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**UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND CLASSICS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

DEGREE OF MA WITH HONOURS
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RUSSIA SINCE 1985: A "TRANSITION" ECONOMY?
(Economic History/Economic & Social History 3/4MA)

Chairman of the Board of Examiners: Dr Stana Nenadic
External Examiner: Dr Theo Balderston

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

1. Examine the nature of the concept of a “transition economy” and its usefulness for analysing the changes, which have taken place in the Russian economy during the years 1990-2004?

2. Describe and explain the objectives of the “oligarch”-dominated Union of Russian Industrialists and Entrepreneurs during the years 1990-1994.
3. Critically examine the viability of Jeffrey Sach’s 1990-1 proposals for rouble stabilisation.
4. Why did Russia experience such high inflation rates (as much as 25% per month in June 1993) during the years 1990-1994?
5. What made the Russian government’s policy of increased Treasury-bill sales from 1994-8 inherently unstable? Why were “western” financial institutions so willing to take up these financial instruments at that time?
6. Why did Russian industrialists experience such acute cash-flow problems and how did they respond to these during the years 1994-1998?
7. Critically examine the effectiveness of C.B.R. (Central Bank of Russia) and I.M.F. (International Monetary Fund) actions to avert Russian financial collapse during May-July 1998.
8. Why was the impact of the 1998 devaluation of the rouble on the Russian economy so short-lived (eighteen months)?

9. Describe and explain how the Russian government since the year 2000 has attempted to resolve the problem of endemic tax evasion.

10. Examine the contribution of the Russian oil industry to that nation's last four years (2000-2004) of economic growth.