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| **Event** | **Quotes** |
| Bloody Sunday | * “Turned what should have a political problem into a revolutionary crisis”   (Figes)   * “Bloody Sunday was an overwhelming display of tsarist incompetence”   (Pipes) |
| 1905 revolution | * “Although the regime succeeded in restoring order, it could not hope to turn back the clock.”   (Figes)   * “The events of 1905 were a prologue to the two revolutions of 1917”   (Trotsky) |
| October Manifesto | * “A constitution is given, but autocracy remains. Everything is given and nothing is given”   (Trotsky)   * “The Monarchy had been saved; the economy was prosperous; and Russia had – shall we say – half a constitution.”   (Pares) |
| Tsar commands the Russian Army (Rasputin) | * “The Tsar foolishly added to his own isolation by assuming personal command of the Russian Army in 1915”   (Wood)   * “The existence of a single person that was threatening to destroy one of the greatest empires in the world.”   (Rodzinsky) |
| World War One | * “War accelerated the development of a revolutionary crisis, but their deep lying causes could not be wished away in times of peace.”   (Hill)   * “By 1917, the war would prove to be the undoing of tsardom.”   (Lynch) |
| February 1917 revolution | * “One of the most leaderless, spontaneous, anonymous revolutions of all time.”   (Chamberlin)   * “Conscious and tempered workers educated for the most part by the party of Lenin.”   (Trotsky) |
| Collapse of tsarism/Provisional Government/April Theses/July Days. | * “The collapse of tsarism, while not improbable, was certainly not inevitable.”   (Pipes)   * “Lenin’s April Theses laid down for the party a brilliant plan of struggle for the transition from bourgeoise-democratic to the socialist revolution.”   (History of the CPSU) |
| October 1917 Revolution | * “The Bolsheviks did not seize power, they picked it up.”   (Ulam)   * “The events that led to the overthrow of the Provisional Government were…carefully plotted and staged by a tightly organised conspiracy.”   (Pipes)   * “A classic coup de’tat.”   (Pipes) |
| Lenin and the Bolsheviks | * “Judged in terms of its own aspirations; the communist party was a monumental failure.”   (Pipes)   * “The leadership given by Lenin and the Bolshevik party…ensured the success of one of the greatest events in world history… the overthrow of the power of the land owners and capitalists.”   (Obichkin) |

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| Economic policies (War communism/NEP) | * “The NEP was, in the space of a few months, already giving marvellous results.”   (Serge)   * “The adoption of NEP showed that the Bolshevik government since 1917 had been unable to create a successful economy along purely ideological lines.” (Lynch) * “Their irresponsibility was nowhere more evident than in their obstinate attempts to introduce a money-less economy.”   (Pipes)   * “While war communism tightened the Bolshevik grip on industry it did not lead to economic growth.”   (Lynch) |
| Civil War | * “The single party system became…an inescapable necessity. Their own survival, and no doubt the survival of the revolution depended on it.”   (Deutscher)   * “Might have controlled the railways…and the armed forces, but not the hearts and minds of the people.”   (Thomas and McAndrew) |
| Internal dissent (Kronstadt) | * “If the Bolshevik dictatorship fell, it was only a short step to chaos.”   (Serge)   * The state has no soul, no principles. It has but one aim -- to secure power and hold it, at any cost. That is the political lesson of Kronstadt."   (Berkman) |
| Red Terror | * “The revolution produced cruelties indeed; but the revolutionary process abolished a regime of despair and created a new world of hope.”   (Hill)   * “He regarded it as normal to build his “happiness” on blood, coercion and the denial of freedom.”   (Volkogonov)   * “The Bolsheviks were forced to turn increasingly to terror to…subjugate a society they could not control by any other means.”   (Figes) |
| Initial reforms (Peace and Land, Dismissal of Constituent Assembly) | * “The decision to accept the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk showed Lenin to be a realist rather than driven by ideological considerations.”   (Steve Phillips)   * “[Lenin’s initial decrees] adversely affected the interests of the workers and peasants”   (Pipes) |
| Lenin | * “Determined that the Bolsheviks should initiate the achievement of a world without exploitation and oppression.”   (Service)   * “To impose such immense sacrifices in the name of so naïve and flawed a vision makes Lenin one of the greatest criminals of the 20th century.”   (Lieven) |