

Topic: Glasnost and Perestroika

Website: <http://www.coldwar.org/articles/80s/glasnostandperestroika.asp>

1. What does Glasnost mean in English?
2. What does Perestroika mean in English?
3. Fill in the guided notes:

In the _____, the Soviet Union was engulfed by a multitude of problems. The economy, especially the _____ sector, began to fall apart. The country lacked technological _____ and used inefficient _____, all while consumers were buying low-quality products and suffered from a shortage of social _____. To reform the distraught Soviet Union, the _____ of the _____ Party was promoted through Party Secretary Mikhail _____. Policies of “_____” and “_____.”

Perestroika refers to the reconstruction of the _____ and _____ system established by the _____ Party. Politically, contested _____ were introduced to reflect the _____ practices of Western society and allow citizens to have a _____ say in government. Economically, _____ called for de-monopolization and some _____ businesses to function, ending the price controls established by the government for the past _____ decades. The goal was to create a _____ market system, reflecting successful capitalist _____ in the economies of _____, _____, and the _____. Unfortunately, such an economy took time to _____, and people found themselves _____ in a worn-out economy, which led to long-lines, _____, and civil unrest.

The term “_____” means “_____” and was the name for the social and political _____ to bestow more _____ and _____ upon the _____ people. Its goals were to include more people in the _____ process through freedom of _____. This led to a decreased _____ of the media, which in effect allowed writers and journalists to _____ news of government _____ and the _____ condition of the Soviet people. Glasnost also permitted _____ of government _____, encouraging more social freedoms like those that _____ societies had already provided. Yet, the _____ state present since _____ was difficult to dismantle, and when it fell apart, citizens were not _____ to the lack of regulation and command. The outburst of information about escalating crime and crimes by the government caused _____ in the people. This caused an increase in social _____ in a nation used to living under the _____ government control, and went _____ the goals of _____.

These policies were in effect from _____ to _____, when Boris _____ became Russia's first popularly _____ president. He then formed the Commonwealth of _____ States. Reconstructing the organization of the Soviet Union proved difficult and the effects were mixed; while more social freedoms were permitted, the economy was in deterioration and social unrest was growing among the people. Glasnost and Perestroika eventually helped cause the _____ of the Soviet Union and the end of the _____, which had lasted from _____ to _____.