



# Cambridge IGCSE™

**AMERICAN HISTORY (US)**

**0409/01**

Paper 1 Making of a Nation

**May/June 2021**

**2 hours**



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total, from **one** section only.
- For each question you choose, answer every part, **(a)**, **(b)** and **(c)**.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

## INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in parentheses [ ].

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Answer any **three** questions from your chosen section.

You are advised to spend equal time answering each of the three questions.

**SECTION A: Emergence of a Nation 1754–1890**

- 1 Before 1840 there were different attempts to ensure that the United States was a democratic country.
- (a) What was the Bill of Rights, 1791? [4]
  - (b) Why did the Articles of Confederation not last as a system of government? [6]
  - (c) To what extent did the policies of President Jackson make the United States a democratic country? [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 2 The United States used different methods to expand and change its borders before 1853.
- (a) Describe the impact of the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. [4]
  - (b) Explain why the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848) was signed. [6]
  - (c) “The United States grew before 1853 mostly through its relationship with Great Britain.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 3 The relationship between the Native American population and the US government was often violent.
- (a) What was the Pontiac Rebellion, 1763? [4]
  - (b) Why did Custer lose the Battle of the Little Bighorn? [6]
  - (c) “The events at Wounded Knee in December 1890 were the most important factor in the destruction of Native American culture after 1840.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 4 African Americans were treated differently in the North and the South, both before and after the Civil War.
- (a) What were the Black Codes? [4]
  - (b) Explain why events in “Bleeding Kansas” increased sectional tensions in the 1850s. [6]
  - (c) “Reconstruction was a failure.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]

5 After 1850, people in the United States began to think differently about how people should live and work.

(a) Describe the aims of labor unions in the second half of the nineteenth century. [4]

(b) Why were there concerns, after 1850, about living conditions in cities? [6]

(c) To what extent was the Populist movement successful in the late nineteenth century? [10]

[Total: 20]

6 In the period after 1860 many immigrants arrived in the United States.

(a) What did the idea of the “Land of Liberty” mean in the late nineteenth century? [4]

(b) Why did Japanese workers move to Hawaii after 1885? [6]

(c) To what extent was opposition to immigration after 1860 based on economic concerns? [10]

[Total: 20]

Answer any **three** questions from your chosen section.

You are advised to spend equal time answering each of the three questions.

**SECTION B: Consolidating the Nation 1890–2000**

- 7 During the early twentieth century, some people began to question what could be done to improve people's lives.
- (a) Describe the living conditions of poor people in American cities in the period 1890–1920. [4]
  - (b) Explain how “muckraking” journalists influenced politicians in the early twentieth century. [6]
  - (c) “The policies of Progressivism were only achieved at state level.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 8 The lives of many Americans changed during the 1920s.
- (a) Describe what was meant by “laissez-faire” during the 1920s. [4]
  - (b) Explain how the term “New Woman” was used during the 1920s. [6]
  - (c) “The mass production of consumer goods transformed the lives of Americans in the 1920s.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 9 The economy of the late 1920s and 1930s had many ups and downs.
- (a) Describe the Second New Deal, 1935. [4]
  - (b) Explain why the Dust Bowl had such a big impact on the lives of people living in the mid-west during the 1930s. [6]
  - (c) To what extent was the rise in personal debt the main cause of the Wall Street Crash of 1929? [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 10 African Americans used different methods to attempt to improve their lives during this period.
- (a) Describe the ideas of Booker T. Washington. [4]
  - (b) Why was there a Harlem Renaissance during the 1920s? [6]
  - (c) To what extent were peaceful methods of campaigning for Civil Rights more effective than other methods in the 1950s and 1960s? [10]
- [Total: 20]

- 11 The relationship between the United States and the rest of the world changed after 1945.
- (a) Describe American involvement in the Korean War. [4]
  - (b) Explain why Truman disagreed with other world leaders at the Potsdam conference in 1945. [6]
  - (c) To what extent was the Vietnam War a success for the policy of Containment? [10]
- [Total: 20]

- 12 The United States faced new domestic challenges and economic opportunities after 1945.
- (a) Describe how the use of franchises had an impact on the US economy after 1945. [4]
  - (b) Explain why President Kennedy launched his “New Frontier” program. [6]
  - (c) To what extent did President Reagan deal with domestic challenges successfully? [10]
- [Total: 20]





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