Stalinist Russia discussion questions

**Modernize or perish**
Perry, Chapter 12, pages 337-339.

1. Why did Joseph Stalin argue that the tempo of industrialization could not be slowed down?
2. How important is the idea of "fatherland" to Stalin?

**Forced Collectivization**
Perry, Chapter 12, pages 339-343.

1. Why were the kulaks selected as special targets in the drive for collectivization?
2. How would you characterize the motivation of the young Lev Kopelev and his associates in carrying out the collectivization of agriculture?
3. How, in retrospect, did Kopelev explain his role in the collectivization drive?

**Famine in the Ukraine**
Perry, Chapter 12, pages 343-347.

1. Describe the different ways people in Ukraine responded to the famine.

**Soviet Indoctrination**
Perry, Chapter 12, pages 348-351.

1. In light of the A.O. Avdienko reading, how would you say Communists were supposed to feel about Stalin?
2. What were Yevgeny Yevtushenko's reasons for denouncing Stalin?
3. What do you think Yevtushenko meant by the "corruption of the human spirit" under Stalin?

**Stalin's Terror**
Perry, Chapter 12, pages 351-358.

1. Why was Nikita Khrushchev careful to distinguish Stalin from Lenin?
2. What charges against Stalin did Khrushchev highlight in his speech?
3. What image of Stalin did Khrushchev draw?
4. From a reading of the passages from Lev Razgon's book, what do you think motivated the behavior of Stalin's bureaucrats who committed these terrible crimes?