**Assess the view that Stalin dealt with opponents more effectively than any other Russian ruler in the period from 1855 to 1964.**

* Key Words
* Key Theme to focus on
* My argument and counter-argument
* My probable overall judgement

Some things to consider

1. How can you assess whether a ruler deals with opponents more effectively than other rulers did?
2. Does it just mean which ruler crushed opposition most effectively?
3. Or does it also require a focus on which ruler had most opposition to overcome?
4. Is crushing opposition (often brutally) the only effective means of dealing with opposition or is it sometimes effective to adopt some of their ideas as your policies?
5. How can I make sure I mention all / most rulers even though some were (ultimately) not very effective at dealing with opponents – Alexander II, Nicholas II, Kerensky (the Provisional Government), Khrushchev
6. How do I make sure I keep comparing others to Stalin (as the title suggests I should)

My Introduction – Set up your parameters – how will you assess whether rulers dealt with opposition most effectively

What can I focus each paragraph on to enable me to then write synoptically, cross-referencing and comparing several rulers in each paragraph (if not sentence by sentence)?

Suggestions

* P1 Consider which rulers effectively dealt with opponents by adopting their opponents ideas as their policies

I think this can include Stalin (rise to power), Nicholas II (October Manifesto), Alexander II (emancipation) and possibly Lenin (NEP).

* P2 Consider which rulers overcame the greatest amount of opposition

Arguably all the communists faced opposition in gaining power whereas all Tsars became Tsar by birth.

Nevertheless Alexander III had a lot of opposition to deal with in 1881 as did Nicholas II in 1905.

Could compare Stalin and Khrushchev’s power struggle victories.

Must compare with Lenin (from exile in Switzerland to ruler of world’s first communist state).

* P3 Consider which rulers dealt with opposition less effectively than Stalin as ultimately they failed to overcome it

I think this can include Alexander II (assassination), Nicholas II (abdication), Kerensky (October Revolution) and Khrushchev (overthrown 1964).

* P4 Consider which rulers dealt with opposition effectively by crushing it

Surely this then becomes a comparison between Alexander III, Lenin (in power) and Stalin

My conclusion

My Introduction – Set up your parameters – how will you assess whether rulers dealt with opposition most effectively

What can I focus each paragraph on to enable me to then write synoptically, cross-referencing and comparing several rulers in each paragraph (if not sentence by sentence)?

* P1
* P2
* P3
* P4
* P5

My conclusion

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| **Question**  |
| **Key Words and Phrases in the question**  |
| **Key issues to be discussed**  |
| **Line of Argument** |
| **Point** | **Ideas and line of argument.** **(How does this tie to the key words in the title)**  | **Content****(Which different periods to compare)**  |
| **Introduction** |  |  |
| **1.** |  |  |
| **2.** |  |  |
| **3.** |  |  |
| **4.** |  |  |
| **5.** |  |  |
| **Conclusion** |  |  |