

Acrostic

Why did Stalin defeat Trotsky in the hunt for power?

This revision activity works best if you do it with a friend, and talk about it as you do it.

On the grid below, the term in the vertical grey box is the 'telling fact' which helps to explain, above all others, why Stalin, not Trotsky, succeeded Lenin as *vozhd*. To reveal the 'telling fact', use the fact sheet and the clues to fill in all the answers:

The crossword puzzle grid consists of 17 numbered clues. A vertical grey box is located in the 11th column, containing the 'telling fact'. The clues are:

- 1 Across: 20 letters
- 2 Down: 3 letters
- 3 Across: 15 letters
- 4 Across: 15 letters
- 5 Across: 8 letters
- 6 Across: 10 letters
- 7 Across: 10 letters
- 8 Across: 8 letters
- 9 Down: 3 letters
- 10 Across: 6 letters
- 11 Across: 12 letters
- 12 Down: 6 letters
- 13 Across: 15 letters
- 14 Across: 18 letters
- 15 Down: 3 letters
- 16 Across: 10 letters
- 17 Down: 6 letters

Clues – harder

- 1 Trotsky's vehicle for a November coup
- 2 Secret and deadly
- 3 Stalin's Way Forward
- 4 Lenin's justification
- 5 The Red Army's head
- 6 Trotsky's vision
- 7 Stalin's top men
- 8 Party officials
- 9 A place for the disgraced to disappear
- 10 The Council of People's Commissars
- 11 A place to produce propaganda
- 12 Where might you find a Commissar for Foreign Affairs
- 13 The Party cabinet
- 14 A way for Stalin to become the destroyer of races
- 15 The prize
- 16 A place to attack the NEP
- 17 A number of people marked for political annihilation

Clues – easier

- 1 The group which organised the November coup
- 2 The secret police
- 3 The policy of communism that Stalin argued for
- 4 Lenin declared this in January 1918
- 5 Trotsky's rank in the Red Army
- 6 Trotsky believed in encouraging communists in other countries to rebel
- 7 The 5,000 top post-holders in the Communist Party
- 8 The 20,000 Communist Party officials
- 9 The system of labour camps
- 10 The council of People's Commissars
- 11 Set up in 1920 to organise propaganda
- 12 The Treaty with Germany which Trotsky negotiated
- 13 The Communist Party's ruling cabinet
- 14 Stalin's post in 1917 to destroy the national identity of the different races
- 15 The Russian word for 'leader'
- 16 The Conference which marked Trotsky and his followers for 'political annihilation'
- 17 The name for the leading Communists who supported Trotsky

