, separation and dissolution are three answers to one question — who does this state belong to?

Method — The 6.6 parallel

Reform intended to preserve produced what it was meant to prevent, exactly as autocratic reform had before 1905. The CED does not draw the parallel, but noticing it is legitimate analysis.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State the purpose of the reforms and their outcome.

Solution 2.1

Method: Purpose and outcome

Worked steps

designed to make the Soviet system more flexible **B1**; they failed to stave off collapse and the end of hegemonic control **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Name the four changes to the map.

Solution 2.2

Method: Four changes

Worked steps

German reunification; the Czech-Slovak separation; Yugoslavia's dissolution; EU enlargement with former Eastern bloc countries **B2**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 1 mark

Reunification, separation and dissolution occur in the same years.

- (a) State the single question all three answer.
- (b) State what explains the different answers.

Solution 2.3

Method: Same forces, different outcomes

Worked steps

(a) who does this state belong to **B1**. (b) the arrangements inside each state, not the forces acting on all of them **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

The USSR collapsed in

A 1985

B 1991

C 1989

D 1995

Solution 3.1

A 1985

B 1991



C 1989

D 1995

Worked steps

B. 1991 is the CED's date.

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

The reforms were designed to make the system

- A** collapse
- B** more flexible
- C** more centralised
- D** capitalist

Solution 3.2

Method: Purpose and outcome

- A collapse
- B more flexible
- C more centralised
- D capitalist



Worked steps

- B. flexibility was the stated purpose.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A reform meant to preserve a system contributes to its collapse.

- (a) Name the earlier parallel in this course.
- (b) Explain the mechanism common to both.

Solution 3.3

Method: The 6.6 parallel

Worked steps

(a) autocratic reform in Russia giving rise to revolutionary movements and 1905 **B1**. (b) reform concedes that the arrangement was wrong **B1**, which licenses further demands the reformers did not intend **B1**.