



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

History

HIS2Q

Unit 2Q The USA and Vietnam, 1961–1975

Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards

This question paper uses the new numbering system and new AQA answer book

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black 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 HIS2Q.
- Answer **two** questions.
Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 72.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each question.

Answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

Question 1

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

Source A

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Source B

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Source C After the bombing and ground campaigns of 1969–1971, and negotiations with the North Vietnamese, both Nixon and Kissinger realised that a peace with honour was unrealistic. There was no reasonable chance of achieving the division of Vietnam along the 17th Parallel that would provide a secure border. The Laotian and Cambodian campaigns, together with the withdrawal of US troops, had revealed that the South Vietnamese army was militarily weak on the ground. So the USA changed its strategy towards obtaining peace with honour from one of military force to one of diplomacy. In the period 1971–1973, a triangular relationship between the Americans, the Soviets and China emerged.

Adapted from C BRAGG, *Vietnam, Korea and US Foreign Policy 1945–75*, 2005

0 1 Use **Sources A** and **B** and your own knowledge.

Explain how far the views in **Source B** differ from those in **Source A** in relation to the Tet Offensive, 1968. *(12 marks)*

0 2 Use **Sources A, B** and **C** and your own knowledge.

How important was the Tet Offensive as a reason for the USA adopting a diplomatic solution to its involvement in Vietnam? *(24 marks)*

EITHER

Question 2

0 3 Explain why President Diem was assassinated in 1963. *(12 marks)*

0 4 'The Vietcong gained support in South Vietnam because of the attraction of communism.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

OR

Question 3

0 5 Explain why, in the years 1965 to 1967, there was growing opposition inside the USA towards the war in Vietnam. *(12 marks)*

0 6 'President Johnson escalated the war from 1965 in order to strengthen his negotiating position with the government of North Vietnam.'
Explain why you agree or disagree with this view. *(24 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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