

General Certificate of Education  
June 2007  
Advanced Level Examination



## HISTORY

HS4L

### Unit 4

**Alternative L: Aspects of Domestic Issues in the USA,  
1877–1989**

Monday 18 June 2007 9.00 am to 10.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

### Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS4L.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

### Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

### Advice

- You are advised to spend 45 minutes on each question.
- In answering both Question 1(b) in Section A and your choice of question from Section B, you are advised to draw upon an appropriate range of historical knowledge and skills to demonstrate overall historical understanding for the synoptic assessment requirements for this question paper.

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Answer Question 1 and **one** other question.

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**SECTION A: AFRICAN AMERICANS 1877–1980**

You must answer this question.

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

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1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

**Source A** In the decades before 1920 many white Americans did not so much discriminate against the African American population, as fail to see them, as if they were invisible. Excluded from positions of power and influence, African Americans simply did not matter. The humble peanut changed  
5 this attitude. In 1921, George Washington Carver, a former slave, developed a new product: peanut butter. Carver showed both white and black Americans that an African American could accomplish great things.

Adapted from A AXELROD, *American History*, 2000

**Source B** Adapted from an American History text book written in 1984 reviewing the period since 1945

Since World War II, there have been private efforts against discrimination. Corporations have sought qualified blacks for skilled factory, clerical and project positions. White industrial unions have extended membership to African Americans. Major League Baseball dropped its colour bar in 1947,  
5 when Jackie Robinson became the first African American to play in the Major League. Since 1950, movie producers have stopped portraying African Americans as happy-go-lucky stereotypes and have started presenting them as human beings.

**Source C** Black civil rights leaders were encouraged to get their people, the victims of decades of racist thuggery and violence, to turn out in elections. Increasingly, however, black civil rights activists and their liberal white supporters took action on their own, sending so-called ‘freedom riders’ into the Segregationist  
5 South. This reflected the pace of change initiated by President Kennedy and his brothers. Nevertheless, such groups still needed federal protection.

Adapted from P NEVILLE. *J F Kennedy*, 2002

**Source D**

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- (a) Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

How fully do **Sources A** and **B** explain developments in the economic and cultural position of African Americans in the years 1920 to 1950? *(10 marks)*

- (b) Use **Sources A, B, C** and **D** and your own knowledge.

‘It was the actions of African Americans, rather than those of white Americans, which led to the improvement of the social and political position of African Americans in the years 1877 to 1980.’  
Assess the validity of this view. *(20 marks)*

**Turn over for the next question**

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**SECTION B: US DOMESTIC POLICY FROM KENNEDY TO REAGAN  
1961–1989**

Answer **one** question from this section.

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- 2 How far did President Johnson merely complete the work on poverty that Kennedy started? (20 marks)
- 3 How far do you agree with the view that Nixon achieved more success with his economic policies than the Presidents who followed him in the years to 1989? (20 marks)
- 4 To what extent did the Federal Government change its health policies more than its education policies in the years 1981 to 1989? (20 marks)

**END OF QUESTIONS**

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Question 1 Source B: I GORDON, *Review Text in American History*, AMSCO School Publications Inc., 1984. Courtesy of AMSCO School Publications Inc., 315 Hudson Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY10013, USA.

Source C: P NEVILLE, *J F Kennedy*, Hodder & Stoughton, 2002. © 2002 Peter Neville. Reproduced by permission of Hodder & Stoughton.

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