

RUSSIA Guided Reading

All responses should be in YOUR OWN WORDS!

*DISCLAIMER – Russia gets me VERY heated. You should sense that...Also, I know you haven't cared about any country we've learned so far, but Russia actually threatens American sovereignty so maybe, just maybe, pay special close attention to this one.

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

Vox video – *From Spy to President: The Rise of Vladimir Putin*

1. How long has Putin been ruling Russia?
2. What was Putin doing when the Soviet Union fell?
3. Explain how the oligarchs formed –
4. Explain how Putin's time as deputy mayor of St. Petersburg foreshadowed his tactics as president –
5. Explain how Putin became president in 1999 –
6. Describe his established goal as Prime Minister in 1999 –
7. Explain how the escalating violence in Chechnya advanced Putin's hold on power –
8. Explain how patronage and corruption operated under Putin –
9. Explain how Putin expanded Russia's influence (*cough* dominance *cough*) beyond its borders – (Georgia – no not the state...)
10. Describe presidential terms limits in Russia –
11. Describe the reaction to Putin's reelection as president in 2012 –
12. Explain how Putin has established a cyber war to spread Russians influence abroad –
13. Explain how Russia (I'm sorry Putin) started a freaking war in Ukraine! –
14. Explain how Putin's international actions have impacted Russian citizens –

The Guardian – 15 Years of Vladimir Putin – 15 ways he has changed Russia (2015)

1. What is Putin's approval rating? (As of this article date)
2. Describe the goal of the "Putin Doctrine" and cite specific areas it has been used –
3. Explain how Putin perceives NATO –
4. Describe **two** ways Putin has made Russia more autocratic (that means authoritarian, that means not a democracy, that means the only voice that matters is his, and that's NOT OKAY!) –
5. "While oil wealth had stimulated growth, little progress had been made in diversifying the economy or modifying Russian industries." Gee, that sounds like it's describing a concept we learned in this here class. I wonder what that concept could be??? Tell me, tell me now!
_____.
6. Explain how Russia's pulling away from relations in "the west" affects its relationship with "the east."
7. Describe **FOUR** tactics used to crackdown on political opposition –
8. Describe what happened to Boris Nemtsov –
9. Describe one way civil liberties have diminished –
10. Explain the meaning behind the following statement – "If Yeltsin was consistently in America's pocket, then Putin has been on its back."
11. After reading the section about Sochi and the corruption perception index – Describe corruption in Russia –

<https://www.cnn.com/2015/02/10/europe/ukraine-war-how-we-got-here/index.html>

CNN - Ukraine - Everything you need to know about how we got here

There has been violence in Ukraine since 2013. Explain what happened and why using at least FOUR key name (political figures) and providing a narrative of events through 2017. You should pay special attention to Russia's involvement and CRIMEA.

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2017/country-chapters/russia>

Human Rights Watch - Russia Events 2016

For each of the following categories, cite (using SPECIFIC EVIDENCE for EACH) abuses of human/civil rights and/or liberties in Russia:

- Freedom of Association –

- Freedom of Assembly –

- New Restrictive Laws –

- Online Speech –

- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identification –

- Disability Rights –

- Russia and Syria –

- Foreign Policy –

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-37403242>

BBC Russian Election: *Big Victory for Putin backed United Russia*

1. Describe the results for each of the following parties:
 - United Russia –
 - Communist Party and LDPR –
 - A Just Russia –
 - Yabloko and Parnas –
2. How was turnout? Why was it like this?
3. Explain why the election may not be considered free or fair –
4. If the elections in 2016 were cleaner than in 2011 (sure lets go with that) than explain why the margin of victory was so much higher for the Putin supported parties (you actually have to think about this) –

<https://www.thebalance.com/russian-economy-3306352>

The Balance – *What Makes Russia's Economy Run*

1. Fill in the blank: Russia's economy is _____ trillion as measured by _____ in _____. It was the _____ in the world.
2. Fill in the blank: Today, the government owns just _____ and _____ sectors. _____ is Russia's state-owned gas company, and owns the _____.
3. Fill in the blank: The state owns _____% of _____.
4. Describe who controls Russia's economy –
5. How did the IMF describe Russia's economy in 2015?
 - a. Describe 2 factors leading to this designation –
6. Fill in the blank: Russia supplies _____ % of Europe's _____ and _____ % of its _____.
 - a. Explain how Russia uses this to its advantage in international politics –
7. Explain what happened in Georgia in 2008 –

The Russian Constitution

Part I: Use the link below to complete the following. As you read the Constitution, *paraphrase* the powers listed below by writing in your own words. Handwritten only!

<http://www.departments.bucknell.edu/russian/const/constit.html>

<p>Fundamentals of the Constitutional System, Chapter 1</p>	<p>What type of system does the Constitution set up? What similarities do you see between this system and the United States?</p> <p>Referendum –</p> <p>Local government (Article12) –</p>
<p>Rights and Liberties of Man and Citizen Chapter 2</p>	<p>What rights does the Constitution give to Russian citizens? (list 3-5)</p>
<p>The Russian Federation Chapter 3</p>	<p>Summarize the objectives of this part of the Constitution</p>
<p>The President of the Russian Federation Chapter 4</p>	<p>Outline the powers of the Russian President.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • •
<p>The Federal Assembly Chapter 5</p>	<p>What is the Federal Assembly?</p> <p>What are the two houses of the Federal Assembly?</p> <p>How many members are in the Duma?</p> <p>How long is their term of office?</p> <p>How are members of the Federation Council selected?</p> <p>What are the powers of the Duma?</p>

	<p>What are the powers of the Federation Council?</p> <p>What Presidential powers are mentioned?</p>
<p>The Government of the Russian Federation Chapter 6</p>	<p>How does the “Chairman of the Russian Federation” (Prime Minister) get appointed?</p> <p>What happens if the Duma rejects the appointment 3 times?</p> <p>What are the responsibilities of the government of the Russian federation?</p> <p>What is the relationship between the President and the Chairman (discussed in Article 116 & 117)?</p>
<p>The Judiciary Chapter 7</p>	<p>How long do judges serve?</p> <p>How are judges appointed?</p> <p>What is their role/responsibility?</p> <p>What is the role of the Supreme Court?</p>
<p>Local Self Government Chapter 8</p>	<p>What are the responsibilities of local government?</p>
<p>Constitutional Amendments and Revisions Chapter 9</p>	<p>How can the Constitution be amended?</p>
<p>Concluding and transitional provisions</p>	<p>By what method was the Constitution accepted?</p>