



Source 7

Extract about food from a letter written by a British woman, Mrs Morley, living in the USSR in 1938

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Questions

1. What problems did people face living in the Soviet Union in 1938?
2. Do you think that people in the countryside would have had the same problems as people living and working in the cities?
3. According to this writer, had living conditions improved in the last few years? Do you think her viewpoint is likely to be accurate?
4. What conclusions about the success of the Five Year Plans can you draw from this source?



HEROES & VILLAINS

Stalin & industrialisation > Was this a success?

Source 7

Food

Food is scarce and dear, butter, when it is there, is 17 to 20 roubles a kilo, and each person can buy only $\frac{1}{2}$ a kilo.

Pork is 13 roubles a kilo, and beef 11 and 12 - very little to be had. It has been a long winter and meat killed off before the frost set in.

Dr. Bell said last night that most women went to work at 4 p.m. and from 7 a.m. they stand in a queue for food. Shops open at 10 or 11, and at 4 o'clock they go home without getting anything, as they must go to work. Thousands do this daily. We are lucky to have had^x Prince and the geese, and now I am getting 2 kilos of meat from Helsingfors. Dr. Bell says there is no fish; even last year there was plenty. It is worse now than it has been for three or four years. I got 50 kilos of butter at 16 r. 80 kop. Even the Consuls are astonished I got it. It is a God-send to our people; I also got 50 eggs, they are scarce too.