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**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

DEGREES OF MA and BCom WITH HONOURS

Russia since 1985: a “Transition” Economy?

(Economic History/Economic & Social History 3/4MA)

Chairman of the Board of Examiners: Dr David Greasley

External Examiner:

You **MUST** answer question 1 and **ONE** other question
chosen from questions 2-10

1. How useful is the concept of a “transition economy” for analysing the changes, which have taken place in the Russian economy during the years 1990-2002?

2. How did Gorbachev achieve the recovery, which took place within the Soviet economy 1985-1990?

3. Why did the Soviet economy collapse in 1990-1?

4. Critically examine the viability of Sach’s 1990-1 proposals for rouble stabilisation.

5. Examine the political and governmental financial policy changes that resulted from the events of “Black Tuesday” (11 October 1994)

6. Why was the policy of increased Russian Treasury-bill sales from 1994-8 inherently unstable?
7. Explain the increased use of “barter arrangements” between Russian industrial enterprises between 1994-1998 and why the utilisation of such contractual forms has declined since that time.
8. “The astonishing flexibility of the “economic population” of small-holders made them the only group within the agricultural sector of the Russian economy capable of positively responding to the acute monetary disorders of 1993-4 and 1997-8.”
Comment
9. What impact did the 1998 devaluation of the rouble have on the subsequent development of the Russian economy?
10. Why were the “Paris and London Clubs” so lenient in their terms for the repayment of Russian government debts in the aftermath of the 1998 crisis?