

A-level HISTORY

Component 2J America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-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 7042/2J.
- 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:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From the inaugural address to the nation by President Buchanan, 4 March 1857. Buchanan had been seen talking to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court immediately beforehand.

A difference of opinion has arisen in regard to the point in time when the people of a Territory may themselves decide to allow slavery. This is, happily, a matter of little importance. The Dred Scott decision is in the power of the Supreme Court of the United States before whom it is now pending. It will be speedily and finally settled there. In common with all good citizens, I will cheerfully submit to the decision of the Court, whatever it may be. Nothing can be fairer than to leave the people of a Territory free from all interference and able to decide their own destiny for themselves, subject only to the Constitution of the United States. No other question remains, therefore, because all agree that, under the Constitution, the only human power over slavery is that of the respective States themselves. May we hope that the long agitation on this subject is now approaching its end and that the sectional Republican Party will also become extinct.

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Source B

From a speech in Chicago, Illinois, by Abraham Lincoln, 1 March 1859. This was part of an ongoing dispute between Lincoln and Stephen Douglas, Senator for Illinois.

The arguments of Stephen Douglas would lead us inevitably to the nationwide spread of slavery. This would start in the south below the line that divides the States; then it would spread to all the Territories; then to all other States. Douglas' doctrine of squatter sovereignty risks slavery being covertly expanded. The Dred Scott decision could have led us to slavery being permitted across the whole Union. However, concerns about slavery being forcibly established in the Territories by the Dred Scott decision have now passed. Our only serious danger is that we shall be led to the expansion of slavery by Douglas, on the misleading assumption that his arguments are a good way of defeating our opponents, when in fact it is a way that leads to final surrender. Never forget that we have before us this whole matter of the right or wrong of slavery in this Union, even though the immediate question concerns its spreading out into new Territories and States.

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Source C

From an article in a widely read Northern magazine entitled, 'Popular Sovereignty in the Territories' by Stephen Douglas, September 1859.

Some people believe, incorrectly, that the Supreme Court had decided in the Dred Scott case that Territorial legislatures could not legislate in respect of slave property. That would mean also that neither State nor Federal Government could legislate over slavery. Fortunately for the peace and welfare of the whole country, this is not true. It is not the case that the Constitution establishes slavery in the Territories; the people still have the legal right to control it. The Constitution is the same everywhere within the United States; it is the same in Pennsylvania as in Kansas. President Buchanan stated in a message to Congress that, 'slavery exists in Kansas by virtue of the Constitution of the United States. The Territory of Kansas is therefore as much a slave state as Georgia or South Carolina'. So why does slavery not exist in Pennsylvania by virtue of the same Constitution? 5

Because the people of each State and Territory can, through popular sovereignty, make their own laws regarding slavery. 10

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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 increasing tensions over the expansion of slavery, in the years 1857 to 1860.

[30 marks]

Turn over for Section B

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 'For the South, westward expansion was more of a threat than an opportunity before 1850.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3 'In the Civil War the North and South suffered equally.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4 To what extent was President Andrew Johnson to blame for his conflict with Congress?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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