

## Information for students taking A Level Russian at Latymer



*Expectations: advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing skills as well as a very good grammar foundation (GCSE result).*

### Vocabulary and Topics:

#### Year 1:

##### Theme 1: Development of society in Russia

- Life of young Russians – health; leisure; new technologies
- Education – education system; Russian pupils' life
- World of Work – attitudes to work; opportunities for young Russians; equality

##### Theme 2: Political and artistic culture in the Russian-speaking world

- Media – freedom of expression; printed and online press; influence on society and politics
- Popular culture – music; circus; dance
- Holidays, festivals and traditions – festivals; public holidays; customs; traditions

*Literary element: A.C. Пушкин 'Пиковая Дама'*

#### Year 2:

##### Theme 3: Changes in the life of a big Russian city – Moscow OR Saint-Petersburg

- Population change – life in the city; life in the suburbs
- Social issues – homelessness; crime
- Environment – urban redevelopment, pollution

##### Theme 4: The final years of the USSR – M.S. Gorbachev (1985-1991)

- Perestroika – origins of policy of perestroika; economic reforms; outcomes
- Glasnost' – origins of policy of glasnost'; social reforms; outcomes
- 1991 – problems for the USSR by 1991; the August putsch; the end of the USSR

*Film: H.C. Михалков "Утомленные солнцем"*

*Watch: HBO series "Чернобыль"*

### Grammar:

- Tenses: Present, Past and Future (the Conditional Mood)
- Aspects of the verbs: Perfective and Imperfective
- Comparative and Superlative Forms of adjectives
- Cases
- Collective numerals
- The Conditional
- Verbs of Motion
- Indirect speech
- Compound conjunctions
- Relative pronoun
- Adjectival agreement

- Passive Voice
- Gerund
- Participles

Some grammar theory and exercises could be found on RT website:

<http://learnrussian.rt.com/lessons/>

## 2. Consolidation of comprehension skills (Reading and Listening):

- Keep up with current affairs (watching/reading news in English and Russian. Recommended Russian website with the slowly read (contains tasks and vocabulary lists): [http://nclrc.org/teaching\\_materials/russian\\_webcasts.html](http://nclrc.org/teaching_materials/russian_webcasts.html)
- Familiarize yourself with the basic facts of the 18, 19 and 20th century Russian history, politics and literature <http://www.uni.edu/becke/Russian2.html>
- Russian newspapers online: Правда in English or Russian <http://english.pravda.ru/> or <http://www.pravda.ru/>; Аргументы и Факты <http://www.aif.ru/>
- You tube channels for non-propaganda information: Навальный Live; радио "Эхо Москвы"; BBC русская служба и т.д.
- Listen to BBC Russian radio: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/russian/>
- **Explore links, podcasts, etc. on Fronter/Russian corridor/GCE Russian:** <https://fronter.com/enfield/main.phtml>
- Data and Statistics: аналитический сайт Левада центр: <http://www.levada.ru/en/>
- 1) Росстат: [http://www.gks.ru/wps/wcm/connect/rosstat\\_main/rosstat/ru/statistics/databases/](http://www.gks.ru/wps/wcm/connect/rosstat_main/rosstat/ru/statistics/databases/)
- 2) Фонд "Медиастандарт": <http://www.msindex.ru/>
- 3) ФОМ "Фонд Общественного Мнения": <https://fom.ru/SMI-i-internet>
- Complete past papers: <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/russian-2017.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FExam-materials>

### Literature and Film:

Please read, read, and read: Чехов, Достоевский, Гоголь, Пушкин, Толстой, Тургенев, Ахматова, Маяковский, Есенин, Бродский, Водолазкин, Акунин и многие, многие другие.

### Watch:

Фильмы

А. Звягинцев: Возвращение, Левиафан, Елена

А. Балабанов: Брат и Брат 2

Л. Шепитько: Крылья

А. Тарковский: Зеркало, Сталкер, Настальгия, Андрей Рублев, Детство Ивана

Н. Михалков: Я шагаю по Москве, Пять вечеров, Сибирский цирюльник, 12, Свой среди чужих, чужой среди своих.

Some films could be borrowed from the department (please see Mrs Heath).

Above all – enjoy every aspect of learning Russian and understanding Russianness!

T. Heath

**Head of Russian**