



A-level HISTORY

The Making of a Superpower: USA 1865–1975

Paper 1K

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER

2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 **1K**.
- 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:
 - 60 minutes on Question 01
 - 45 minutes on each of the other questions answered.
-

Section AAnswer Question 01

Extract A

Eisenhower's stock has risen markedly in recent years. No longer dismissed as an intellectual lightweight and political babe-in-the-woods, he is generally recognised as a self-assured and prudent leader who understood politics and, having seen war at first hand, appreciated the limits of military power. Despite frequent crises and the recurrent threat of war, he managed to keep the peace during his time in office. He worked out with the European allies and the Soviet Union the basis for a viable if by no means perfect settlement in Europe; Berlin, of course, the exception, the foundation for what the historian John Lewis Gaddis has called the "Long Peace". He avoided open-ended military commitments and took the first hesitant steps toward nuclear arms limitations. Even during the post-*Sputnik* hysteria, he remained calm and kept the military budget under some semblance of control.

G. Herring, **From Colony to Superpower: US Foreign Relations Since 1776**, 2008

Extract B

Extract B not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions. This source was taken from page 355-356 of Eisenhower: The White House Years by J. Newton. Published by Penguin. ISBN: 978-0385523530.

President Eisenhower was determined that Americans should enjoy the fruits of their freedom ... We can only wonder how humanity's course would have been different had Eisenhower acceded to those who believed America would have been best served by use of the weapons under his control.

J. Newton, Eisenhower: **The White House Years**, 2012

Extract C

Extract C not reproduced here due to third-party copyright restrictions. This source was taken from page 396-397 of *The Presidents* by S. Graubard. Published by Penguin. ISBN: 978-0141042459.

While some blamed his bombastic and self-righteous secretary ... the creation of the illusion that the United States could be the world's policeman, keeping totalitarian forces at bay everywhere.

S Graubard, *The Presidents*, 2009

0	1
---	---

Using your understanding of the historical context, assess how convincing the arguments in these three extracts are in relation to the achievements of Dwight Eisenhower.

[30 marks]

Section BAnswer **two** questions

0 2

‘Between the end of the Civil War and 1890, the position of African Americans in the United States significantly improved.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**0 3**

‘The Republican Party dominated American politics in the years 1868 to 1912 because it was the party of big business.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**0 4**

‘The policies of US presidents had very little impact on the boom, bust and recovery of the American economy in the years 1920 to 1945.’

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]**END OF QUESTIONS**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT-HOLDERS AND PUBLISHERS

Extract A: From Colony to Superpower U.S. Foreign Relations since 1776 © George C. Herring

Permission to reproduce all copyright has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders have been unsuccessful and AQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements in future papers if notified.

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