Key Terms

**Tyranny** - Coercive rule, usually by one person

**Siberia** - From Russian for "north"

**Constantinople** - Capital of Byzantium, conquered by Turks in 1453

**Cyrillic** - Greek-based alphabet of Eastern Slavic languages

**Tatar** - Mongol-origin tribes who ruled Russia for centuries (not tartar)

**Tsar** - From "Caesar," Russia's emperor. Sometimes spelled old Polish style, czar.

**Autocracy** - Absolute rule of one person

**Caesaropapism** - Combining top civil ruler (Caesar) with top spiritual ruler (pop), as in Russia's tsars.

**Ukraine** - From Slavic for "borderland"; region south of Russia, now independent.

**Westernizers** - Nineteenth-century Russians who wished to copy the West.

**Slavophiles** - Nineteenth-century Russian who wished to develop Russia along native, non-Western lines. Also known as "Russophiles."

**Proletariat** - According to Marx, class of industrial workers

**Communism** - Economic theories of Marx combined with organization of Lenin

**Imperialism** - Powerful, rich countries spreading their influence around the globe

**Bolshevik** - "Majority" in Russian; early name for Soviet Communist Party

**Duma** - Russia's national parliament

**War communism** - Temporary strict socialism in Russia 1918-1921

**New Economic Policy** - Lenin's New Economic Policy that allowed considerable private activity, 1921-1928

**Five-Year Plans** - Stalin's forced industrialization of Soviet Union starting in 1928

**Capital goods** - Implements used to make other things

**Consumer goods** - Things people use, such as food, clothing and house
Gensek - Russian abbreviation for "general secretary," powerful CPSU head

CPSU - Communist Party of the Soviet Union

Paranoia - Unreasonable suspicion of others

Purge - Stalin's "cleansing" of suspicious elements by firing squad

Cold War - Period of armed tension and competition between the United States and the Soviet Union, approximately 1947-1989.

Central Committee - Large, next-to-top governing body of most Communist parties

Apparatchik - "Man of the apparatus," full-time CPSU functionary

Politburo - "Political bureau"

Junta - Pronounced Spanish-Style, "khunta"; group that pulls military coup

Coup - Extralegal seizure of power, usually by military officers

Semipresidentialism - Strong president aided by a prime minister

De facto - In fact, even if not formally admitted.

State Duma - Lower house of Russia's parliament

Rump State - Leftover positions of a country after dismemberment

Glasnost - Gorbachev's policy of media openness

Gulag - The Soviet central prisons administration

Shock Therapy - Sudden replacement of Socialist by market economy

Cult of Personality - Dictator who has himself worshiped

Perestroika - Russian for "restructuring," Gorbachev's proposals to reform the Soviet economy

Near-abroad - Non-Russian republics of old Soviet Union

Oblast - region

Shock Therapy - an abrupt shift to free-market economics