III. The interwar period

82

Activities

### **1. Important happenings in the Russian revolution**

Find images on the net and write some captions as if you were creating revolutionary propaganda

### 2. A virtual visit to some useful museums might be useful.

https://www.visitberlin.de/en/deutsch-russisches-museum-berlin-karlshorst https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-41833406 https://www.inyourpocket.com/st-petersburg-en/revolutionary-stpetersburg\_74870f https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205091229 http://russiasgreatwar.org/media/military/women\_soldiers.shtml

# **3.** Find images or graphics on the net that match these economic and political statements

- Russia was a vast and backward country, populated mostly by peasants.
- Land belonged to a reduced number of aristocrats and large landowners.
- Weak industrialization had begun in big cities thanks to foreign investment.
- Political parties were forbidden.
- The Mensheviks and the Bolsheviks were illegal political parties.
- Violent revolution or peaceful change? That was the question.

### 4The February Revolution. Make an interactive poster:

- The war against Germany and Austria-Hungary.
- severe economic crisis and food shortages.
- The soviets were a parallel government strongly influenced by the Bolshevik party.
- The tsar abdicated in February 1917.
- Bolsheviks created the Red Guard.
- The attempted coup d'état of general Kornilov allowed Bolsheviks to seize power and declare the Soviet Republic

## 5. Communism and civil war. Look for images on the net that match these sentences and create some interactive poster or leaflet:

- The treaty of Brest-Litovsk, March 1918
- The Bolshevik government abolished private property, nationalised and confiscated the land, and controlled banks, industries and communications.
- Chaotic economic situation
- Elimination of political opposition
- July 1918 the tsar and family were executed in Ekaterimburg.
- Civil war between Reds and Whites
- New Economic Policy

### UNIT 2. Imperialism, World War I and the Interwar Period

III. The interwar period

Activities

### WITH EXERCISES 4 & 5, A GROUP WORK WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE BEST ONE: THIS WILL BE THE SCORING RUBRIC:

Originality in presentation, 30 Correctness and accuracy in language and contents, 40 Communicative ability, 30

### Vocabulary. Explain/define the following concepts/persons/ institutions

- Bolsheviks
- Soviet
- Kerensky
- Brest-Litovsk
- NEP
- Gosplan
- Sovkhoz

- Mensheviks
- I enin
- October Revolution
- War Communism
- Trotsky
- Kolkhoz

#### **DEBATING ON A HISTORICAL FIGURE**

Stalin transformed the USSR into a superpower. Even nowadays he is considered by many as the saviour of the country, but, actually, losif Vissarionovich Dzhugashvili (or loseb Besarionis dze Jughashvili, as he was born in Georgia) was one of the merciless dictators of Contemporary history.

The class will split into two groups, they will find and organize materials in order to, one defend, and the other oppose the figure of Stalin and of Stalinism in a class debate. Each group will choose 3 speakers for the debate. A jury of 3 teachers and 2 students from another class will choose the best debating group using an international debate rubric.

Useful links:

https://libcom.org/library/bolshevism-and-stalinism-paul-mattick https://www.bbc.com/timelines/z8nbcdm