
HISTORY

9697/53

Paper 5 The History of the USA, c.1840–1968

October/November 2014

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use an HB pencil for any diagrams or graphs.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

Section A: The Road to Secession and Civil War, 1846–1861

You **must** answer Question 1.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TO CANADA

- 1 Read the Sources and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1**, candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the Sources, both individually and as a group.

Source A

A Southern gentleman happening to be at Syracuse, New York, with a slave a day or two since, the abolitionists took it into their heads to give the matter a ride on the underground railroad. They followed him to church on Sunday and, calling him out, advised him to go to Canada. The result turned out different from the expectation. The slave administered to them a sharp rebuke for disturbing him in his devotions. He informed the abolitionists that he was contented with his condition, after which he went into the church and his friends retired.

From the Boston 'Herald', 1 May 1851.

Source B

Northern abolitionism is threatened with a rebuke, if not a check, from an unexpected quarter. The people of Canada are getting restless at the number and quality of the runaways which the underground railroad of the American kidnappers is pouring in upon them. There has been little pause in the zeal of philanthropists of the Northern states in seducing slaves from their masters and hurrying them into Canada. It has been easy for these people to carry out their activities against the South at small cost to themselves. There is Canada at hand, into which they could hurry the runaway and leave him to the chances of British hospitality. An ignorant and idle class – and it appears also, frequently, a worn-out and worthless class – are thus passed by the abolitionists through their own region and rushed into that of Queen Victoria, to be a source of uneasiness and burden there. The Canadians have stood it for a long time, not without a little wincing. They do not want to be the general refuge for constantly increasing multitudes which are dangerous as marauders or burdensome as paupers. They have been at last compelled to speak out – in their Parliament as well as their public journals.

From the New Orleans 'Picayune', 9 August 1856.

Source C

At the time of my first visit in 1830, there were but a few hundred fugitive slaves in Canada. There are now not less than 35,000. At that time they were for the most part miserably poor. Now many of them own large and valuable farms and only a few can be found in circumstances of destitution or want. In 1830 there were no schools among them and no churches. We have now numerous churches and they are well filled. The condition and prospects of a majority of fugitive slaves in Canada is vastly superior to that of most of the free people of colour in the Northern states, thousands of whom are hanging around at the corners of streets waiting for a job. It is a rare sight to see an intoxicated coloured man in Canada.

'Truth Stranger than Fiction', autobiography of Josiah Henson, a former slave, 1858.

Source D

The other day six runaway negroes marched through the streets under the protection of Stephen Myers, a black man who claims to be the President of the 'Underground Railroad' but who is really the agent of an abolition organisation which occupies itself in running darkies from New York to Canada. Persons lately returned from Canada represent that the black settlements there are rapidly increasing and fast becoming positive nuisances. One half, at least, of the runaways expect to be supported by the charity of the whites and are forming the nucleus of a race of black paupers, whose situation is rendered doubly uncomfortable by the rigours of an unaccustomed climate. Worse than this – these settlements are becoming wretchedly demoralised and the result is exhibited in a race of low mongrels given over to sloth, drunkenness and debauchery.

From the Charleston 'Mercury', 15 February 1858.

Source E

I'm on my way to Canada, that cold and dreary land;
 The sad effects of slavery, I can't no longer stand.
 I've served my masters all my days, without a dime's reward;
 And now I'm forced to run away, to flee the lash abroad.
 Farewell, ole master, don't think hard of me,
 I'll travel on to Canada, where all the slaves are free.

The hounds are baying on my track, ole master comes behind,
 Resolved that he will bring me back before I cross the line.
 I'm now embarked on yonder shore, there a man's a man by law;
 The iron horse will bear me o'er, to shake the lion's paw.
 Oh, righteous Father, wilt thou not pity me,
 And aid me on to Canada, where all the slaves are free?

Oh, I heard Queen Victoria say that if we would forsake our land of slavery
 And come across the lake, that she was standin' on de shore,
 With arms extended wide, to give us all a peaceful home
 Beyond de rolling tide.

A fugitive slave song, quoted in 'Scenes in the Life of Harriet Tubman', by Sarah H Bradford, 1869.

Now answer the following question:

How far do Sources A–E support the assertion that travelling the underground railroad to Canada in the 1850s led to a better life for fugitive slaves?

Section B

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2 How successful were US federal policies towards Native Americans in the second half of the nineteenth century?
- 3 Compare Grant and Lee as military leaders during the Civil War.
- 4 Assess the contribution to the growth of the US economy of the 'huddled masses' of immigrants who entered the USA in the period from 1865 to 1917.
- 5 How far did the New Deal (1933–41) improve the lives of African Americans?
- 6 Evaluate the factors which caused the 'Roaring Twenties' in the USA.
- 7 Analyse the causes and effects of Franklin Roosevelt's 'Good Neighbor' policies towards Latin America in the period from 1933 to 1941.
- 8 'US society in the 1950s and 1960s was surprisingly little influenced by the mass media.' How far do you agree?

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.