**Materials for the website Chapter 2**

**Practice Questions.** Check your knowledge on some important individuals, dates, institutions and events.

When did Russia accept Christianity?

Who were the boyars?

Who were the Decembrists and what was their political program?

What were the reforms of Peter the Great?

In what ways was the government reformed under Peter the Great?

What was serfdom in Russia?

When and why did Russia abolish serfdom?

What were the functions of the *Zemstvos*?

What were Russia’s “three revolutions”?

Explain the terms, *the Reds* and *the Whites* in regards to Russia.

When was the Soviet Union established?

Explain democratic centralism.

What was collectivization and how was it conducted?

What role did the Soviet Union play during World War II?

What was the Cold War and why did it begin?

Explain *the Thaw* as a political period in the Soviet Union.

Name one official title of Nikita Khrushchev.

Who was Leonid Brezhnev and how was he associated with the period of stagnation?

What is the Eurasian model of Russia’s development?

Explain the critical-liberal outlook of Russian history.

**Additional study resources:**

**Maps of Russia during the reign of Peter the Great:**

<http://lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/colbeck/europe_wars_of_charles_xii_peter_great.jpg>

<http://wps.ablongman.com/wps/media/objects/262/268312/art/figures/KISH_16_375.gif>

**Russian History through the lenses of the Time Magazine covers:**

<https://trinixy.ru/18368-istorija_sssr_na_oblozhkakh_zhurnala_time_111_foto.html>

**Selected Archival Documents from World War II** (in Russian):

<https://nsarchive2.gwu.edu/rus/WW2.html?fbclid=IwAR30l17dbRlA3fef0mSUyaekxN7szxOOU2yGalN82OiMTp7Y1e1iKF4q-WY>

**Unique photographs of the old Russia:**

The photographs of Sergei Mikhailovich Prokudin-Gorskii (1863-1944) offer a vivid portrait of a lost world-the Russian Empire on the eve of World War I and the coming revolution. His subjects ranged from the medieval churches and monasteries of old Russia, to the railroads and factories of an emerging industrial power, to the daily life and work of Russia's diverse population. In the early 1900s Prokudin-Gorskii formulated an ambitious plan for a photographic survey of the Russian Empire that won the support of Tsar Nicholas II. Between 1909-1912, and again in 1915, he completed surveys of eleven regions, traveling in a specially equipped railroad car provided by the Ministry of Transportation.

<http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/empire/>

**A collection of Soviet posters:**

<http://www.sovmusic.ru/english/p_list.php>

**A collection of songs from the Soviet era:**

<http://www.sovmusic.ru/english/>

**A History of Russia - Tsars and Revolutions** – Documentary (2h. 26 min.):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJC7ki1F-_Q>

**From Prince Rurik to the Russian Revolution, this is a compilation of the first 5 episodes of Epic History TV's History of Russia.** (46 min.):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0Wmc8C0Eq0>