

**Directions:** Use this passage about Russia's efforts in World War I and your knowledge of world history to circle the best answer for each question.

During the first several years of the war, perhaps no combatant struggled as badly as Russia. Unlike the nations of western Europe, Russia had yet to become industrialized. As a result, the Russian army was continually short on food, guns, ammunition, clothes, boots, and blankets. The Russian army had only one asset—its numbers. Throughout the war the Russian army suffered enormous battlefield losses—more than 2 million soldiers killed, wounded, or captured in 1915 alone—and yet the army continually rebuilt its ranks. Despite all its difficulties, the Russian army managed to tie up hundreds of thousands of German troops in the east for more than three years.

By spring 1917, however, civil unrest in Russia—due in part to war-related shortages of food and fuel—had brought the czar's government to the brink of collapse. Faced with the prospect of revolution, Czar Nicholas abdicated his throne on March 15. A provisional government was established, and its leaders vowed to continue the war effort. However, the warweary Russian army—having suffered some 5 million casualties thus far—refused to fight any longer. In November 1917, the Communists seized power and insisted on ending Russia's involvement in the war. In March 1918, Russia and Germany signed the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, which ended the war between them. As a result, Germany was able to send nearly all of its forces to the Western Front and launch a massive attack on the Allies in France.

1 The Russian war effort collapsed due to:

- A a continual lack of supplies and weapons.
- B a war-weariness on the part of Russian soldiers.
- C growing civil unrest brought on by war-related shortages.
- D All of the above

2 You can **infer** from this **passage** that Russia had:

- A many factories.
- B a large population.
- C fertile farm land.
- D long and cold winters.

3 Based on this **passage**, Russia's importance to the Allied war effort was its ability to:

- A defeat the German U-boat fleet.
- B defeat the Germans on the Eastern Front.
- C provide the Allies with weapons and other supplies.
- D keep Germany from focusing solely on the Western Front.

4 Which of the following statements best **summarizes** this passage?

- A As war-related turmoil gripped Russia, the Communists seized power.
- B Despite its many hardships, the Russian army battled the Germans for years.
- C The war led to the downfall of Czar Nicholas.
- D A war-weary Russia withdrew from the conflict and raised Germany's war hopes.