







<p>Boris - Russian Kulak</p>	<p>1929</p>	<p>Vlad - Industrial worker</p>	<p>1929</p>
<p>You are a wealthy peasant who owns a relatively large farm. You have several cows and horses on your farm. You are rich enough to hire peasants to work on your land and lease out some of your land in return or rent. You play a very central role in the village life. As a result of the NEP you were given incentives to produce more grain and so you have become an important position in the village.</p>		<p>You came to work in the town 15 years ago and have worked in terrible conditions. You lost an arm just after you moved to the town and were only given a few roubles of compensation. However, during 1917 you supported the Petrograd Soviet and were pleased when the Bolsheviks took power in 1917. You were well fed during the civil War and worked hard to supply the armies. You are a strong believer in Communism.</p>	
<p>Inessa - Russian woman</p>	<p>1929</p>	<p>Anton - doctor</p>	<p>1929</p>
<p>You are married to another worker. Before 1917 you had very few rights and stayed at home to look after your seven children. However, you joined the bread strikes in March 1917 and supported the Bolsheviks when they took power. You were pleased when women were made equal to men in 1917. You are keen to get a job and it is now legal under the Communist government.</p>		<p>You have been unsure about the events of the last few years. You supported the liberal Provisional Government when it was in power in 1917 and were cautious of the events of November 1917. You were forced to give up your large apartment in Petrograd and shared it with three other families. Your political party the Cadets were also banned in 1917 and you were worried about the tight Bolshevik controls. In the 1920s conditions in the towns have not really improved and you have been inundated with patients from the Russian Civil War.</p>	

Boris - Russian Kulak	1939	Vlad - Industrial worker	1939
<p>Collectivisation has dramatically changed your life. You were the victims of the modernisation of agriculture. You refused to hand over your land and produce to the local Communist leader who took control of your farms. Violence was used against you and requisition groups came and took the food from you. You and your family were arrested and sent to a labour camp. Your neighbour burnt his crops and slaughtered his animals before he was arrested.</p>		<p>You have had to toughen up under Stalin's Five Year plans. You have been given strict targets in the factory and if you don't meet your target you are fined. You often look at the posters of Stakhanov and wonder how he produced 102 tons of coal in one shift. This seems impossible. Conditions in the factories are terrible and they are very strict with you. You have an internal passport so can't move jobs. A friend of yours was ambitious though and became a foreman in the factory so he is far wealthier than you. You struggle to buy consumer goods. Your wages have fallen in recent years.</p>	
<p>From 1930 you began work in your husband's factory. Your children attend the crèche in the factory so you can work longer hours. A lot of your friends work at the factory and although the work is dirty you are proud to wear overalls and work with the men. You live in a very overcrowded flat and share it with other families.</p>		<p>Health care has improved rapidly under Stalin and you are pleased that you are able to help more people, particularly as you see some terrible accidents from the factories. Your children are able to attend a good school for free and their literacy is good. You are also happy that they are able to go to the public libraries. However, your wife is unhappy that she isn't able to buy clothes easily. However, you are relatively wealthy considering other people working in the city.</p>	

	What was life like for you before 1929?	How has your life changed by 1939? i. Has your life improved or been made worse? ii. Include two specific pieces of evidence to support your answer.	Come to a judgement on how far your life has changed in comparison to another group.
The Kulaks			
Industrial workers			
Women			
Professional workers			