



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary Level and Advanced Level

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**HISTORY**

**9697/05**

Paper 5 The History of the USA, c.1840–1968

**October/November 2007**

**3 hours**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs or rough working.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

**Section A**

Answer **Question 1**.

**Section B**

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

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This document consists of **4** printed pages.



## SECTION A: THE ROAD TO SECESSION AND CIVIL WAR, 1846–61

You **must** answer Question 1.

### PARTY PLATFORMS FOR THE 1860 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

- 1 Read the sources and then answer the question.

When answering **Question 1** candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the sources both individually and as a group.

#### Source A

Whereas, experience has demonstrated that platforms adopted by the partisan Conventions of the country have had the effect to mislead and deceive the people, and at the same time to widen the political divisions of the country by the creation and encouragement of geographical and sectional parties.

Resolved, That it is both the part of patriotism and of duty to recognize no political principle other than THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNTRY, THE UNION OF THE STATES, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS and that, as representatives of the Constitutional Union and men of the country assembled in National Convention, we hereby pledge ourselves to maintain, protect and defend separately and unitedly, these great principles of public liberty and national safety against all enemies, at home and abroad. We believe that peace, the rights of the People and of the States may be once more restored to the country.

*Constitutional Union Platform, May 1860.*

#### Source B

1. Inasmuch as difference of opinion exists in the Democratic party as to the nature and extent of a Territorial Legislature, and as to the powers and duties of Congress, under the Constitution of the United States over the institution of slavery within the Territories.

Resolved, That the Democratic party will abide by the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States upon these questions of Constitutional law.

2. Resolved, That the Democratic party are in favour of the acquisition of the Island of Cuba on such terms as shall be honourable to ourselves and just to Spain.
3. Resolved, That the enactments of the State Legislatures to evade the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law are hostile in character, subversive of the Constitution and revolutionary in their effect.
4. Resolved, That during the existence of the Territorial Governments, whatever restrictions may be imposed by the Federal Constitution over the power of the Territorial Legislatures on the subject of domestic relations, as finally determined by the Supreme Court of the United States, shall be respected by all good citizens and enforced with promptness and fidelity by every branch of the general government.

*Democratic Party Platform, June 1860.*

**Source C**

1. That the Government of a Territory organized by Congress is provisional and temporary, and during its existence, all citizens of the United States have an equal right to settle with their property in the Territory, without their rights, either of person or property, being destroyed or impaired by Congressional or Territorial legislation.
2. That it is the duty of the Federal Government, in all its departments, to protect, when necessary, the rights of persons and property in the Territories, and wherever else its constitutional authority extends.
3. That when the settlers in a Territory, having an adequate population, form a State Constitution, the right of sovereignty commences, and being completed by admission into the Union, they stand on an equal footing with the people of other States, and the States thus organized ought to be admitted into the Union, whether its Constitution prohibits or recognizes the institution of slavery.
4. Resolved, That the Democratic party are in favour of the acquisition of the Island of Cuba on such terms as shall be honourable to ourselves and just to Spain, at the earliest practicable moment.
5. Resolved, That the enactments of State Legislatures to evade the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law are hostile in character, subversive of the Constitution, and revolutionary in their effect.

*Democratic Party (Breckinridge Faction), June 1860.*

**Source D**

The Republican Convention met in Chicago. After an early threat of a walkout, the famous preamble to the Declaration of Independence, 'all men are created equal and have inalienable rights to life and liberty', was inserted into the Platform. Thereafter practical politicians rather than idealists were in control. Knowing they could rely on the anti-slavery vote the Republicans went out of their way to appeal to the economic aspirations of Northern industry and agriculture, calling for a protective tariff, a Homestead Act, and government aid to a Pacific railroad. In dealing with slavery the Republicans tried to convey an impression of moderation. While denouncing any expansion of slavery, they condemned the John Brown raid. Significantly the Chicago Platform conceded specifically the right of each state to control its own domestic institutions – an indirect way of acknowledging that the Federal Government had no power to interfere with slavery in the States where it already existed.

*A modern historian's analysis of the Republican Party Platform of 1860.*

Now answer the following question.

*'The 1860 Party Platforms proved that no further compromises between North and South would be possible.' Using Sources A–D discuss how far the evidence supports this assertion.*

**SECTION B**

You must answer **three** questions from this Section.

- 2 How valid was Turner's frontier thesis on the connection between the conquest of the frontier and the democratic national character of America?
- 3 How was it that the original high ideals of post-war Reconstruction ended with the 1877 Compromise?
- 4 Assess the role of technical innovation in the rapidly expanding US economy from 1865 to 1914.
- 5 Examine the contention that President Lyndon Johnson did far more in practice than Martin Luther King for the civil rights of African-Americans.
- 6 How accurate is it to describe the 1920s as a decade of conformity, intolerance and conservatism?
- 7 'President Roosevelt's war policies from 1940 to 1945 were a mixture of the ruthless pursuit of US national interests and high-minded idealism.' To what extent is this a fair judgement?
- 8 How much did US society change between 1945 and 1968?

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*Copyright Acknowledgements:*

Source D © Maldwyn A. Jones; *The Limits of Liberty: American History 1607-1992*; Oxford University Press; 2004.

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