**Russia 1856-1964: Summer Podcast Task**

[**http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/year13history.htm**](http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/year13history.htm)

**Background**

We are very fortunate to have access to some lectures given by historians to teachers thanks to our links to the Princes Teaching Institute. As part of your NEA you are expected to discuss Historians views with confidence and to consider the influences on their writing. This task will introduce to some Historians and help you to get to grips with their views. NB. It will be a challenge as although they will be talking about Alexander II they will also be talking about later Tsars such as Alexander III and Nicolas II as well as events you have yet to study!

**Task**

Listen to one of the two Podcasts from our website linked below…

**Professor Christopher Read**

Lecture <http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/ProfessorPeterWaldron-ReformreactionandrevolutioninRussia1855-1917.mp3>

Supporting notes <http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/documents/ProfessorChrisRead-WhatisspecialabouttheRussianIntelligentsia.pdf>

Questions

1. What is the Intelligentsia? Why does professor read think they are unique to Russia?
2. What is his view of their role in bringing about the downfall of Tsarsism?
3. What else about his lecture did you find interesting? Did it inspire you to find out about anything else?

**Professor Peter Waldron**

Lecture <http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/ProfessorChristopherRead-WhatwasspecialabouttheRussianIntelligentsiabefore1914.mp3>

Supporting notes <http://www.hinchingbrookeschool.co.uk/history/documents/ProfessorPeterWaldron-ReformandRevolutioninRussia.pdf>

1. What events contribute to the eventual downfall of tsarism?
2. What is his view of their role in bringing about the downfall of tsarism? What is his overall argument about why tsarism fell?
3. What else about his lecture did you find interesting? Did it inspire you to find out about anything else?

**Extension**

**Why not read or find out more about Professor Waldron’s seminal work – The End of imperial Russia?** [**https://he.palgrave.com/page/detail/The-End-of-Imperial-Russia-1855%EF%BF%BD1917/?K=9780333601686**](https://he.palgrave.com/page/detail/The-End-of-Imperial-Russia-1855%EF%BF%BD1917/?K=9780333601686)