



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 1 Section A/A: America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretations **A** and **B** for use in answering Questions 01, 02 and 03



2 0 6 G 8 1 4 5 / 1 A / A

IB/M/Jun20/E5

8145/1A/A

Interpretation A Adapted from the autobiography of Ida Wells, 'Crusade for Justice', written in 1928.

Ida Wells was born a slave in 1862. After the Civil War, when she saw how former slaves were treated, Wells became a journalist and campaigned against lynching. She also helped set up several civil rights organisations.

After the Civil War it was still illegal in the South for a freed slave to share a railway carriage with whites. African-Americans could only enter hotels, concert halls and churches if they were a white person's servant. Thousands of African-Americans were murdered because they had voted. I believed that Southerners resented the fact that they no longer owned slaves and had lost both a plaything and a source of income.

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Interpretation B Adapted from Booker T Washington's introduction to 'The Progress of a Race: the Remarkable Advance of African-Americans', published in 1897.

Washington was a former slave who was critical of the civil rights campaigns. He believed that African-Americans should make progress through education. He went to college and became the first head of Tuskegee University which trained African-American teachers.

Since the Civil War the progress made by freed slaves has been magnificent. African-Americans have climbed from the darkest depths of slavery to powerful positions in society, government, business and the professions. This has shown what is possible and has made the world admire and respect us.

END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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