

A-level HISTORY

Component 2Q The American Dream: reality and illusion, 1945–1980

Friday 9 June 2023

Afternoon

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 7042/2Q.
- 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 a report of a speech by Jesse Jackson to the Republican Party, in the New York Times, 21 January 1978. This left-leaning newspaper is renowned for high journalistic standards.

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Source B

From an article in the Christian Science Monitor, 26 August 1980. This newspaper had a reputation for being non-religious and non-sensationalist. It won five Pulitzer prizes between 1945 and 1980.

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Source C

From a US Population Bulletin on 1980, published by a commercial non-profit organisation, December 1982. This academic organisation specialised in compiling statistics on the health and structure of populations.

Blacks numbered 11.7% of the total population in 1980, with 85% residing in urban areas compared to 71% of whites. Some suburbanization is occurring among blacks but the majority remain segregated in cities. In the 1970s, more blacks moved into the South than moved out in a reversal of the historic pattern. Blacks have shared the baby boom but teenage and out-of-wedlock fertility, as well as overall fertility, remain much higher than for whites. Black infant mortality is still double that of whites and life expectancy is 6 years shorter. Divorce and separation have risen faster for blacks than whites. Many of these gaps are related to blacks' continuing socio-economic disadvantages: average family income is 56% that of whites; the poverty rate is 3.5 times higher; unemployment is twice as high. Occupational status has improved for blacks and their educational attainment is now close to that of whites, but these gains may be slowed and income differentials unimproved if the current administration's reversal of socio-economic policy remains unchanged.

5

10

0 1

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the position of African-Americans in US society in the years 1978 to 1980.

[30 marks]**Turn over for Section B**

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2

'The biggest problem facing Truman in the first three years of his Presidency was dealing with the economic legacy of the war.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 3

'President Kennedy's economic and social policies were a great success.'

Assess the validity of this view.

[25 marks]

0 4

To what extent was Kissinger responsible for the direction of US foreign policy in the years 1969 to 1976?

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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