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# A-level HISTORY

## America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877

Paper 2J

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**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 **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:
    - 60 minutes on Question 01
    - 45 minutes on each of the two questions in Section B.
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**Section A**Answer Question 01

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**Source A**

Adapted from the **Seventh of March Speech to the US Senate** (1850) by Daniel Webster, a leading Northern Senator. He gave this speech to the US Senate in favour of the Compromise.

Mr. President: I wish to speak to-day, not as a Massachusetts man, nor as a Northern man, but as an American and a member of the Senate of the United States. It is fortunate that there is a Senate of the United States; a body not yet moved from its respectability, not lost to a just sense of its own dignity and its own high responsibilities and a body to which the country looks, with confidence, for wise, moderate, patriotic and healing counsels.

It is not to be denied that we live in the midst of strong agitations and are surrounded by very considerable dangers to our institutions and government. The imprisoned winds are let loose. The East, the North and the stormy South combine to throw the whole ocean into commotion, to toss its billows to the skies and disclose its profoundest depths. I do not affect to regard myself, as holding, or as fit to hold, the helm in this combat with the political elements.

**Source B**

Adapted from **The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government Volume One (of Two)**, by Jefferson Davis, 1881

While the compromise measures of 1850 were pending and the excitement concerning them was at its highest, I one day overtook Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, and Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, in the Capitol grounds. They were in earnest conversation. It was the 7th of March, the day on which Mr. Webster had delivered his great speech. Mr. Clay, addressing me in the friendly manner which he had always employed since I was a schoolboy, asked me what I thought of the speech. I liked it better than he did. He then suggested that I should "join the compromise men," saying that it was a measure which he thought would probably give peace to the country for thirty years. Then, turning to Mr. Berrien, he said, "You and I will be under ground before that time, but our young friend here may face trouble in the future." I somewhat impatiently declared my unwillingness to transfer to future generations a problem which they would be relatively less able to meet than we were.

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**Source C**

Adapted from **The New York Herald**, September 8, 1850. The New York Herald was a Northern, popular and controversial newspaper.

Within the short space of two days, the House of Representatives has passed four of the most important measures connected with the slavery agitation, which grew out of the acquisition of new territory through the Mexican War. Leaving only the Fugitive Slave Bill and the bill for the abolition of slave traffic in the District of Columbia to be disposed of, the former having been passed by the Senate and the latter being now under consideration in that body. The whole of this disagreeable subject will, therefore, be shortly wound up and a check put to the ultras and fanatics of different sections of the Union, who have exerted themselves to keep alive the slavery agitation and maintain an estrangement of feeling between the Northern and the Southern States. The subject, therefore, which has caused so much uneasiness to the friends of the Union everywhere, as well as to the admirers of our political institutions at home and abroad, is set at rest in a manner satisfactory to all.

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the Compromise of 1850.

**[30 marks]**

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**Section B**Answer **two** questions

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**0 2**

'Unresolved issues in the American Constitution were significant in creating sectional tension in America by c1845.'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]****0 3**

How significant were the Union's superior resources to their victory in the Civil War?

**[25 marks]****0 4**

'The KKK resistance to Radical Reconstruction in the years 1867 to 1876, was responsible for its failure'

Assess the validity of this view.

**[25 marks]****END OF QUESTIONS**

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