A-level HISTORY

Component 2J America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877

Friday 7 June 2024 Afternoon Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials
For this paper you must have:
- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2J.
- Answer **three** questions.
  In **Section A** answer Question 01.
  In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  – use good English
  – organise information clearly
  – use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice
- You are advised to spend about:
  – 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
  – 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a letter sent to Abraham Lincoln by Horace Greeley, 19 August 1862. Greeley was a Radical Republican and editor of the New York Daily Tribune, an abolitionist newspaper.

I don't need to remind you that a great proportion of Republicans, who rejoiced at your election, and who desire a decisive ending of the rebellion now devastating our country, are disappointed and deeply pained by the policy you seem to be pursuing with regard to the slaves still kept in the rebel states. Many Republicans think you are disastrously neglecting your official duty with regard to the provisions for emancipation in the new Confiscation Act. Those provisions were designed to fight slavery. They prescribe that men who are loyal to the Union, and willing to shed their blood for the Union, should no longer be held in bondage to rebellious traitors, who for twenty years have been plotting against, and for sixteen months have been fighting, our country. Why these Confederate traitors should be treated with tenderness by you, to the prejudice of the dearest rights of loyal men, we cannot understand.

Source B

From a speech to the House of Representatives delivered by Clement Vallandigham of Ohio, 14 January 1863. Vallandigham was a member of the Peace Democrats.

From the beginning of this Civil War, I have addressed multiple violations of the laws and the Constitution by President Lincoln and those under his leadership. Lincoln and his administration have committed many wrongs, such as repeated arbitrary arrests and the suspension of individual rights. They also have prohibited free speech, and committed many other wrongs against public liberties and private rights. All this has made this country one of the worst dictatorships on Earth. I will continue to denounce Lincoln and his administration. Twenty months have gone by, but the rebellion is still not crushed. The Confederate military is as strong as ever and continues to be successful against the Union army. The Union is not restored. The Constitution has not been maintained. With over 300 000 either dead or crippled from war, the Confederate flag is still near the Potomac river, and the Confederate government in Richmond is stronger than ever.

Source C

From a statement made by General Grant, 8 March 1864. This statement was reported to his personal aide, Horace Porter, who published it in his memoirs of 1897.

In my first interview with President Lincoln, he told me that he didn't pretend to know anything about the handling of troops, and it was with reluctance that he ever interfered in the movements of army commanders. He knew swiftness was absolutely necessary and that as long as armies were waiting to advance on the enemy, the government was spending millions daily. There was a limit to the strains of war. Sooner or later, a time would be reached when the spirits and resources of the people would become exhausted if the war was not won quickly. Lincoln decided to use his executive orders for the purpose of hurrying the movements of commanding generals. He believed I knew the need to act swiftly and wasn't going to interfere with my operations. He did not want to know my plans. He said that it was better that he didn't know them, for everybody he met tried to find out from him something about my plans to end the war.

0 1 With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying Lincoln's leadership during the Civil War.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 ‘In the years 1850 to 1854, the growth of abolitionist sentiment in the Northern States was the main cause of division between North and South.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 To what extent was Republican victory in the 1860 election the result of the weaknesses of the Democratic Party?

[25 marks]

0 4 ‘There was no significant improvement to the lives of African-Americans in the years 1867 to 1877.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.aqa.org.uk

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2024 AQA and its licensors. All rights reserved.