



Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

AMERICAN HISTORY (US)

0409/01

Paper 1 The Making of a Nation 1754–2000

October/November 2017

2 hours

No Additional Materials are required.



READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the test administrator for a continuation booklet.

This paper has four sections, one for each syllabus theme. Each section has two questions.

Answer **three** questions, each from a **different** section. Each question has several parts. For each question you choose, answer every part, **(a)**, **(b)**, and **(c)**.

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

The number of points is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **3** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** insert.

Answer **three** questions, each chosen from a **different** section.

Section A: Government and the People 1754–2000

- 1 (a) Describe the policies of Radical Reconstruction, 1866–68. [5]
- (b) Explain why political parties faced internal disagreements in the late nineteenth century. [7]
- (c) “Presidents lacked real power in the period from 1865 to 1900.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]
- 2 (a) Describe the events of the Iran-Contra Affair, 1985–87. [5]
- (b) Explain why McCarthyism became a feature of American politics from 1950 to 1954. [7]
- (c) “The reform programs of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson made a real difference to the lives of ordinary Americans in the 1960s.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]

Section B: Who Are Americans, 1754–2000?

- 3 (a) Describe the impact of the Black Codes passed after the Civil War. [5]
- (b) Explain how Southern states were able to restrict the rights of African Americans between 1870 and 1900. [7]
- (c) “The lives of African Americans improved from 1865 to 1900.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]
- 4 (a) Describe the aims and methods of the Industrial Workers of the World in the early twentieth century. [5]
- (b) Explain why “yellow dog” contracts were used by employers before 1932. [7]
- (c) “Labor unions achieved their aims in the period from 1918 to 1948.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]

Section C: Economic and Social Change 1754–2000

- 5 (a) What was the importance of the Missouri Compromise of 1820? [5]
- (b) Explain how the actions of John Brown increased sectional tensions before the Civil War. [7]
- (c) “The Civil War was primarily caused by sectional divisions over slavery.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]
- 6 (a) What was meant by the term “buying on the margin”? [5]
- (b) Explain why over-production became a problem during the 1920s. [7]
- (c) “The boom of the 1920s had a positive impact on the lives of all Americans.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]

Section D: The U.S.A. and the World 1754–2000

- 7 (a) Describe the aims of the Monroe Doctrine of 1823. [5]
- (b) Explain why the United States wanted to build the Panama Canal. [7]
- (c) “U.S. relations with European countries improved from 1820 to 1900.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]
- 8 (a) What were the aims of the International Labor Organization when it was first founded? [5]
- (b) Explain how the U.S.A. tried to secure international peace in the 1920s. [7]
- (c) “The U.S.A. was a ‘Good Neighbor’ from 1933 to 1941.” How far do you agree with this view? Explain your answer. [8]

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