

Czar Putin?

Choose the best answer for each of the following questions.

1. Which of these is NOT a current issue on which the United States needs Russian cooperation?
 - a the civil war in Syria
 - b Iran's efforts to develop nuclear weapons
 - c fighting Islamic terrorism
 - d violent street protests in Estonia

2. Before the Russian Revolution, Russia was ruled by
 - a powerful czars.
 - b Communist dictators.
 - c a democratically elected president.
 - d none of the above

3. Vladimir Putin first became president of Russia eight years after
 - a the Russian Revolution took place.
 - b the Soviet Union collapsed.
 - c the Cold War began.
 - d he resigned as prime minister.

4. Last March, Russia made headlines worldwide when it annexed
 - a Estonia.
 - b Latvia.
 - c Crimea.
 - d Lithuania.

5. The U.S. and Europe have dealt with Russia's aggression by
 - a calling on the United Nations to mediate.
 - b imposing sanctions.
 - c declaring war.
 - d helping to consolidate power in Russia's government.

6. What is causing Russia's economy to sag, according to the article?
 - a low oil prices
 - b high oil prices
 - c government spending on nuclear weapons
 - d none of the above

IN-DEPTH QUESTIONS

7. From the article, infer how Putin has managed to stay in control of Russia for so long.

8. If you were President Obama, how would you deal with the tensions between the U.S. and Russia? Why?

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