



Diploma Programme
Programme du diplôme
Programa del Diploma

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History
Higher level
Paper 3 – history of the Americas

Wednesday 5 May 2021 (morning)

1 hour 45 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different section.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.

5 pages

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Section 1: Indigenous societies and cultures in the Americas (c750–1500)

1. “The relationship between religious and political powers was mutually beneficial.” Discuss with reference to **two** pre-Columbian societies.
2. Evaluate the contribution of written and unwritten language in **two** indigenous societies.

Section 2: European explorations and conquests in the Americas (c1492–c1600)

3. To what extent were colonizing countries successful in the exploitation of resources in the Americas?
4. “Bartolomé de las Casas improved the treatment of indigenous populations.” Discuss.

Section 3: Colonial government in the New World (1500–1800)

5. “Colonial government successfully established royal authority.” Discuss with reference to British and French political organization in their North American colonies.
6. Discuss the reasons for, and impact of, the Pombaline reforms.

Section 4: Religion in the New World (1500–1800)

7. “The main aim of the Catholic Church in Spanish and Portuguese America was the conversion of indigenous people.” Discuss.
8. Compare and contrast the impact of religious orders in New France and in Spanish America.

Section 5: Slavery and the New World (1500–1800)

9. Discuss the nature of, and reasons for, the social structures on plantations in **either** the West Indies **or** Brazil.
10. Evaluate the impact of slave resistance and slave rebellions in British America before 1776.

Section 6: Independence movements (1763–1830)

11. Discuss the impact of military campaigns/battles on the outcome of **two** Latin American independence processes.
12. “Independence established new and effective trade relations.” Discuss with reference to **two** societies of the Americas.

Section 7: Nation-building and challenges (c1780–c1870)

13. “The Mexican–American War (1846–1848) was mainly caused by the actions of the Mexican government.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
14. “The Durham Report was successful in resolving political discontent in Canada.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 8: US Civil War: causes, course and effects (1840–1877)

15. “Economic differences between the North and South were the most important factor in causing the Civil War.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
16. Evaluate the impact of the Emancipation Proclamation (1863) on the outcome of the Civil War.

Section 9: The development of modern nations (1865–1929)

17. Discuss the impact of neocolonialism in **two** countries.
18. Evaluate the impact of the Jim Crow Laws on the social and economic conditions of African Americans.

Section 10: Emergence of the Americas in global affairs (1880–1929)

19. Evaluate the impact of the Big Stick policy on US foreign relations.
20. To what extent was US foreign policy neutral prior to entering the First World War?

Turn over

Section 11: The Mexican Revolution (1884–1940)

- 21.** Discuss the impact of the Maximato.
- 22.** To what extent did Lázaro Cárdenas advance the renewal of the revolution?

Section 12: The Great Depression and the Americas (mid 1920s–1939)

- 23.** “Economic factors were more important than political factors in causing the Great Depression.” Discuss with reference to **one** country of the Americas.
- 24.** To what extent did the New Deal change the US political system?

Section 13: The Second World War and the Americas (1933–1945)

- 25.** Discuss the impact of events in Europe and Asia on inter-American diplomacy up to 1941.
- 26.** Compare and contrast the involvement of **two** countries of the Americas in the Second World War.

Section 14: Political developments in Latin America (1945–1980)

- 27.** Evaluate the consequences of guerrilla movements on the domestic development of **one** country.
- 28.** “The liberation theology movement had a significant impact on Latin America.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 15: Political developments in the United States (1945–1980) and Canada (1945–1982)

- 29.** Compare and contrast the domestic policies of Ford and Carter.
- 30.** “Diefenbaker’s domestic policies were successful in solving Canada’s problems.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 16: The Cold War and the Americas (1945–1981)

31. “The diplomatic and political impact of the Korean War was limited.” Discuss with reference to **two** countries.

32. Compare and contrast the foreign policies of John F Kennedy and Lyndon B Johnson.

Section 17: Civil rights and social movements in the Americas post-1945

33. “The civil rights of indigenous peoples in the Americas improved after 1945.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

34. To what extent was the US Supreme Court successful in challenging segregation in education?

Section 18: The Americas (1980–2005)

35. To what extent were the domestic policies of GHW Bush a success between 1989 and 1993?

 36. Discuss the role of the military in **two** Latin American countries following their transition to democracy.
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