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History
Higher level
Paper 3 – history of the Americas

6 May 2025

Zone A morning | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** morning

2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer any three questions.
- Each question is worth **[15 marks]**.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[45 marks]**.

Section 1: Indigenous societies and cultures in the Americas (c750–1500)

1. Compare and contrast the political organization of empires and confederations in pre-Columbian Americas.
2. Examine the influence of nature on the religions of **two** indigenous societies.

Section 2: European explorations and conquests in the Americas (c1492–c1600)

3. “Manco Inca’s treatment by the Spanish was the main reason for his rebellion.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
4. Discuss the importance of conflicting land claims leading to the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494).

Section 3: Colonial government in the New World (1500–1800)

5. Evaluate the economic and political impact of the Bourbon reforms on **one** viceroyalty.
6. Compare and contrast the viceroyalty system in Spanish America and the captaincy system in Portuguese America.

Section 4: Religion in the New World (1500–1800)

7. To what extent were religious orders in Spanish and Portuguese America a significant challenge to government authority?
8. “The social impact of the Great Awakening (c1720–c1760) was more significant than its political impact.” Discuss.

Section 5: Slavery and the New World (1500–1800)

9. To what extent were colonial rivalries the main reason for the establishment of the *asiento* system?
10. Evaluate the impact of **one** slave rebellion on the development of slavery in British America.

Section 6: Independence movements (1763–1830)

11. Compare and contrast the factors that led to the independence of the United States and **one** Latin American country.
12. “Anti-colonialism was the main motive for the declaration of the Monroe Doctrine.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 7: Nation-building and challenges (c1780–c1870)

13. Evaluate the importance of the reasons why **one** *caudillo* came to power in Latin America.
14. To what extent was the Mexican–American War (1846–1848) caused by US interests?

Section 8: US Civil War: causes, course and effects (1840–1877)

15. “Political factors were more important than economic factors in causing the US Civil War.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
16. “Presidential plans for Reconstruction were more successful than congressional plans.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 9: The development of modern nations (1865–1929)

17. Evaluate the impact of liberalism in **two** countries of the Americas.
18. “There is little doubt that Wilfrid Laurier successfully ended the conflict between French and British Canadians.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 10: Emergence of the Americas in global affairs (1880–1929)

19. Evaluate the significance of the Spanish–American War (1898) in the Americas.
20. Compare and contrast the impact of the First World War on **two** countries of the Americas.

Section 11: The Mexican Revolution (1884–1940)

21. Discuss the effectiveness of Porfirio Diaz’s methods to establish political control.
22. Evaluate the achievements of Lázaro Cárdenas between 1934 and 1940.

Section 12: The Great Depression and the Americas (mid 1920s–1939)

23. “Criticism of the New Deal came almost entirely from the Republican Party.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
24. “The Great Depression had a mostly positive impact on women by 1939.” With reference to **one** country of the Americas, to what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 13: The Second World War and the Americas (1933–1945)

25. “The events in Europe and Asia reinforced cooperation among countries in the Americas.” Discuss.
26. “The Second World War had limited impact on minorities in the Americas.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 14: Political developments in Latin America (1945–1980)

27. “Populist leaders in Latin America mainly used violence to deal with opposition.” With reference to **two** populist leaders, to what extent do you agree with this statement?
28. Discuss the reasons for the rise to power of **one** military dictatorship in Latin America between 1945 and 1980.

Section 15: Political developments in the United States (1945–1980) and Canada (1945–1982)

29. To what extent was Johnson’s Great Society a success?
30. To what extent were Nixon’s domestic policies limited by the Watergate scandal (1972–1974)?

Section 16: The Cold War and the Americas (1945–1981)

31. “The US fully achieved its military objectives in the Korean War between 1950 and 1953.” Discuss.
32. Evaluate the impact of Nixon’s foreign policy on the Americas.

Section 17: Civil rights and social movements in the Americas post-1945

33. “Organizations promoting civil rights for African Americans had limited success.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
34. “Youth protests of the 1960s and 1970s in the Americas were opposed mainly to the Vietnam War.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 18: The Americas (1980–2005)

35. Compare and contrast the impact of liberation theology in **two** countries of Latin America.
36. “Political cooperation in the Americas was mostly limited between 1980 and 2005.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
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