



GCE AS/A LEVEL

2100U70-1



S24-2100U70-1

MONDAY, 20 MAY 2024 – AFTERNOON

HISTORY – AS unit 2

DEPTH STUDY 7

The crisis of the American republic c.1840–1877

**Part 1: Sectional differences and the road to civil war
c.1840–1861**

1 hour 45 minutes

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

A WJEC pink 16-page answer booklet.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Do not use gel pen or correction fluid.

Answer **both** questions.

Write your answers in the separate answer booklet provided, following the instructions on the front of the answer booklet.

Use both sides of the paper. Write only within the white areas of the booklet.

Write the question number in the two boxes in the left-hand margin at the start of each answer, for example

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Leave at least two line spaces between each answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question.

You are advised to spend approximately 50 minutes on each question.

The sources used in this examination paper may have been amended, adapted or abridged from the stated published work in order to make the wording more accessible.

The sources may include words that are no longer in common use and are now regarded as derogatory terminology. Their inclusion reflects the time and place of the original version of these sources.

Answer **both** questions.

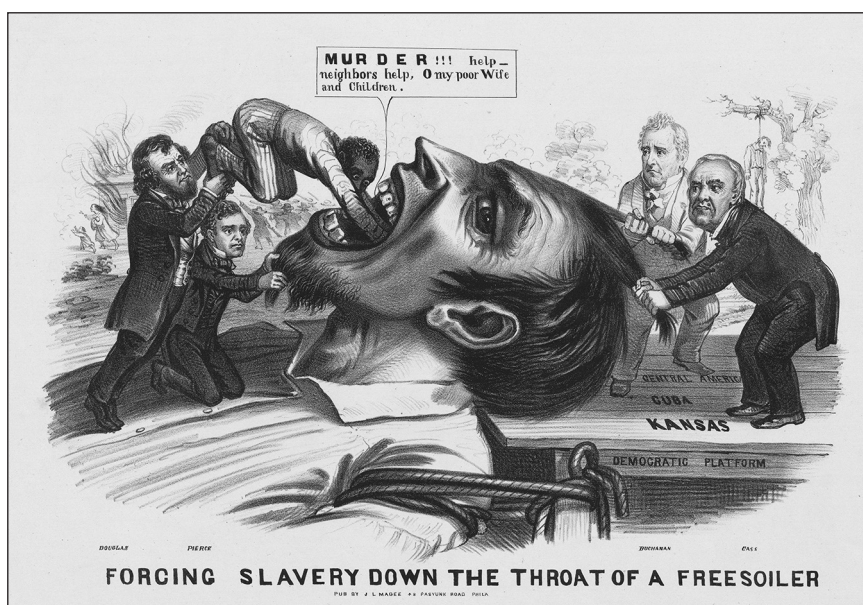
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Using your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying the political divisions between 1856 and 1860 that led to the outbreak of the Civil War.

[30]

Source A

John Magee, a freelance artist, criticises the Democratic Party during the lead up to the 1856 presidential election in his cartoon “Forcing slavery down the throat of a freesoiler” published in the periodical *Harper’s Weekly* (1856). The man is saying “Murder!!! help — neighbours help, O my poor Wife and Children”. The phrasing on the platform is: Central America; Cuba; Kansas; Democratic Platform. The politicians named are: Douglas, Pierce, Buchanan and Cass.



Source B

Abraham Lincoln (Republican, Illinois), debates with Stephen A Douglas (Democrat, Illinois), during the campaign for the Senate election (13 October 1858)

The Republican Party think slavery wrong – morally, socially and politically. We think it wrong not only in the States where it exists, but that it is a wrong that extends itself to the whole nation. Because we think it wrong, we propose to deal with it as a wrong; to prevent it growing any larger, and so that in the run of time there may be some promise of an end to it. We have a due regard to the actual presence of it amongst us, and the difficulties of getting rid of it due to the Constitutional obligations around it. I suppose that in reference to its existence in the nation, and to our Constitutional obligations, we have no right at all to disturb it in the States where it exists, and no more inclination to disturb it than we have the right to do.

Source C Wendell Phillips, an abolitionist and equal rights campaigner, in a speech given in Boston on the night of the presidential election (6 November 1860)

For the first time in our history, the slave has chosen a President. Mr Lincoln rules today as much as he will after his inauguration. It is the moral effect of this victory, not anything which his administration can or will probably do, that gives value to this success. Not an Abolitionist, hardly an anti-slavery man, Mr Lincoln consents to represent an anti-slavery idea ...

I think we shall yet succeed in making this a decent land to live in. Mr Lincoln believes a negro may walk where he wishes, eat what he earns, read what he can. That is all he can grant ...

Now raise your eyes up! In the blue sky above, you will see [abolitionists] Mr Garrison and John Brown! They believe the negro has the same rights as us; and as for the consequences for the Union? Who cares?

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Historians have made different interpretations about **the failure to achieve compromise in the years before the Civil War**. Analyse and evaluate the two interpretations and use your understanding of the historical debate to answer the following question:

How valid is the view that Southern plans to extend slavery were responsible for the failure to compromise in the 1850s? [30]

Interpretation 1 Russel B Nye, in this extract from his academic book *Fettered Freedom* (1949), provides a Northern interpretation.

The abolitionists came to the conclusion that there existed a conspiracy among Southern slaveholders to foist slavery upon the nation, destroy civil liberty, extend slavery into the territories, reopen the slave trade, control the policies of the federal government, and complete the formation of an aristocracy founded upon and fostered by a slave economy ...

The abolitionists emerged in the popular mind as sole defenders of the democratic tradition against the machinations of this uncompromising, dangerous, secret faction.

Interpretation 2 David M Potter, in this extract from his academic book *The Impending Crisis, America before the Civil War, 1848–1861* (2011), provides an interpretation that suggests mutual distrust prevented compromise.

Slavery had a polarizing effect, for the North had no slaveholders – at least not of resident slaves – and the South had virtually no abolitionists ...

Slavery had an effect which no other sectional factor had in isolating North and South from each other. As they became isolated, each reacted to a distorted image of the other: the North to an image of a southern world of lustful and sadistic slave drivers; the South to an image of a northern world of cunning Yankee traders and fanatical abolitionists plotting slave insurrections. This process of substituting stereotypes for realities could be very damaging indeed to the spirit of the union, for it caused both northerners and southerners to lose sight of how much alike they were and how many values they shared.

END OF PAPER