



# Cambridge IGCSE™

## AMERICAN HISTORY (US)

0409/02

Paper 2 Depth Study

May/June 2026

1 hour 45 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)  
Insert (enclosed)

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **all** questions on **one** Depth Study.
  - Depth Study A: Manifest Destiny and Early Expansion 1830–1880
  - Depth Study B: The Women's Suffrage Movement 1866–1920
  - Depth Study C: The United States and the World 1880–1917
  - Depth Study D: American Society and Popular Culture c.1920–1970
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

### INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 45.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in parentheses [ ].
- The insert contains all the sources referred to in the questions.

This document has **8** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

### Depth Study A: Manifest Destiny and Early Expansion 1830–1880

Read the background information and then answer all the questions. Use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources, as appropriate.

#### Background information

From the 1840s onwards, increasing numbers of travelers attempted to make the journey west. In doing so they faced many challenges, some more dangerous than others.

**1** Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about making the journey west? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [6]

**2** Study Source B.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the problems experienced by travelers crossing the Rocky Mountains during this period? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [7]

**3** Study Source C.

How reliable is this source as evidence of the difficulties of traveling through Native American lands when undertaking the journey west? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [7]

**4** Study Sources D and E.

Why do these sources differ in their views of the organization of wagon trains? Explain your answer using details from the sources **and** your knowledge. [10]

**5** Study **all** the sources (A, B, C, D, E, F, and G).

“Travelers were successful in overcoming the challenges they faced on their journey west.” To what extent do you agree? Explain your answer using details from **all** the sources **and** your knowledge. [15]

### Depth Study B: The Women's Suffrage Movement 1866–1920

Read the background information and then answer all the questions. Use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources, as appropriate.

#### Background information

During the period 1866–1920, many organizations campaigned to improve the lives of women. Some supported the demands for all women to be granted the right to vote.

#### 6 Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the reasons for giving women the vote? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [6]

#### 7 Study Source B.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the involvement of working-class women in the campaign for female suffrage? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [7]

#### 8 Study Source C.

How reliable is this source as evidence of the difficulties that campaigners for woman suffrage faced during this period? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge. [7]

#### 9 Study Sources D and E.

Why do these sources differ in their opinion over the right of women to campaign for the vote? Explain your answer using details from the sources **and** your knowledge. [10]

#### 10 Study **all** the sources (A, B, C, D, E, F, and G).

“Suffragists had support from most organizations in their demand for the vote.” To what extent do you agree? Explain your answer using details from **all** the sources **and** your knowledge. [15]

### Depth Study C: The United States and the World 1880–1917

Read the background information and then answer all the questions. Use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources, as appropriate.

#### Background information

By the end of the nineteenth century, the United States was beginning to follow a more proactive foreign policy. This caused the US to get involved in the affairs of other countries.

#### 11 Study Source A.

What is the message of this source? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[6]

#### 12 Study Source B.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the Boxer Rebellion in Peking in 1900? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[7]

#### 13 Study Source C.

How reliable is this source as evidence of the reasons why the United States expanded its influence overseas during the 1890s? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[7]

#### 14 Study Sources D and E.

Why do these sources disagree about the involvement of foreign powers in China? Explain your answer using details from the sources **and** your knowledge.

[10]

#### 15 Study **all** the sources (A, B, C, D, E, F, and G).

“The protection of its citizens abroad was the main reason the United States followed an imperialist foreign policy before 1901.” To what extent do you agree? Explain your answer using details from **all** the sources **and** your knowledge.

[15]

### Depth Study D: American Society and Popular Culture c.1920–1970

Read the background information and then answer all the questions. Use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources, as appropriate.

#### Background information

During the 1950s and 1960s, changing attitudes and a rising population brought increased pressure upon American society. Some groups began to campaign for change.

#### 16 Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the methods used to encourage immigration to the United States in the 1950s? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[6]

#### 17 Study Source B.

How useful is this source to a historian studying the American Indian Movement? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[7]

#### 18 Study Source C.

How reliable is this source as evidence of the campaign to improve the rights of immigrant workers? Explain your answer using details from the source **and** your knowledge.

[7]

#### 19 Study Sources D and E.

Why do these sources differ in their opinion of the position of women in American society? Explain your answer using details from the sources **and** your knowledge.

[10]

#### 20 Study **all** the sources (A, B, C, D, E, F, and G).

“In the 1950s and 1960s, minority groups and women led the efforts to improve their own civil rights and opportunities.” To what extent do you agree? Explain your answer using details from **all** the sources **and** your knowledge.

[15]



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