



7th Grade World History

Lesson # 37, May 12



I can create a timeline of Joseph Stalin's rule and explain what type of leader I think he was.

Supplies Needed

Paper
and
pencil



Internet
access



Your
brain



Warm Up:

Political revolutions happen when people are tired of how their current government is running things and feel that the only way they can make it change is through a violent take over.

Write a brief paragraph explaining why the people of Russia would have wanted to revolt against their government.



Warm Up:

The Tsars of Russia were monarchs who ruled with total authority. The people of Russia had little voice in their government. Although some of them did things to help Russia, they often hurt many of the people at the same time. Peasants were basically turned into slaves. Independent kingdoms were conquered and forced to pay tribute to them. Even when they were given the right to vote and have a voice, nobles could restrict those rights, or even have them killed. Eventually, the people grew weary of being stomped on and Nicholas II was overthrown.



Activity 1: Joseph Stalin (People's Leader or Just Another Tsar)

The Bolshevik Revolution in Russia promised that all people would be equal.

Individuals would not struggle against each other for food, education, or wealth.

Instead, under Lenin and the Communists, all people would work for the good of everyone.

As you watch this video about Joseph

Stalin, jot down some things he did that

were more like a bad Tsar than a People's

Leader



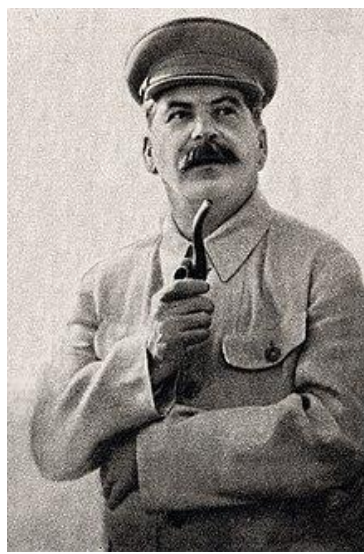
Activity 1: Joseph Stalin (People's Leader or Just Another Tsar)

- *Manipulated role as General Secretary to gain power*
- *Had Trotsky exiled*
- *Effectively became dictator of Soviet Union*
- *Workers who didn't meet targets were executed*
- *Took land from peasants to make collective farms*
- *Everyone had to praise him*
- *Picture was in every school and factory*
- *Killed people who threatened his power*
- *Executed generals and admirals*
- *20 million citizens sent to gulags*
- *Eastern Europe became satellite states*
- *Tortured his doctors*
- *Had secret police investigate Politburo*
-



Activity 2: Timeline

On your paper, copy the timeline below. Use the information you find about



Joseph Stalin at [history.com](https://www.history.com) and [biography.com](https://www.biography.com) to add 7 more facts to the timeline.

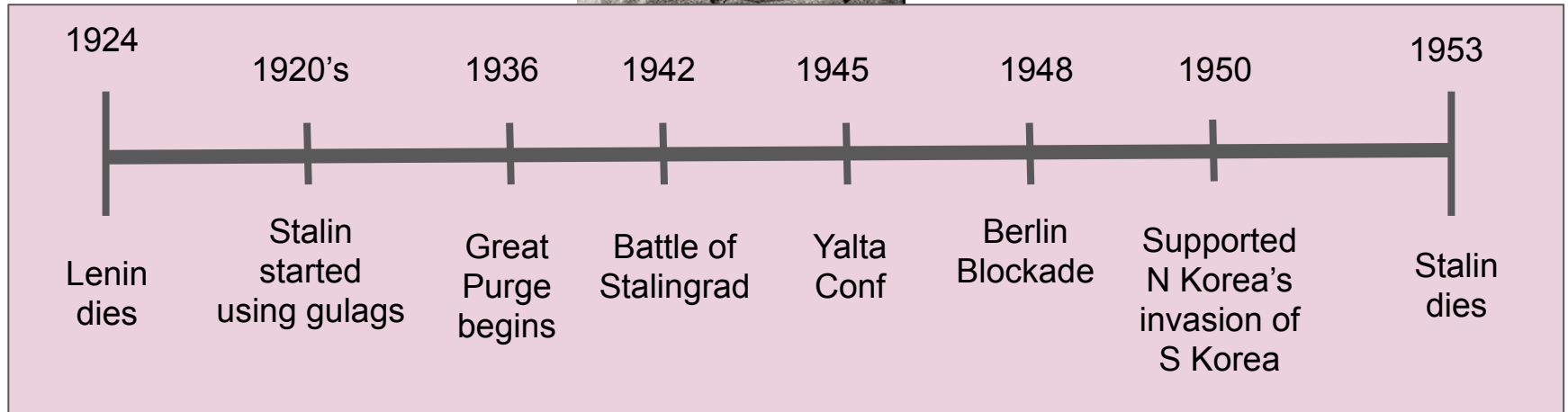
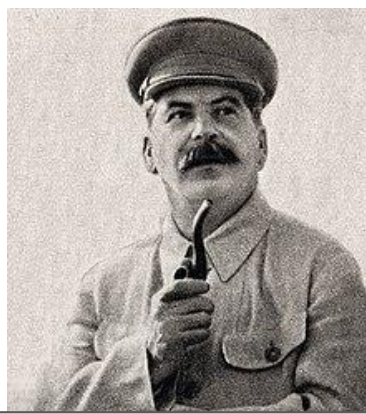
1924

1953

Lenin
dies

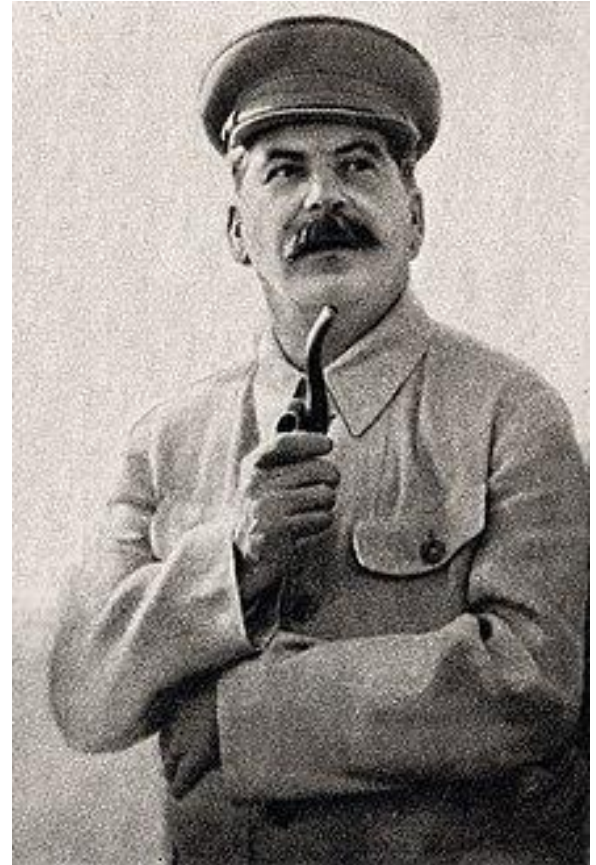
Stalin
dies

Activity 2: Timeline



Wrap up

Was Stalin the People's Leader or just another Tsar? Write a short paragraph explaining your choice.



Extend Your Learning

To learn more about the type of ruler Stalin was and what life was like in Russia at that time, check out the video below.

