



GCE AS/A level

1232/08

HISTORY – HY2

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 8

The Crisis of the American Republic, c. 1848-1877

P.M. THURSDAY, 22 May 2014

1 hour 20 minutes

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080001

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer **either** question 1 **or** question 2.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in square brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

The time you spend on a question should be in proportion to the marks available.

The sources and quotations used in this unit may have been amended or adapted from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

You are reminded that marking will take into account the quality of written communication used in your answers.

UNIT 2

IN-DEPTH STUDY 8

The Crisis of the American Republic, c. 1848-1877

Answer either question 1 or question 2.

QUESTION 1

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

If this decision stands, slavery, instead of being what the people of the slave states have hitherto called it, their peculiar institution, will become a Federal institution. It will be the common shame of all the States, both those that are free and those that have slaves. Wherever our flag floats, it is the flag of slavery. If so, that flag should have the light of the stars and the streaks of morning red erased from it and replaced by the whip and the chain.

[From an editorial in a northern newspaper, the *New York Evening Post*, commenting on the Supreme Court's decision in the Dred Scott case (18 March 1857)]

Source B

In the Dred Scott case it is likely that Chief Justice Roger Taney reached his judgment without consulting the other justices. Taney's logic was selective and warped by modern standards, but there can be no denying the energy that he injected into the pro-slavery argument by his wrong-headed effort to settle the issue, with all the solemnity and force of a Supreme Court announcement. Taney decreed that negroes did not enjoy citizenship of the United States and therefore could not pursue cases in the federal courts (or indeed anywhere else).

[Brian Holden Reid, a British military historian specialising in the Civil War, writing in his book, *The Origins of the American Civil War* (1996)]

Source C

The prevailing ideas of the Founding Fathers were that the enslavement of the African was wrong in principle, socially, morally and politically. These ideas, however, were fundamentally wrong. They rested upon the assumption of the equality of races. This was an error. Our new government is founded upon exactly the opposite idea; its foundations are laid, its cornerstone rests upon the great truth, that the negro is not equal to the white man and that slavery – subordination to the superior race – is his natural and normal condition. Our new government is the first in the history of the world based upon this great physical, philosophical, and moral truth.

[Alexander Stephens, the Confederate Vice-President, in a speech to the Confederate Congress (21 March 1861)]

Source D

Harriet Beecher Stowe's book *Uncle Tom's Cabin* played on the anxieties of middle-class America about the continued existence of slavery. Stowe saw slavery as an affront to civilised values and captured a growing northern feeling that slavery was something truly horrible. A large number of northerners, influenced by powerful, evangelical beliefs, saw their republic as a righteous crusade against sin. The Fugitive Slave Law had destroyed once and for all the fiction that slavery was a purely sectional institution. Slavery was a national sin.

[Adam Smith, a British historian specialising in nineteenth century America, writing in his book, *The American Civil War* (2007)]

Source E

Jefferson Davis and other leaders of the South have made an army. They are making, it appears, a navy. And they have made what is more than either – they have made a nation. We may anticipate with certainty the success of the Southern states so far as that separation from the North is concerned.

[William Gladstone, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer and a leading Liberal politician, making a speech about the possibility of Britain recognising the Confederacy to party members in Newcastle (October 1862)]

Source F

[A Republican Party poster for the 1860 presidential election]

- (a) What does the author of Source E mean by the phrase ‘they have made a nation’? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How important was the Dred Scott decision of the Supreme Court in 1857 in causing the Civil War? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that conflict about slavery caused the Civil War? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are sources D, E and F in understanding the American Civil War to 1865? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

QUESTION 2

Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

The battle on Wednesday was a terrible one. Our victory was complete, and the disorganized rebel army has rapidly returned to Virginia, its dreams of invading Pennsylvania dissipated for ever. I feel much pride in having, with a beaten and demoralized army, defeated Lee so utterly and saved the North so completely.

[From a letter written by the northern commander, General McClellan, to his wife, after the battle of Antietam (20 September 1862)]

Source B

The 6,500 Union and Confederate soldiers killed and mortally wounded at Antietam on September 17, 1862, were more than died in combat in all the other wars fought by the United States in the nineteenth century combined.

[James M. McPherson, a leading American historian of the American Civil War, writing in his book about the battle of Antietam, *Crossroads of Freedom* (2002)]

Source C

Secession is the fashion here. Young ladies sing for it; old ladies pray for it; young men are dying to fight for it; old men are ready to demonstrate it. The utter contempt and loathing for the venerated Stars and Stripes, the loathing of the very words 'United States', the immense hatred of the Yankees on the part of these people cannot be conceived by anyone who has not seen them. I am more satisfied than ever that the Union can never be restored as it was, and that it has gone to pieces, never to be put together again.

[W.H. Russell, the British war correspondent for the *Times* newspaper, writing in his book about his experiences in the first few months of the Civil War, *My Diary: North and South* (17 June 1861)]

Source D

Except for South Carolina secession was not a certain thing. In delegate votes across the lower South, secessionist candidates averaged less than 55% of the total vote: a majority but not an overwhelming one. Public expressions of contempt for secession and secessionists abounded in North Carolina and Virginia. When Virginians voted for their convention to meet in February 1861, only 32 of the 152 delegates identified themselves as secessionists. The border states were even less enthusiastic for secession.

[David Goldfield, an academic historian specialising in the Civil War era, writing in a revised history of the Civil War, *America Aflame* (2011)]

Source E

**FUGITIVE
SLAVE BILL!**

HON. HENRY WILSON
Will address the citizens on

Thursday Evening, April 3,

At the

At 7 o'clock, on the all-engrossing topics of the day—the FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL, the pro-slavery action of the National Government and the general aspect of the Slavery question.

Let every man and woman, without distinction of sect or party, attend the meeting and bear a testimony against the system which fills the prisons of a free republic with men whose only crime is a love of freedom—which strikes down the habeas corpus and trial by jury, and converts the free soil of Massachusetts into hunting ground for the Southern kidnappers.

Ashby, March 29, 1851.

White & Potter's Steam Press—4000 Impressions per hour—Spring Lane, Boston.

[From a handbill distributed by the Anti-Slavery Society in Boston, Massachusetts in March 1851 criticising the impact of the Fugitive Slave Bill]

Source F



[A cartoon by A.J. Volck, a German immigrant and Southern sympathiser, depicting the sacrifice of a white man to a deified black American at an altar. There is also a statue of Lincoln in a fool's cap (1863)]

- (a) What does the author of Source E mean by the phrase 'converts the free soil of Massachusetts into hunting ground for the southern kidnappers'? [8]

In your answer you are advised to discuss the content and authorship of the source and to use your own knowledge.

- (b) How important was the battle of Antietam in the American Civil War? [16]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources A and B and using your own knowledge.

- (c) Do you agree with the interpretation that secession was an unpopular policy in the south? [24]

Explain your answer analysing and evaluating the content and authorship of Sources C and D and using your own knowledge.

- (d) How useful are sources D, E and F in understanding the American Civil War to 1865? [32]

In your answer you are advised to analyse and evaluate the content and authorship of these sources and to use your own knowledge.

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