



---

# A-level HISTORY

## The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945–1980

Paper 2Q

---

**ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER**

2 hours 30 minutes

### Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 **2Q**.
- 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:
    - 60 minutes on Question 01
    - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
-

---

**Section A**Answer Question 01

---

**Source A**

Adapted from Eisenhower's State of the Union address, Jan 10th 1957, outlining his assessment of the state of the country.

High priority should be given to the school construction bill. This will benefit children of all races throughout the country, and children of all races need schools now. A program designed to meet emergency needs for more classrooms should be enacted without delay. I am hopeful that this program can be enacted on its own merits, uncomplicated by provisions dealing with the complex problems of integration. I urge the people in all sections of the country to approach these problems with calm and reason, with mutual understanding and good will and, in the American tradition, of deep respect for the orderly processes of law and justice.

I should say here that we have much reason to be proud of the progress our people are making in mutual understanding, the chief buttress of human and civil rights. Steadily we are moving closer to the goal of fair and equal treatment of citizens without regard to race or color. But unhappily much remains to be done.

**Source B**

Adapted from a public speech by Orval Faubus, September 18th, 1958.

Our own educational people have testified that a suitable educational system at Little Rock cannot be maintained on an integrated basis. Why then, should we even attempt to keep these schools open as public schools when, based upon this sworn testimony, they clearly do not meet our constitutional provisions for a suitable and efficient system of education? We have a perfect right to close these schools as public institutions and, once closed and found to be not needed for public purposes, the school board has the right and the authority under a law that has been on our statute books for 83 years, to lease these buildings and facilities to a bona fide private agency. Once again I am compelled to point out to the people of this city, this state, this nation and the world, if you please, that our objective has been to maintain the peace and good order of the community. As long as there is a legal way, as I have outlined, to maintain the peace and good order and a suitable educational system, I will not shirk from my duty and responsibility.

---

**Source C**

Adapted from an interview with Ernest Green, one of the Little Rock Nine, recorded on August 26, 1979 for the TV series **Eyes on the Prize, America's Civil Rights Years** (1954–1965)

Well Orville Faubus, I always said that we made Faubus famous. If it hadn't been for us, he'd just been another obscure Southern governor. I guess, the difficulty I have with Faubus is that at the time that he was elected, most black people thought he was the best of choices of the candidates, the Democratic candidates, running. He had always had a fair amount of black support. So that when he became the ardent segregationist, it was a surprise and a shock. I gather what Faubus knew he was doing was assuring his re-election by seizing this issue and lining up behind the segregationist forces. That assured him of some six terms. Now, everything I see, Faubus has recanted all of his previous involvement with the segregationist thrust and said he was doing it only to protect us, but it was obvious he knew that he had hit a chord that would get him re-elected continually.

0	1
---	---

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying attitudes to integrating schools in the South.

**[30 marks]**

---

**Section B**Answer **two** questions

---

**0 2**

'Johnson's failure to win the Vietnam war stemmed from the mistakes of Kennedy.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]****0 3**

'The USA was a united country in the five years after the Second World War ended.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]****0 4**

'Carter's failings in foreign affairs was the reason behind the election of Reagan.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]****END OF QUESTIONS**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Question 1 Source B: Special Collections, University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville

Question 1 Source C: Washington University Digital Library <http://digital.wustl.edu/cgi/t/text/text->

Permission to reproduce all copyright has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.