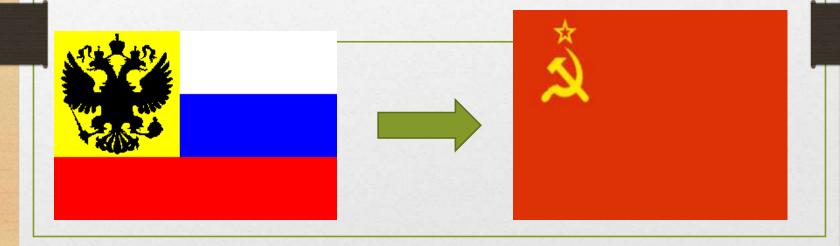
The Russian Revolutions and the Rise of Communism



Russia Before the Revolution



- Tzar (Czar) Nicholas II King/Emperor of Russia
- Last autocrat in Europe (had total power)
- Ignored/Repressed protests and rebellions
- Tried to maintain monarchy and control

Serfdom in Russia

- Similar to slavery, people had to work against their will
- An agricultural laborer bound to work on his lord's estate.
- Extreme poverty





World War I: "The Last Straw"

- In 1914 Russia joined France and Britain to fight Germany and Austria in World War I.
- Poorly prepared, Russia suffered military defeats, losing millions of men between 1914 and 1916.
- Many Russians blamed Czar Nicholas II for the country's poor performance in the war and for food shortages.



Communism

•A political and economic ideology based on people's shared control over industry and the government

- •Originally seen as factory workers rising up against owners
- •Appealed to poor workers around the world.
- •Karl Marx invents the idea in a book called *The Communist Manifesto*

Vladimir Lenin

- Tried to adapt Communism to fit Russia
- Lead a violent revolt against the Tsar in 1917 based on Communism
- Imprisons and kills the Tsar and his family
- Known as the October Revolution

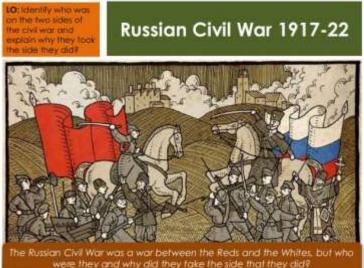


Surrender to Germany

- After promising "Peace, Land and Bread", Lenin signed a peace treaty with Germany and surrendered large parts of Western Russia (including the Ukraine)
- When Germany surrendered to the Allies, the land Russia gave up was turned into Independent Nations
- Russia was not invited to the Versailles Peace Conference

Civil War in Russia

- After the October Revolution, supporters of the Tsar and wealthy Russian families fought against the Communists
- Reds (Communists) vs. Whites (Tsarists)
- After five years and many millions dead, the Red's proclaim victory
- Russia becomes part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics





The Soviet Union

- Taking the place of Russia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) is born when Lenin and the Communists take power
- Eventually, the nation contains 15 Soviet States, including the Ukraine and other lands lost to the Germans
- Complete control of government, industry and law was held by the Soviet dictatorship



Joseph Stalin

- Lenin died soon after taking power
- Joseph Stalin fought for control and was named dictator of the U.S.S.R. in 1929.
- Under Stalin, the Soviet Union was transformed from a peasant society into an industrial and military superpower.
- He violently repressed all opposition and killed millions of his own people

Joseph Stalin

• History.com video

• <u>http://www.history.com/topics/joseph-stalin</u>