



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

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HISTORY (US)

9279/51

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

May/June 2013

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your Center 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 scratch work.

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 points.

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



Section A: The Road to Secession and Civil War, 1846–1861

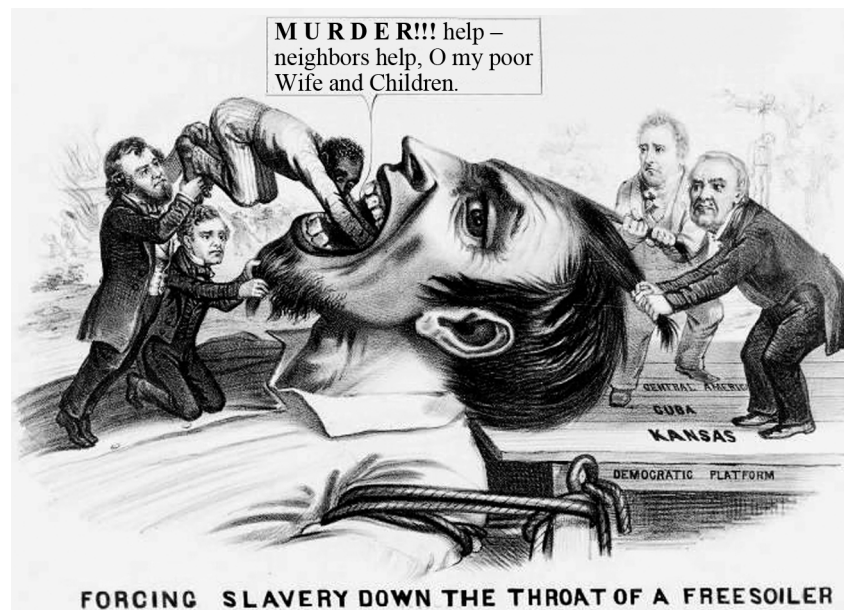
You **must** answer Question 1.

THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA QUESTION, 1850–1856

1. Read the Sources and then answer the question.

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

Source A



A cartoon from c. 1856.

The four Democratic party politicians forcing slavery on the Free Soiler are, from left to right, Stephen Douglas, US Senator, 1847–61; Franklin Pierce, US President, 1853–57; James Buchanan, presidential candidate, 1856; and Lewis Cass, US Senator, 1849–57.

Source B

Sir, I wish to call the attention of the Senate to the fact that the clergy of the free states have entered into this violent crusade against the Nebraska Bill and its supporters. According to my information, the abolitionists have not been able to gain the support of one tenth of the clergy of this country. I rejoice that their number is so few. I have no doubt that those who for years have been openly advocating disunion, who have proclaimed "the Constitution to be a league with hell" and who are now encouraging resistance to the law and stimulating rebellion in the land, will enter into this new political organization which proposes perjury and treason in the violation of the Constitution and the dissolution of the Union.

Because we propose to stand by the great principles of self-government in the Territories and equality in the States, we have been notified today by several Senators that old political parties are to be dissolved and that the northern Whigs, disaffected Democrats, Abolitionists, and Free Soilers are to be amalgamated into a sectional party under the black flag of abolitionism!

Speech by Senator Douglas to the US Senate on the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, 25 May 1854.

Source C

In May 1854 the Kansas-Nebraska Bill was passed. From the terms of the Bill, as well as the arguments that were used on its behalf, it is evident that its purpose was to leave the Territory equally open to the people of all the States, with every species of property recognized by any of them. Sectional rivalry now interfered to prevent that free migration which had been promised. Societies were formed in the North to supply money and send emigrants into the new Territories; and a famous preacher charged them to carry with them to Kansas “the Bible and Sharpe rifles.” The latter were of course to be levelled against their Southern brethren who might migrate to the same Territory.

The war cry used to train the Northern mind for the deeds contemplated by the agitators was “No extension of slavery!” The success attending this slogan was remarkable. Northern indignation was aroused on the absurd accusation that the South had destroyed “that sacred instrument, the compromise of 1820.” The civil war which raged in Kansas for several years replaced the peace which would have resulted from natural migration.

From the memoirs of Jefferson Davis, published 1881.

Source D

Kansas was thrown open to the border ruffians, with pistol and Bowie knife, who wanted no better sport than the guerrilla campaign to which this invited them. The North proved herself equal to the emergency; emigration societies were organized; the emigrants were equipped with Sharpe rifles; and at public meetings held in churches in the North collections were taken to aid them. It was at one such collection that Mr. Beecher declared that a Sharpe’s rifle was better than a Bible to convert a border ruffian—a saying that ran through the country and earned for the rifle the name of “Beecher’s Bible.” Popular sovereignty failed and Kansas was made free by her own vote.

From the biography of Henry Ward Beecher, a prominent abolitionist, published 1887.

Source E

Even in advance of the Nebraska Bill, secret societies were organized in Missouri, apparently to protect her institutions, and afterwards under the name of “Self-Defensive Associations” and “Blue Lodges.” These were multiplied through the south-western counties of that State, before any counter-movement from the North. It was confidently anticipated that, by the activity of these societies and the advantages derived from the neighborhood of Missouri and the influence of the Territorial government, slavery might be introduced quietly but surely, without arousing a conflict. But the conspiracy was unexpectedly balked. While opening the Territories to slavery, the Kansas-Nebraska Bill also opened it to emigrants from every quarter. The populous North, stung by a sharp sense of outrage, poured into the land and promised soon to establish a supremacy of numbers there, involving, of course, a just supremacy of Freedom. Then was conceived the consummation of the crime against Kansas. What could not be accomplished peacefully was to be accomplished forcibly. All efforts were given to the dismal work of forcing slavery on Free Soil. In flagrant breach of the very Popular Sovereignty whose name had helped impose this Bill upon the country, the atrocious object was avowed. Slavery has been forcibly introduced into Kansas.

From “The Crime against Kansas,” a speech to the US Senate by Charles Sumner, 19 May 1856.

Now answer the following question:

“Pro-slavery Democrats were responsible for causing the conflict over the Territory of Kansas in the 1850s.” How far do Sources A–E support this assertion?

Section B

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

2. Assess the relative significance of the factors that caused the destruction of the way of life of the Plains Indians in the second half of the nineteenth century.
3. How far did Reconstruction advance the position of ex-slaves?
4. How important were labor unions to the development of the US economy in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?
5. Compare and contrast the impact of the First and Second World Wars on African Americans.
6. Evaluate the impact of the Great Depression on the United States during the 1930s.
7. How isolated was the USA from international affairs in the period 1919–41?
8. “There was no real revolution in lifestyles during the 1960s.” How far do you agree?

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