



Cambridge IGCSE™

AMERICAN HISTORY (US)

0409/01

Paper 1 Making of a Nation

October/November 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 an equal time answering each of the three questions.

Section A: Emergence of a Nation 1754–1890

- 1** There were many discussions and changes made to try to make the United States more democratic before 1840.
- (a) Describe the beliefs of the Whig Party in the 1830s. [4]
 - (b) Explain why the role of the presidency changed in the United States before 1840. [6]
 - (c) “The creation of the Constitution was the most important step towards democracy in the period before 1840.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 2** The land under the control of the United States was acquired in different ways before 1853.
- (a) Describe how the United States took control of Texas in the 1840s. [4]
 - (b) Why were British colonists involved in the French and Indian War 1754–63? [6]
 - (c) “The Louisiana Purchase was the most important event in the expansion of the United States before 1853.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 3** The relationship between Native Americans and the US government changed throughout the nineteenth century.
- (a) What happened at Wounded Knee in December 1890? [4]
 - (b) Why did the Sand Creek Massacre lead to a deterioration in the relationship between Native Americans and the US government? [6]
 - (c) To what extent was there a good relationship between Native Americans and the US government before 1850? [10]
- [Total: 20]

4 There were many reasons for the disagreements between people living in the North and South of the United States.

- (a) What was the Compromise of 1877? [4]
- (b) Why was the Compromise of 1850 unpopular with so many people? [6]
- (c) To what extent were economic differences between the North and South to blame for increased sectionalism before 1860? [10]

[Total: 20]

5 Economic changes after 1850 transformed the way that people thought about the United States.

- (a) What were the problems with factory conditions in the second half of the nineteenth century? [4]
- (b) Explain why, in the late nineteenth century, the Farmers' Alliance had political success. [6]
- (c) "The most important impact of the Transcontinental Railroad was that it united the nation." To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

[Total: 20]

6 Immigrants arrived in the United States for different reasons and had varying experiences.

- (a) Describe the impact of immigration on the culture of American cities in the late nineteenth century. [4]
- (b) Explain why nativist groups grew in the middle of the nineteenth century. [6]
- (c) "Most immigrants arrived in America to pursue economic opportunities." To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]

[Total: 20]

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

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

Section B: Consolidating the Nation 1890–2000

- 7 During the early twentieth century people began to question whether the economy benefited most people.
- (a) What was meant by Progressivism in the early twentieth century? [4]
 - (b) Why did the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire have such a large impact on working conditions? [6]
 - (c) “Labor unions did little to improve the lives of workers before 1920.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 8 The “boom” in the economy during the 1920s had different causes and impacts.
- (a) Describe the new methods of advertising that were used during the 1920s. [4]
 - (b) Explain why governments of the 1920s used protective tariffs. [6]
 - (c) To what extent did all American people benefit from the economic “boom” of the 1920s? [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 9 The Wall Street Crash had a variety of causes and led to a Depression in the United States.
- (a) What was meant by the term “Hooverville”? [4]
 - (b) Why were “alphabet agencies” important in the United States during the 1930s? [6]
 - (c) “Overproduction was the biggest problem in the US economy in the late 1920s.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 10 African Americans tried different methods to improve their lives during the twentieth century.
- (a) Describe how African Americans began to challenge the Jim Crow laws in the 1950s. [4]
 - (b) Explain how Malcolm X challenged the ideas of the Civil Rights movement during the 1960s. [6]
 - (c) “Campaigns to improve the lives of African Americans before 1945 were largely unsuccessful.” To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]

- 11** The relationship between the United States and the rest of the world changed after 1945.
- (a) What was the Able Archer exercise, 1983? [4]
 - (b) Explain why the Soviet Union blockaded West Berlin in 1948. [6]
 - (c) To what extent was the United States successful in achieving its aims in the conferences held in 1945 at the end of the Second World War? [10]
- [Total: 20]
- 12** The United States government faced new types of domestic challenges after 1945.
- (a) Describe the ideas of Carter's energy plan. [4]
 - (b) Explain why there was disagreement about the policies of Reaganomics during the 1980s. [6]
 - (c) "The federal reform programs of the 1960s were successful in transforming the lives of Americans." To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. [10]
- [Total: 20]

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