

Cambridge IGCSE™

AMERICAN HISTORY (US)**0409/01**

Paper 1 Making of a Nation

May/June 2026**MARK SCHEME**Maximum Mark: 60

Published

This mark scheme contains the instructions and marking guidance that our examiners used to mark candidate responses for this component.

Before they start marking, examiners complete a standardisation process. They review a range of candidate responses and discuss the mark scheme in detail to agree which answers can and cannot be accepted. Examiners award marks where it is clear that candidate responses have met the requirements of the mark scheme. These requirements may vary between different components or different versions of the same component, depending on the exact requirements of the question and the candidate responses seen during the standardisation process.

Sometimes, our mark schemes may allow marks to be awarded to responses which contain elements that are factually incorrect or for content not covered by the syllabus. We do this in response to the demands of a specific question to support candidates and make sure that our assessments are fair. However, these allowances should not be used as a guide for teaching and learning.

We cannot discuss the mark scheme with schools, and we recommend that schools read the mark scheme together with the assessment material and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

This document consists of **29** printed pages.

General marking principles

All examiners must apply these marking principles when marking candidate responses.

1	Examiners must award marks for each response in line with: - the specific content defined in the mark scheme - the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the level descriptions - the standard of response required as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
2	Examiners must award whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).
3	Examiners must award marks positively . This means that: - marks are not deducted for errors or omissions - marks are awarded for correct/valid answers as defined in the mark scheme and also for other valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme referring to your team leader as appropriate - the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar are judged only when the mark scheme indicates that these features are specifically assessed in the question. However, the meaning of all responses must be unambiguous.
4	Examiners must consistently apply the requirements of the mark scheme and any rules for what to do when candidates have not followed instructions correctly.
5	Examiners must use the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme, unless limited by the quality of the candidate responses seen.
6	Examiners must award marks according to the mark scheme and must not award marks with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Unclear response or information
	Information or part of the explanation is missing
	Counterargument given
	Development of an idea
	Justification
	Knowledge
	Attempts evaluation
	Narrative
	Resource
 etc.	Marking level achieved
	Not answered question
	Repetition
Highlighter	Identifies part of the response

Table 1

The table should be used to mark the 6 – mark part (b) questions.

Target: Demonstrating an understanding of historical explanation (AO1 & AO2)		Marks
Level 4	Explanation of at least TWO identified reasons.	6
Level 3	Explanation of ONE identified reason.	4–5
Level 2	Identifies AND/OR describes reasons. No valid explanations given for reasons.	2–3
Level 1	Valid general comment lacking specific subject knowledge.	1
Level 0	No evidence submitted or response does not answer the question.	0

Table 2

The table should be used to mark the 10 – mark part (c) questions.

Target: Demonstrating the ability to analyse historical events and come to a substantiated judgement (AO1; AO2)		Marks
Level 5	Explains with evaluation of 'To what extent'. Argument supported by relevant and accurate contextual knowledge.	10
Level 4	Explanation of both sides of agreement AND disagreement. Argument supported by relevant and accurate contextual knowledge. A simple explanation of both sides should be given 7 marks. Where one side has a more developed explanation, but the other side remains simple this should be awarded 8 marks. Two developed explanations should be awarded 9 marks.	7–9
Level 3	Explanation of one – side of agreement OR disagreement. Supported by relevant and accurate contextual knowledge. Marks within this level should be decided on quality of explanation. A one – sided answer no matter how detailed cannot be awarded more than 6 marks.	4–6
Level 2	Identifies AND/OR describes reasons. Deployment of relevant and accurate contextual knowledge. No valid explanations given for reasons.	2–3
Level 1	Valid general comment lacking specific subject knowledge.	1
Level 0	No evidence submitted or response does not answer the question.	0

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Describe how American colonists challenged British rule 1763–74. Target: A01 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • Colonists rioted against the Stamp Act in 1765 [1] and this made it impossible to collect the tax [1]. • Colonists opposed the Townshend Duties [1] and in 1768 a boycott of British goods began [1]. • There were violent protests against the Stamp Tax [1] with the protestors demanding ‘No taxation without Representation’ [1]. • The colonists reacted to the Tea Act of 1773 by the Boston Tea Party [1] when hundreds of chests of tea were thrown into Boston harbour. [1]	4
1(b)	Explain why the Bill of Rights was important. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation The Bill of Rights consisted of amendments to the Constitution which guaranteed civil rights and liberties such as freedom of the press and freedom of speech. It was important because without it some colonists might not have accepted the Constitution. The Bill also set out how power was to be divided between the Federal government and the States. Both aspects were needed to reassure states who were previously reluctant to agree to the Constitution. During the ratification debates in the individual states in 1787–8, some states like Virginia were only won over by the promise of a Bill of Rights. Once the Bill of Rights was ratified, it helped reconcile Anti – Federalists to the Constitution. Its importance, therefore, was that it made the Constitution acceptable for most Americans. Example: identification/description • The Bill of Rights was popular and helped the US to be governed properly. • It banned the quartering of troops in civilian houses. • It confirmed the right of all citizens ‘to bear arms’. • It persuaded some states like North Carolina and Rhode Island to enter the Union.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	To what extent was Jacksonian Democracy democratic? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) In some important ways Jacksonian Democracy was very democratic, especially for the time. It argued that all white men were equal and should be involved in politics and therefore they should have the vote: voting should not depend on wealth. It was also against the governing of the country being controlled by a small elite, which was also enriching itself through control of public institutions. It very much believed in self-made white men being economically independent and free. OR It was not really democratic. Although it thought that all white men should have the vote it was against women and Native Americans having it. In fact, it was based on ideas about the superiority of whites. Jackson believed that the Native Americans should be pushed off their land to make way for farmers and Jackson was called a tyrant for doing this with his Indian Removal Act. Example: identification/description • All white men over 21 should have the vote. • It believed that white men should be free to live as they wanted. • It was against economic institutions like banks exploiting ordinary people. • It was against women and Native Americans having the vote. • There were no benefits for African Americans. • Slavery Increased. • The President retained a veto, ensuring control over government. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • It was very democratic because its ideas were meant to help everyone.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Describe the events leading to the start of the French and Indian War in 1754. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • It was a dispute between the French and British colonists over control of land [1]. • The French needed to control the Ohio River [1] but the British presence in the area was increasing [1]. • A group of Virginia planters organised the Ohio Company [1]. • The French started to build a chain of forts [1] to protect land in the Ohio Valley [1]. • Washington led a Virginian force to stop them [1] but found the French building Fort Duquesne [1]. • Washington ambushed the French at the Battle of Jumouville Glen [1] and this started the war [1].	4
2(b)	Explain why the War of 1812 was significant. Target AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • It was a disaster for the Native Americans who fought on the British side. They lost any hope of their own barrier state in the West when the US rejected the idea at the Ghent peace conference. They were now on their own and there followed a gradual loss of their best land through negotiated agreements which forced them even further back into reservations. Example: identification/description. • It was seen as a Second War of Independence by the Americans and helped strengthen American nationalism. • It changed and improved the relations between Britain and the US. • The threat of secession by New England was stopped. • Arrangements set up in the Treaty of Ghent led to a peaceful unfortified border. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • The War of 1812 was very important because it changed a lot of things at the time.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
2(c)	‘The war with Mexico (1846–48) was the most important factor in the expansion of the US before 1853.’ To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The war with Mexico was very important because the US was very keen to expand into the south – west and use the land for cotton growing. At the time, the land belonged to Mexico. War broke out in 1846 and ended in 1848 with the Treaty of Guadeloupe Hidalgo (1848.) In this treaty vast amounts of land were taken by the US. Over half of the land of Mexico went to the US including what later became the states of California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, and most of Arizona. OR - There were other factors that were more important. One key factor was the role of the federal government. Its attitude that the US would extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean was an important driving force in US expansion. It financed exploration beyond the Appalachian Mountains. This opened up the Plains which would gradually be taken over the US. Also, in 1803 the government bought the whole of Louisiana from the French. This doubled the territory of the US. Finally in 1853 the US government made the Gadsden Purchase from Mexico which added more land. Without the belief and the actions of US governments the expansion of the US would not have been so great or so quick. Example: identification/description - The war with Mexico led to large amounts of land in the south-west being won from Mexico. - Mexico gave up claims on Texas and accepted the Rio Grande as the border with the United States. - Victory in the war strengthened the belief in Manifest Destiny. - In 1803 the Louisiana Purchase from France led to the doubling of the size of the US. - The belief in manifest destiny by many US governments led to the expansion of the US. - In 1846 the US annexed Texas. - Economic factors such as mining and farming helped open up the West. - In 1846 the Oregon Treaty settled the border dispute between Britain and the US and fixed the border along the 49th parallel. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge I think this is wrong because there were other factors that added lots of land to the US.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	Describe relations between Native Americans and colonists before American independence. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • In 1763 the Native Americans in the Great Lake region revolted against the British [1] in Pontiac's War [1]. • Colonists encroached on Native American lands which caused tensions. [1] • At first the colonists made little attempt to assimilate with the Native Americans. [1] • During the French Indian War of 1754–63 the English allied with the Iroquois Confederacy. [1] • In the Seven Years War many Native Americans supported the French [1] because of the attitude of the British colonists towards them [1]. • The colonists discussed improving relations with some major Native American tribes [1] at the Albany Congress of 1754 [1]. • Many Native Americans fought against the colonists in the War of Independence [1]. • Cherokee warriors fought on the side of the colonists in the Revolutionary War [1].	4

Question	Answer	Marks
3(b)	Explain why the Battle of Wounded Knee was important. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation - The battle was important because it ended any organised resistance to the reservation life and assimilation to white American culture being forced on the Native Americans. The US Army had conducted this campaign, and the Sioux Lakota had been greatly reduced. The Sioux resisted this, and particularly important was the Ghost Dance movement which was especially strong among the Lakota. In 1890 US soldiers massacred hundreds of Lakota men, women and children. The remaining Ghost Dancers surrendered shortly afterwards. This event was important because it was the last armed conflict between the white settlers and the Native Americans. The resistance by the Native Americans was over, leaving all the Plains to white Americans. Example: identification/description - Over 250 men, women and children of the Lakota Sioux were massacred by the US Army. - The Ghost Dance movement was destroyed. - The resistance of the Native Americans was finally ended. - The Native Americans had to accept the way of life on the reservations. - It was the last armed conflict between white settlers and Native Americans. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - It was very important because it solved some problems.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	Which had the greater impact on the lives of the Native Americans, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 or the Plains/Indian Wars of 1850–1880? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one – sided) - The Removal Act was important because it had an enormous impact on Native Americans, especially in the northeast and southeast. It enabled the emptying of land east of the Mississippi and south of the Great Lakes of Native Americans. The Act allowed the US government to force the Native Americans off their cultivated land and on to much inferior land on the Plains. Forced marches were used, with many Native Americans dying on the marches. This had an enormous impact on some of the Native Americans in the affected areas because they lost their good land and ended up with inferior land. Whole communities were disrupted and the frontier was being pushed further west. OR - I think the Plains Wars had more of an impact. They took place in the 1860s and 1870s and consisted of several clashes between the US Army and Native Americans, including Red Cloud's War and the Great Sioux War. They were about destroying the way of life of the Native Americans and pushing them into reservations where they were forced to learn the ways of white men to make way for miners, railway companies and settlers. It all had a massive impact on the Native Americans. The buffalo, on which they depended for food, shelter and tools, were slaughtered, and the Native Americans were forced into reservations where their way of life was destroyed. They were given food and could not hunt, their children were sent to school where they were converted to Christianity, and many were forced to be farmers. Example: identification/description - Up to 100 000 Native Americans were forced to leave their ancestral lands. - The Removal Act allowed the Native Americans to be forced on to inhospitable land. - The Trail of Tears was when all remaining Cherokee were forced to walk through the winter and many died. - The Plains Wars ended up with Native Americans being forced into reservations. - The Plains Wars meant that the policy of assimilation was introduced and Native Americans were forced to accept the culture and way of life of white Americans. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - I think it was the Removal Act because this did great harm to the Native Americans.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	What was the Dred–Scott case of 1857? Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • It was about a slave called Dred Scott [1] who wanted his freedom [1]. • Dred Scott was taken by his owner to the free state [1] of Illinois [1]. • Dred Scott's owner died and he was inherited by his owner's wife [1] and he sued for his freedom because he was living in a free state [1]. • The case reached the Supreme Court [1] where it was decided that he was not a US citizen [1] and could not use a US court [1]. • The case had been taken up by abolitionists [1] and the decision was very unpopular in the North [1].	4
4(b)	Explain why Reconstruction (1865–77) was mainly a failure. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • Reconstruction failed because of opposition to it by white Southerners. Although African Americans had been made full American citizens this was never really accepted in the South. Many white Southerners were determined to maintain white supremacy and their power in the South. When Reconstruction was introduced by the Republicans, there was a backlash in the South. Organisations such as the Ku Klux Klan and the White League terrorised African Americans and drove many of them from politics and even from voting. It was the actions of white Americans in the South that caused Reconstruction's failure. Example: identification/description • President Andrew Jackson wanted to return the South back to its pre – civil war condition. • African Americans were supposed to get '40 Acres and a Mule' to allow them to make money, but this never happened. • Sharecropping and tenant farming meant that African Americans remained poor and often had to work on the plantations for low wages. • There was a lot of corruption, and this gave Reconstruction a bad name. • The introduction of Black Codes were designed to limit the freedom of African Americans. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • It failed because many people were against it.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(c)	To what extent was the Civil War fought over slavery? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - Slavery was the main reason for the Civil War. Slavery was important in the South. The economy in the South depended on agriculture which relied on slave labour but the North was more industrialised. The wealth of many white estate owners in the South came from it, and it influenced every aspect of life in the South. This made it a different society from the North where the abolition movement was growing all the time. The Republican Party was also growing stronger and many of its members were against slavery. People in the South were sure that the North planned to abolish slavery, and this is why they were ready to go to war – to defend it, their society and way of life. OR - Other reasons were more important. States' rights were the main reason for the war. The states in the South thought that they had a right to run their own affairs and that there was far too much interference by the federal government in local rights. They saw this as an attack on their right to maintain their own way of life. One example of federal attacks on states' rights was the debate over slavery. Southern states simply believed that the US government had no right to tell individual states that they could not have slavery. This was a matter for states to decide. Example: identification/description - Abolitionism had grown, partly because of the publication of Uncle Tom's Cabin and the Dred Scott case. - In the Lincoln – Douglas debates it was clear Lincoln wanted to limit the growth of slavery when he was President. - The Southern states seceded after the election of Lincoln. - There was disagreement over the extension of slavery into new western territories. - John Brown's raid in 1859 convinced many in the South that the North threatened them. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - Slavery was important because many people in America had strong opinions about it.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	Describe the inventions that supported the development of the industrial revolution in the North after 1850. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • The sewing machine sewed fabrics together [1] instead of manual sewing [1]. • In 1876 Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone [1] which put businesses in better contact with their customers [1] over long distances [1]. • Edison's electric lightbulb [1] meant factories could work longer hours [1] and so could produce more goods [1].	4
5(b)	Explain why the spread of railroads had an important impact on American economy and society after 1850. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • The spread of the railroads meant that industries in New York and other cities in the east had their markets, and access to these markets increased. Using the railroads they could send their goods to many places out west for sale. A greater range of goods could be sent and much more quickly. All this helped to stimulate trade and helped the businesses to grow. Example: identification/description • Farmers in the West could send their produce to the large cities in the east. • It stimulated new businesses to set up out west as new towns grew alongside the railroad. • Cattle could be moved to northern cities to provide food. • It removed the need for dangerous journeys west on foot. • It encouraged the settlement of areas such as California. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • The railroads meant that the American economy was changed.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
5(c)	‘The Farmers’ Alliances were more successful than labor unions after 1850’. To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The Farmers’ Alliances did have some successes. The Farmers’ Alliances were able to help their members with local initiatives. At a time when many farmers were struggling with droughts and high costs, they helped them by setting up cooperative stores which bought directly from the wholesalers and sold the goods more cheaply to the farmers. They also set up mills and cotton warehouses for members to use at lower costs. Cooperative exchanges were also set up to allow members to buy agricultural supplies at discounted prices. All these moves helped farmers in a time of high costs. To try to be more effective they then formed the People’s Party so that they would have political power and in the 1892 Presidential election carried some states such as Kansas. OR - The labor unions struggled to achieve much. The Knights of Labor, which allowed any workers to join did achieve a membership of 700 000 at one time but soon collapsed. The American Federation of Labor, which represented skilled workers, campaigned for shorter hours and higher wages but also struggled to achieve a lot. The unions were up against powerful employers and companies who were ready to use force against them. There were also a lot of unemployed workers ready to take the jobs of workers who went on strike. Example: identification/description - The Farmers’ Alliances set up cooperative shops to lower prices for farmers. - The Farmers’ Alliance pressurised the government to regulate the railroads so farmers could transport goods more cheaply. - Farmers’ Alliances set up cooperative mills and warehouses for farmers to use. - The Knights of Labor did have some successful strikes against railroad companies. - The Labor Unions had to fight against rich and powerful employers. - The Labor Unions did achieve some improvements in working conditions such as better ventilation. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - The Farmers’ Alliances did help their members and achieved more than the Labor unions.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	Describe the experiences of the Chinese immigrants who worked on the railroads. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • They were paid less than American workers [1]. • They worked six 12 hour days in a week [1] and had to live in tents [1]. • They lived and worked in groups of 20 [1] and had a leader who collected their wages for them [1]. • The work was very hard such as digging tunnels [1] through the Sierra Nevada Mountains [1]. • The winters were very severe with enormous snow drifts in the way [1]. • They had to dig or blast their way through granite rock [1] to lay the roadbed for the rails [1].	4
6(b)	Explain why immigration from Mexico increased in the second half of the nineteenth century? Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • There was an enormous demand for labor in the US at this time – especially building railways and on farms. At the same time unemployment in Mexico was high. Some Mexicans had experience of building railroads in Mexico in the 1870s and so they had the skills to do the work on the US railroads. Others moved on to US farms and worked as laborers in the fields or on the irrigation schemes that were turning the US desert into good land for farming. The wages for these jobs were much higher in the US – on the railroads 5 times higher and on farms up to 10 times higher. Example: identification/description • There were many Mexicans desperate for work who wanted a better standard of living. • The border was close and easy to cross; they could simply walk across. • Communal land in Mexico was privatized, leaving many peasants landless. • Many Mexicans worked in the California gold mines and in copper and coal mines. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • Immigration increased because people thought that they would be much better off in the US.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
6(c)	‘Opposition to immigration in the second half of the nineteenth century was mainly based on economic concerns.’ To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - I disagree with this. A very important reason for this opposition was religion. Most of the people in the US at this time were Protestants but a lot of immigrants like those from Ireland were Catholic. Organisations like the Know Nothings strongly opposed immigration for this reason. They saw the immigrants as a threat to Protestant power in the US and opposed immigrants being elected to political jobs. They campaigned for banning immigrants from US citizenship for 25 years. OR - I agree with this statement. Americans were concerned about immigrants working for lower wages and taking jobs from them. Many immigrants from areas like Southern Europe and China were desperate for work and would work for lower wages. This could lower everyone’s wages and push Americans out of work. This economic concern was one of the reasons the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act was passed which banned Chinese laborers for 10 years. This shows that economic worries were a major reason for opposition to immigration. Example: identification/description - The economic depression in the 1870s meant there were fewer jobs in Northern industrial cities. - Immigrants formed communities to keep their traditions and culture going (food, language, music) which people resented. - It was thought immigrants crowding into cities could change the nature of the cities and the American way of life. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - Many people opposed immigration because they were worried.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)	Describe labor relations before 1920. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • Employers attacked unions [1] and used lockouts [1]. • They were bad [1]. Employers were determined to crush the unions and used non-union labour [1]. • The Industrial Workers of the World organised many strikes [1] including the Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912 [1]. • There were many strikes such as Goldfield, Nevada [1] where federal troops were used [1]. • Unions such as the Wobblies [1] and the American Federation of Labor grew. [1] • The employers used yellow dog contracts [1] to stop workers joining unions [1].	4
7(b)	Explain why the Progressive Era Amendments were important. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • These were important because they introduced reforms which made the United States a much fairer country such as the direct election of Senators. This mattered because they had been elected by state legislatures. This caused the problems of corruption and deadlocks. Some candidates bought the votes of the members of the legislatures and there were cases where legislatures could not agree and no Senator was elected for years. The reform helped get rid of corruption, trusted the American people and made the whole system more democratic. The introduction of income tax was also important because it was fairer on the poor than tariffs which was where the US government got most of its income from. Example: identification/description • The Congress could levy income tax which made the rich pay more. • The 19th Amendment gave the vote to women which increased the electorate by 8 million. • The 17th Amendment made the US more democratic by introducing the direct election of Senators. • In 1919 the 18th Amendment banned the production and sale of alcoholic drinks which led to the growth of gangs and increased crime rates. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • They were very important because they reformed lots of things.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
7(c)	‘The most important influence on the Progressive Movement was the work of the muckrakers.’ To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The muckrakers had an enormous influence on the Progressive Movement. They were journalists who reported the corruption in big business and politics, such as in the Standard Oil Company. They also reported insurance fraud and companies bribing politicians. Some concentrated on the hardships of the poor, their terrible living conditions and unsafe working conditions including child labour. Their articles had an enormous impact on public opinion, and this led the Progressive Movement to demand reforms. The direct election of Senators and the Pure Food and Drug Act were results of the work of the muckrakers. OR - Other influences were more important. The work done at local level by people such as La Follette in Wisconsin was very influential. He gave the people more power by introducing primary elections so that people could choose the candidates and reformed taxation. These measures had an influence on the Progressives at a national level. Some of the very rich, like Carnegie argued that they had a duty to help and support social reform as well as build colleges and hospitals. Example: identification/description - Jacob Riis exposed poor living conditions in tenements in New York. - Upton Sinclair wrote ‘The Jungle’ which raised people’s awareness of conditions in food factories and led to the Pure Food and Drug Act (1906). - The muckrakers exposed the dreadful living and working conditions of the poor. - Local initiatives like those of Governor Vardeman in Mississippi had an influence. - Events like the Shirtwaist Factory Fire led to new safety laws. - Campaigning by labor unions for better working conditions had an influence. - Women and religious organisations were concerned about the negative effects of alcohol. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - The muckrakers were very important but there were other factors as well.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
8(a)	Describe the advertising methods used in the 1920s. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • New outlets were used like the radio [1] and glossy tabloid magazines [1]. • The cinema was used for advertising [1]. • There were billboards alongside roads [1]. • The focus was on the consumer as much as on the product [1] e.g. to make the housewife's life seem more interesting [1]. • Techniques such as making the consumer feel guilty [1] for e.g. not owning a car [1]. • Aimed at the elite who set trends [1] and had purchasing power [1].	4
8(b)	Explain why US governments introduced tariffs during the 1920s. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • Tariffs such as the Ford–McCumber Tariff of 1922 were introduced to protect US industries against foreign competition. They increased the price of goods coming into the country and this meant that goods produced by American industries or farmers were cheaper than the imports. This led to American consumers buying the American products which helped US industry boom. This in turn would create more jobs and make the people buying consumer goods feel good and contented. Example: identification/description • To help American farmers, who were struggling to compete with Canadian imports of wheat. • They introduced tariffs to raise money for the government. • They did this to make foreign manufactured goods more expensive. • Their aim was to help American industries. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • They did this because they thought tariffs would help people.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
8(c)	'The lives of all Americans were transformed for the better in the 1920s.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark, according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2 Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one – sided) - Not everyone's lives were transformed. Many African Americans were farm laborers or sharecroppers. During the 1920s millions of them lost their land or their jobs. Many went northwards to big cities looking for jobs where they often faced discrimination. For example, car factories only employed African Americans in small numbers. Most farmers' lives were not transformed for the better. Many could not pay their mortgage payments and had to sell up. Nor were the lives of many women improved. Not all benefited from the new consumer goods. The wives of farmers and laborers could not afford them and most still did their own washing by hand. Farmers' wives did the cleaning, cooking, looking after children and working in the fields. OR - Many people had better lives. There was plenty of work and wages went up. They were able to buy a car and had freedom to travel. This also led to some moving to live in the suburbs, where the air was cleaner. Entertainment also improved. They could listen to the radio and go to the cinema. Some households benefited from the new consumer goods such as washing machines and vacuum cleaners. Some women had a lot more freedom as the range of jobs open for women increased such as office work and their social lives improved with some becoming flappers. Example: identification/description - African Americans in the South lost their jobs. - African Americans still faced discrimination. - People benefited from new, cheap consumer goods. - Workers in old industries like mining, lost their jobs. - Working hours decreased and working conditions improved for some workers. - Some young women had jobs and independence. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - The 1920s were good as lives became much better for many people	10

Question	Answer	Marks
9(a)	What was the Dust Bowl? Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • The soil turned to dust because of drought [1] and poor farming techniques [1]. • Winds caused dust storms [1] which killed people, crops and livestock [1]. • The land in states such as Kansas [1] and Oklahoma [1] was turned into a desert where nothing would grow [1]. • Thousands of farmers were ruined [1] and many farming families left their farms [1] • It caused migration [1] with thousands looking for work in California [1].	4
9(b)	Explain why there was overproduction in American industries towards the end of the 1920s. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • There was overproduction because the US could not sell its surplus products to Europe which was a large and important market. This was because European countries could not afford American goods due to the debts they were paying back after the war. Also, European countries were finding it hard to sell their goods in the US and so were not earning enough money to buy American goods. Example: identification/description • Many Americans were on low wages and could not afford the goods being made. • Those that could afford new inventions like fridges had bought what they needed. • Europe could not afford to buy American goods. • Mass production led to goods being produced faster than they could be sold. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • There was overproduction because lots of goods were being produced.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
9(c)	To what extent did the New Deal solve the problems facing the United States? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The New Deal did solve some of the problems facing the US. Measures such as the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Public Works Administration did help reduce the problem of unemployment. During the 1930s did go down from 14 million in 1933 to about 8 million by 1937. Jobs were created by creating public works that were badly needed such as building houses, dams and bridges. The Hoover Dam not only created many jobs but also provided electricity and water for farmers. Also, the problems facing farmers were dealt with by the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. Farmers were given loans, so they did not lose their farms, and they were also paid to produce less food thus helping to solve the problem of overproduction. OR - The problems were not really solved. By 1937 the government started to spend less money and some of the problems came back. For example, unemployment started to go up again in 1938 and only went down later because of the Second World War. In 1937, production fell and there was another depression with businesses starting to fail. Nor did the New Deal make life much better for African Americans. There was still widespread racism and discrimination, especially in the South. These were even found in the schemes set up by the New Deal. Example: identification/description - Many new jobs were created by the New Deal agencies and unemployment did start to go down. - Confidence in the banking system was restored. - The New Deal gave the American people confidence that things would get better. - African Americans still faced discrimination and racism. - Few of the New Deal agencies did much for women. - It was expensive. - Many of the new jobs were low paid and temporary. - There were legal challenges and the NRA was ruled to be unconstitutional. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - The New Deal helped some people, but it did not solve all of America's problems.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
10(a)	Describe how discrimination against African Americans was challenged in the 1950s. Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • Brown v Board of Education [1], a group of African American parents won the right for their children to attend school alongside white children [1]. • The NAACP legally challenged [1], the right of school boards to run segregated schools [1]. • In 1954 the Supreme Court judged that segregation in education was illegal under the Constitution [1]. • In 1955 Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat [1] to a white male as required by law [1]. • The bus boycott [1] in Montgomery, Alabama [1]. • In 1956 the Supreme Court ordered that segregation on buses was illegal [1]. • African American children enrolled at the Little Rock High School [1] supported by US troops [1]. • The 1957 Civil Rights Act supported the right of African Americans to vote [1] and banned discrimination [1].	4
10(b)	Explain why the Plessy vs. Ferguson judgement of 1896 was important. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • This judgement was important because it gave a constitutional justification for segregation. Homer Plessy had refused to sit in a car for African Americans on a train. He claimed his constitutional rights were being violated. However, the judgement supported segregation and was important because it stood as the law until the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka ruling in 1954. It meant that during this whole period, segregation was legal. It covered not just trains but all public services and facilities such as buses, hotels and schools. This is why it was so important. Example: identification/description • It made segregation legal and ‘distinctions based on color’, could continue. • It lasted as law until 1954. The Jim Crow laws were allowed to remain. • It meant that states in the South introduced more segregation laws. • It established the ‘separate but equal’ doctrine. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • It was important because it introduced a big change in the US.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
10(c)	Who achieved more for African Americans, Martin Luther King or Malcolm X? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include: Example: explanation (one-sided) • Martin Luther King achieved more. His method of non-violent civil disobedience was very effective and won a lot of support including among white Americans. His popularity can be seen by the quarter of a million people, who attended the March on Washington in 1963. His peaceful methods finally won the support of the government and in 1964 the Civil Rights Act was passed that banned racial discrimination in public places like bars, hotels and swimming pools. King also led the Selma March in 1965 which supported African Americans' right to register to vote. As a result of this march, the Voting Rights Act was passed which supported this right. King achieved many rights for African Americans who were being discriminated against. OR • I think Malcom X achieved more for African Americans. He thought that King was too moderate and that progress for African Americans was too slow. He was particularly critical of King's lack of focus on the economic condition of African Americans – unemployment, poverty and poor housing. He argued that more could be achieved using more violent methods. He also wanted to empower African Americans. He won the support of young inner-city African Americans and encouraged them to be proud of their heritage and history. This was a great achievement as it changed the perception many had of African Americans. They became more independent and set up their own schools and businesses. Example: identification/description • King's non-violence won support of many white Americans for the cause of civil rights. • King led important marches that brought the nation's attention to civil rights. • King's 'I have a dream' speech was broadcast internationally and is still famous today. • King's activities helped lead to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. • Malcolm X made African Americans proud of their history and heritage. • Malcolm X turned the focus to the unemployment and poor housing of African Americans in cities like New York. • He travelled widely to spread the ideas of the Nation of Islam. • People became involved in the Black Power movement because of Malcolm X Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • I think it was Martin Luther King because he was very popular.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
11(a)	What was the Berlin Blockade, 1948–49? Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include: • It was introduced by Stalin [1] when he blocked all supply lines into West Berlin [1] cutting off the population from help from the West [1]. • Roads and railway lines into Berlin, which was in the Soviet zone, [1] were blocked by troops [1]. • Stalin's aim was to force the western powers out of Berlin [1]. • The allies started the Berlin Airlift [1] taking in food, oil and other supplies [1]. • The airlift went on for ten months [1] until Stalin gave up and removed the blockade [1]. • The Allies provided over 2 million tons of supplies [1].	4
11(b)	Explain why President Reagan was important in the ending of the Cold War. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • Reagan was important in ending the Cold War. As US president, he acted tough towards the Soviet Union and Gorbachev. He increased US military spending by a third and criticised Soviet control over Eastern Europe. The Soviet Union was in terrible financial trouble and there was no way it could match this increase in spending. As a result, Gorbachev decided that negotiating with the US would be a better approach. He withdrew troops from Afghanistan and cut military spending. Reagan and Gorbachev held summit meetings in the late 1980s and in 1987 agreed to scrap intermediate – range nuclear weapons. Reagan's part in all this shows how important he was in ending the Cold War. Example: identification/description. • Reagan started the Star Wars programme. • There was de – escalation of the arms race. • He held summit meetings with Gorbachev in the late 1980s. • At a meeting in 1987 he and Gorbachev agreed to scrap intermediate – range nuclear weapons. • His tough stance towards the USSR persuaded Gorbachev to seek negotiation and peace. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • He was not the only person who played an important role as there were others.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
11(c)	'The Korean War was more of a failure for the United States than the Vietnam War.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The Korean war was more of a failure. The aim of the Korean War was to contain the communists. When the US got involved, the communists had invaded South Korea and had almost overwhelmed all of it. The US wanted to unify Korea under a non-communist government but this failed. The war also gained the US a bad reputation, because over 2 million Korean citizens were killed through bombing and the use of weapons like napalm. OR - The Americans entered Vietnam because of the domino theory – that if they let the communists take over South Vietnam, then the rest of Asia would fall to the communists. In other words, they wanted to contain communism. The Americans had a terrible time in the war, they struggled against the guerrilla tactics of the Viet Cong, suffered enormous casualties and the war became unpopular in the US itself. When peace was finally agreed in 1973, US troops were pulled out leaving the communists to take over the South. American involvement in Vietnam also led to the communists taking over Laos and Cambodia. Although some Americans argue that the war did slow down the spread of communism, it was largely a disaster. Example: identification/description - The Korean War made ties between North Korea, China and the Soviet Union closer. - The Americans failed to free North Korea of communism. - MacArthur's actions could have led to nuclear war. - The loss of life in Vietnam created tensions between the US government and the people resulting in the anti-war movement. - The Americans struggled against guerilla tactics of the VC because they tried to fight a conventional war. - America had enormous numbers of casualties. - South Vietnam was taken over by the communists soon after peace was made in 1973. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - I think that they were not very successful in either war.	10

Question	Answer	Marks
12(a)	What was President Carter's energy plan? Target: AO1 One mark for each relevant point. Additional mark for supporting detail. Responses may include the following: • To work for environmental quality [1] and conservation [1]. • Develop and increase the use of renewable fuels [1] and reduce the use of fossil fuels [1]. • Reduce the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere [1] and fight climate warming [1]. • Tax credits to encourage energy conservation [1] and use of non-fossil fuels [1]. • He wanted to tax inefficient motor vehicles [1].	4
12(b)	Explain why the United States enjoyed a period of prosperity in the 1950s. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 1. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation • The role of the Federal government was very important. Even although Eisenhower was a Republican president, he was willing to spend public money. He spent money on building the interstate highway which provided jobs and allowed people to travel around more. He also increased the minimum wage by a third. He kept much of the New Deal and expanded social security. His policies created an economic boom. Example: identification/description • Franchises developed new ways to grow businesses. • The development of conglomerates allowed companies to join together and expand quickly. • After the war people got married, had children and spent money on goods for their families. • The middle classes were earning good wages and spending on goods like cars and TVs. • The white middle classes moved to the suburbs to live. • The GI Bill provided housing and medical and financial support for veterans. • Paid vacations and a 5-day working week became common. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge • Many people enjoyed life more.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
12(c)	To what extent was Reaganomics a success? Explain your answer. Target: AO1, AO2 Mark according to the levels of response descriptors in Table 2. Responses may include the following: Example: explanation (one-sided) - The aim of Reaganomics was to reduce the high inflation and unemployment that Reagan inherited when he became president. He also wanted to stimulate industry. He succeeded in most areas. He cut both personal and company taxes and unemployment did go down. He believed in the ‘trickle down’ theory which meant that if companies did well and the rich got richer, this would benefit everybody. He deregulated industry to encourage growth and competition. During his time as president, inflation and unemployment both went down and GDP increased, so Reaganomics was successful. OR - Reaganomics was not a success. Reagan wanted to reduce government spending but because he increased spending on the military, government spending went up as did the national debt. This was not what he wanted. Nor did the ‘trickle down’ approach work. Middle class incomes barely went up, and people were not better off than before. The cuts to housing and social security meant that poverty increased and more people were living below the poverty line. Homelessness also went up. For most people in the US Reaganomics was not a success. Example: identification/description - Personal and company taxes were reduced, and the top rate went down from 70% to 28%. - Both unemployment and inflation were reduced. - Industry and business were stimulated and grew. - Tax revenue was increased. - The middle classes were hardly any better off and the poor suffered badly. - There was an increase in homelessness. - Government money for social security and housing was cut. - Government spending went up and government debt increased. Example: general answers lacking specific subject knowledge - It was a success because lots of people were pleased with it.	10