



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. MONDAY, 23 January 2012

1½ hours

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 **one** question.

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.

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IN-DEPTH STUDY 8

THE CRISIS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC, c. 1848-1877

Answer one question.

1. *Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.*

Source A

‘We can think of no event that could deepen the hostility of the peoples of the free states to slavery as much as this execution. This is not because the acts of Brown in attempting to raid Harper’s Ferry are generally approved, for they are not. His death will be the result of his own folly but that will not prevent him being considered a martyr.’

[From an editorial in the *Springfield Republican*, a northern newspaper, commenting on the execution of John Brown (5 December 1859)]

Source B

‘On the reception of the news of the surrender of Fort Sumter one of the wildest, most enthusiastic and heartfelt expressions of joy was seen on the part of the people of Richmond. Nothing else was talked about save the heroic troops of the Southern Confederacy obliterating the Illinois ape’s standing menaces against Southern rights and equality.’

[From an article in the southern newspaper, *The Richmond Dispatch* (April 15 1861)]

Source C

‘What a disaster! With a dash of the pen four thousand million acres of our property have been destroyed and freedom given to four million slaves. It is a chance for the slaves to rise in insurrection, with the assurance of aid from the whole military and naval power of the United States.’

[From a southern newspaper *The Whig*, published in the southern capital Richmond, commenting on Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation (1 October 1862)]

Source D

‘Lincoln’s proclamation of emancipation freed not a single slave. It left out the border states and rested solely upon the President’s wartime power as commander-in-chief, and was subject to constitutional challenge. It had very little impact, and the south worried over nothing.’

[Ira Berlin, a revisionist historian, writing in his collection of articles, *Union and Emancipation: Essays on the Civil War Era* (1997)]

Source E

[A popular illustration of the trial of John Brown drawn by James E. Taylor in 1899. The illustration was based on eye-witness accounts of the trial.]

- (a) Study Source B. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the name “Fort Sumter”. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and E. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry. [8]
- (c) Study Sources B and E. How reliable are Sources B and E in explaining the causes of the Civil War? [16]
- (d) Study Sources C and D. How far does Source C support or contradict the interpretation of the Emancipation Proclamation given in Source D? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the American Civil War? [32]
(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions).

2. Study the sources below and answer the questions that follow.

Source A

‘In an election speech, I heard McClellan say, “If I am elected, I will recommend an immediate armistice and call for a convention of all the states and insist upon exhausting all and every means to secure peace without further bloodshed”.’

[Samuel L. Barlow, a Southern businessman, writing in his memoirs in the 1870s. He was recalling listening to General McClellan, the Democrat candidate in the 1864 presidential election.]

Source B

‘There was only slight resistance to General Sherman’s march. He swept on with his army of 60,000 like a fully developed cyclone, leaving behind him a track of desolation and ashes fifty miles wide.’

[A Confederate officer, J.P. Austin, recalling events in late 1864, in his memoirs *The Blue and the Gray* which were published in 1899]

Source C

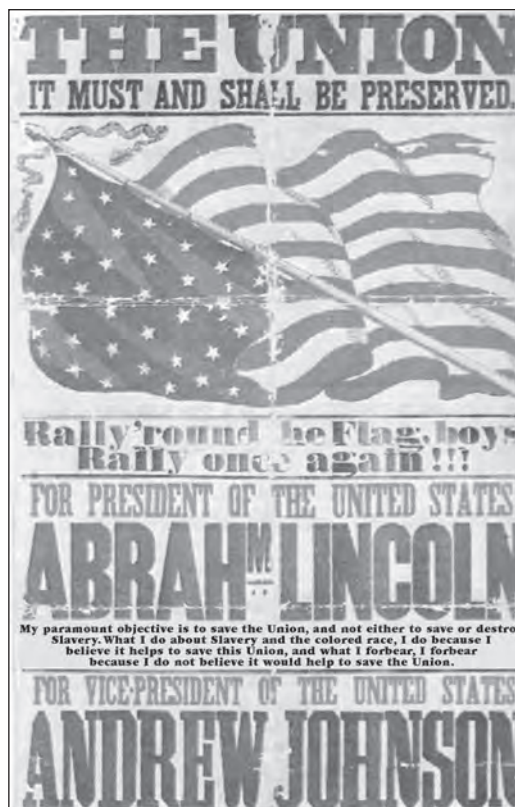
‘It is difficult at this day to realise the state of public opinion in relation to negro slaves which prevailed in the civilised and enlightened portions of the world when the Constitution of the United States was framed and adopted. They were regarded as beings of an inferior order, and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations; and so far inferior, that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect. This aspect of public opinion still persists in parts of the southern states.’

[Roger Taney, the US Chief Justice, giving his judgement in the Dred Scott case, and commenting on the position of black Americans (1857)]

Source D

‘The storm of anger which instantly swept the North after the Dred Scott judgement was in part due to Chief Justice Taney’s attempt to give historical reasons for the doctrine that negroes were ineligible to citizenship. Taney was wrong. In fact all the old British colonies contained free negroes who held property, made contracts, sued and were sued.’

[Allan Nevins, an academic historian, writing in a history of the American Civil War, *The Ordeal of the Union* (1950)]

Source E

[From a campaign poster for Lincoln and his running mate Andrew Johnson, used in the presidential election (1864)]

- (a) Study Source B. Use the source **and your own knowledge** to explain the meaning of the phrase, “General Sherman’s march”. [4]
- (b) Study Sources A and E. Use these sources **and your own knowledge** to explain the importance of the 1864 Presidential Election. [8]
- (c) Study Sources A and B. How reliable are Sources A and B in explaining the key events of the Civil War in late 1864? [16]
- (d) Study Sources C and D. How far does Source C support or contradict the interpretation of the position of black Americans given in Source D? [20]
- (e) How useful are these sources to an understanding of the American Civil War? [32]
(In your answer you are advised to use relevant background knowledge from the depth study, as well as information derived from the sources and the attributions).