



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
Cambridge International Level 3 Pre-U Certificate
Principal Subject

HISTORY

9769/03

Paper 3 US History Outlines, c. 1750–2000

May/June 2010

2 hours 15 minutes

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Answer **three** questions which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.
All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for analysis and critical evaluation in your answers to questions. You should also show, where appropriate, an awareness of links and comparisons between different countries and different periods.



This document consists of **5** printed pages and **3** blank pages.



Section 1: c. 1750–c. 1820

- 1 To what extent was the British government able to control the political and economic affairs of the American colonies between 1750 and 1776?
- 2 How far can it be argued that the ideas of the American Enlightenment prompted and sustained the American Revolution that began in 1776?
- 3 What were the most important issues in the debates surrounding the creation and development of the Constitution of the United States between 1781 and 1791?
- 4 Why was the institution of slavery relatively unchallenged in America in the period 1750 to 1820?
- 5 Why did Britain and the United States go to war in 1812 and how significant were the consequences?

Section 2: c. 1820–1865

- 6 What do you understand by the term 'Jacksonian Democracy'?
- 7 ***(Candidates offering paper 5g: The Origins and Causes of the American Civil War should not answer this question.)***

'The issue of slavery was the primary cause of the Civil War.' How valid is this judgement?
- 8 To what extent should Lincoln be regarded as a great president?
- 9 How significant was the social and economic impact of the Civil War?
- 10 How successful was US foreign policy between 1819 and 1861?

Section 3: Themes c. 1750–c. 1900

- 11 How far was America's successful western expansion in the nineteenth century brought about by presidential policies?
- 12 'A determined effort to destroy a culture.' Discuss this view of US government policies towards Native Americans in the nineteenth century.
- 13 How far did the high levels of immigration into the United States between 1840 and 1920 lead to social conflict?
- 14 'The role of women within American society remained restricted and largely domestic in the half century before World War One.' How valid is this judgement?
- 15 How useful are American novels of the nineteenth century as sources for historians of the United States?
- 16 Is it possible to identify a distinctively American set of values emerging within nineteenth-century American society?

Section 4: 1865–1914

- 17 To what extent did the political and social position of African Americans improve within the United States between 1865 and 1896?
- 18 How successful was the trade union movement within the United States in the years 1880 to 1914?
- 19 How is the rise of the Populist movement best explained?
- 20 Account for the rise of an expansionist approach to American foreign policy between 1890 and 1912.
- 21 'Theodore Roosevelt's reputation as a great president is based more on his personality than his policies.' Discuss.

Section 5: 1914–1953

- 22 'The United States entered the First World War in order to safeguard democracy.' How valid is this judgement?
- 23 How accurate is the claim that American society underwent a crisis of moral values during the 1920s?
- 24 How is the onset of the Great Depression in the 1930s best explained?
- 25 How convincing is the argument that the Cold War did not begin until 1947?
- 26 How is the rise of 'McCarthyism' best explained?

Section 6: 1953–2000

- 27 'From the end of the Korean War until 1962, the American policy of "containment" with regard to Communism was entirely successful.' Discuss.
- 28 How is the failure of the United States to achieve a decisive victory in the conflict in Vietnam best explained?
- 29 How accurate is the view that President Johnson's achievements on the domestic front have been underestimated?
- 30 How far does Richard Nixon deserve his reputation as a politician lacking in any principles?
- 31 'President Carter was an unfortunate president rather than an incompetent one.' How valid is this judgement?
- 32 How is the popularity of President Reagan best explained?

Section 7: Themes c. 1900–2000

- 33** How great a change was there in the role and status of women in American society between 1900 and 1945?
- 34** Why did America experience a prolonged period of economic growth between 1945 and 1970?
- 35** How useful is the concept of an 'imperial presidency' in relation to the period 1933 to 1974?
- 36** How significant was the impact of modern art in the United States after 1945?
- 37** How convincing is the argument that America underwent a social revolution in the 1960s?
- 38** 'Despite the separation of Church and State, American politics in the twentieth century were deeply influenced by religious attitudes.' How far do you agree with this view?

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