

A-level HISTORY

Component 2G The Birth of the USA, 1760–1801

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2G.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- 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:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

 Answer Question 01.

Source A

From 'The American Crisis' by Thomas Paine, 19 April 1783. This was Paine's response to the end of the War of Independence and future of the United States of America.

The revolution for independence has been gloriously won. The debt is small, compared with what America has gained. The world is in America's hands. America has no foreign power to monopolise its commerce, interfere with legislation, or control its prosperity. Instead of a domineering master, America has gained a great ally in France.

But a major issue that should be considered above all other concerns, is the future union of the states. At present, the affairs of each state are local. And even if the richest states were combined, it would not give us enough power to support one another against a foreign attack. In short, we have no other national sovereignty than as the United States. Individuals, or individual states, may call themselves what they please; but the world, and especially the world of enemies, will not be impressed merely by the name, United States. Sovereignty must have power in order to protect its future. 5 10

Source B

From an article by Alexander Hamilton, 1 January 1784. This was Hamilton's first article defending the American policy towards the loyalists. It was printed and sold to New York citizens.

Peace was for the good, and favourable to the foundations of this country. Congress acted wisely in making the Peace Treaty; thus, it follows that all states are bound by it and should lawfully accept it. Yet I fear, if all states fail to abide with the sixth clause of that Treaty, the future of the Union will be threatened. The Peace Treaty clearly states that those who may have been against us in the war should not be made to suffer any loss or damage to their person, liberty or property. It is in the future interest of those citizens of the United States who during the Revolution opposed us, to be accepted by the new government of the United States by giving them not only protection but also participation in governmental privileges, so that they will become its friends. For, if we allow these disaffected men to suffer, it will make enemies against our government and threaten our own liberties. 5 10

Source C

From a letter sent by George Washington to John Jay, 15 August 1786. Jay was one of the Founding Fathers who had expressed similar concerns to Washington.

Our affairs are near crisis. We have errors to correct. States will not carry out measures for their own good, without the intervention of coercive power. I do not believe that we can exist much longer as a nation without creating a strong and effective authority which will have power over the whole Union. Thirteen sovereign, independent, disunited states are refusing compliance with the central government under the Articles of Confederation. Demands from Congress are little better than a joke throughout the land. If you tell the state legislatures that they have violated the Peace Treaty and ignored the rights of the Articles of Confederation, they will laugh in your face. What then is to be done? Things cannot go on in the same manner forever. We are apt to run from one extreme into another. It would be wise to anticipate and prevent disaster, otherwise it is to be feared that the people disgusted with the current circumstances will prepare for any revolution whatever. 5 10

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the problems facing the new nation created in 1783.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 'Victory in the French and Indian War gave Britain secure control over its North American colonies by 1763.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent was tension, in the years 1770 to 1774, the result of British, rather than colonial, actions?

[25 marks]

0 4 How significant was Alexander Hamilton in the development of political parties in the years 1796 to 1801?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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