

Section 1: c. 1750–c. 1820

- 1 Were matters of taxation the main reason for the deteriorating relationship between Britain and the American colonies before 1776?
- 2 How great were the intellectual achievements of the American Enlightenment?
- 3 To what extent do geographical factors account for Britain's defeat in the War of Independence?
- 4 Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the presidency of Jefferson.
- 5 What best explains changes in the extent of slavery in the period c. 1750–c. 1820?

Section 2: c. 1820–1865

- 6 How democratic was the presidency of Andrew Jackson?
- 7 'The acquisition of California was the most important achievement of US foreign policy in the period c. 1820 to 1861.' Do you agree?
- 8 What best explains the secession from the Union of the Southern States, 1860–1861?
- 9 How far was the defeat of the Confederacy due to its economic weakness?
- 10 What best explains Abraham Lincoln's victories in the presidential elections of 1860 and 1864?

Section 3: Themes c. 1750–c. 1900

- 11 'The disadvantages of westward expansion outweighed the benefits.' Did they?
- 12 Why were relations between Native Americans and the US government so poor in the nineteenth century?
- 13 How great was the impact of immigration on US society in the period c. 1840–c. 1920?
- 14 'Laissez-faire attitudes were central to the expansion of industry in the US in the period 1865–1914.' Discuss.
- 15 How strong was the Temperance movement in the nineteenth century?
- 16 What best explains the rapid development of the railway system in the nineteenth century?

Section 4: 1865–1914

- 17 'A complete failure.' Discuss this view of Reconstruction from 1865 to 1877.
- 18 Was the Populist movement anything more than a pressure group representing farming interests?
- 19 How great was US imperial power in the period c. 1880–1914?
- 20 'A missed opportunity.' How appropriate is this view of the domestic reforms of Theodore Roosevelt?
- 21 Was his policy of neutrality in the First World War the main reason why Woodrow Wilson won a second term as president in November 1916?

Section 5: 1914–1953

- 22 How extensive was social change in the US in the 1920s?
- 23 ‘The most important consequence of the Wall Street Crash was a fundamental change in the role of federal government.’ Discuss with reference to the period 1929–1941.
- 24 To what extent was US foreign policy, in the period 1920–1941, one of ‘isolation’?
- 25 ‘The Berlin Blockade was the greatest foreign policy challenge faced by President Truman.’ Discuss.
- 26 What best explains the extent of support for McCarthy in the years 1947–1953?

Section 6: 1953–2012

- 27 How extensive was economic and social change during Eisenhower’s presidency?
- 28 How successful was the United States in achieving its aims in foreign policy in the years 1953–1963?
- 29 ‘The Great Society was a great success.’ Discuss this view of President Johnson’s domestic policy.
- 30 ‘Despite his personal inadequacies, Nixon was a great president.’ How valid is this judgement?
- 31 Which of Ronald Reagan and George H W Bush deserves the greater credit for helping to bring the Cold War to an end?
- 32 ‘The partisan nature of national politics in the US explains the limited success of President Obama’s first term in office.’ Discuss.

Section 7: Themes c. 1900–2000

- 33** 'It was only the participation of the US in world wars that brought about significant change in the role and status of women.' Discuss.
- 34** How much did the development of an 'imperial presidency' in the twentieth century owe to the Kennedy administration?
- 35** What best explains the social and political frustrations of the young in the US in the period c. 1960–c. 1980?
- 36** 'Threats to the internal security of the country best explain the rise of a conservative culture in the US in the years 1968–2000.' Do they?
- 37** 'Large-scale immigration weakened social cohesion and stability in the US in the period 1945–2000.' Did it?
- 38** 'The social and political influence of organised religion in the US in the twentieth century has been exaggerated.' Discuss.

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