



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 2012**

**2 hours 15 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper



**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the booklet.

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 a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

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

Answer **three** questions which must be chosen from **at least two** sections of the paper.

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.

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

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

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



**Section 1: c.1750–c.1820**

- 1 Assess the impact of the Seven Years War on relations between Britain and the American colonies before 1776.
- 2 'The outcome of the American War of Independence was determined largely by the leadership of George Washington.' Discuss.
- 3 To what extent did the Constitution of the United States, as it emerged by 1791, satisfy the aims of its authors?
- 4 'Of all the factors that explain the expansion of slavery, c.1750 to c.1820, the invention of the cotton gin in 1793 was the most important.' Do you agree with this view?
- 5 Do the successes of Thomas Jefferson's presidency, 1801–09, outweigh the failures?

**Section 2: c.1820–1865**

- 6 ***(Candidates offering paper 5g: The Origins and Causes of the American Civil War should not answer this question.)***  
Assess the importance of slavery to the social and economic life of the South.
- 7 'The United States lost more than it gained from its conflicts with Mexico in this period.' Discuss.
- 8 How democratic was the second party system?
- 9 ***(Candidates offering paper 5g: The Origins and Causes of the American Civil War should not answer this question.)***  
How far do you agree that there was little chance of the Compromise of 1850 being a lasting solution to sectional disputes in the United States?
- 10 Discuss the view that superiority of resources best explains the North's victory in the Civil War.

**Section 3: Themes c.1750–c.1900**

- 11 'The Louisiana Purchase was the key factor in the expansion westward in the period c.1750 to c.1900.' Discuss.
- 12 To what extent was the way of life of the Native Americans deliberately destroyed in this period?
- 13 To what extent did the benefits of immigration outweigh its disadvantages in the years c.1840 to c.1920?
- 14 How far was the period 1865–1914 one of 'unbridled capitalism'?
- 15 How much did the Temperance movement owe to the contribution of women?
- 16 How beneficial were the railways to the economic and social development of the United States in the years c.1865 to c.1900?

**Section 4: 1865–1914**

- 17 'Reconstruction policy failed to alter the prospects of Black Americans.' Discuss.
- 18 How successfully did United States governments curb radicalism in the years c.1880 to 1914?
- 19 Why was the Populist movement short-lived?
- 20 How typical of the foreign policy of the United States in the period c.1880 to 1914 was its intervention in Cuba from 1898?
- 21 How 'progressive' was the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt?

**Section 5: 1914–1953**

- 22 'A great peacemaker.' How appropriate is this view of Woodrow Wilson?
- 23 'The causes of the Great Depression can be traced to the economic prosperity of the 1920s.' Discuss.
- 24 How accurate is the claim that the New Deal 'saved the system of private profit and free enterprise from ruin'?
- 25 'The Battle of Midway was the most important turning point in the war in the Pacific.' Assess the validity of this judgement.
- 26 How far was US foreign policy concerned with the defence of its own national interests in the period 1945 to 1953?
- 27 What best explains the widespread fear of communism in the United States in the period 1945 to 1953?

**Section 6: 1953–2000**

- 28 How convincing is the view that the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 was to the advantage of the United States?
- 29 How successful was the domestic policy of President Kennedy?
- 30 'His administrations did little to resolve the divisions in US society.' Assess this view of Nixon's presidency.
- 31 What best explains the ending of détente?
- 32 How justified is the view that President Reagan's main domestic achievement was the expansion of the economy?

**Section 7: Themes c.1900–2000**

- 33** 'The power of the presidency increased mainly in times of war.' Consider this claim with reference to the period 1933 to 1974.
- 34** Was World War Two the most important factor explaining the economic development of the United States in the years 1941 to 1980?
- 35** Assess the impact on American society of developments in cinema, radio and TV in this period.
- 36** Assess the significance of Hippy culture.
- 37** How valid is the notion of 'a melting pot' to describe the United States in this period?
- 38** How beneficial was the social and political influence of organised religion in the United States in the twentieth century?





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