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History
Higher level
Paper 3 – history of the Americas

4 November 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 systems of exchange in **two** indigenous societies.
2. Examine the role of religion in the relationship between man and nature in **two** indigenous societies.

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

3. “It was mainly European conquerors who benefited from the Columbian Exchange.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
4. Evaluate the impact of European conquest on the social stratification of **one** indigenous society.

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

5. To what extent was the Braganza dynasty successful in its control of Portuguese America?
6. Discuss the economic impact of the *encomienda* system in colonial America.

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

7. Evaluate the contribution of Dominicans in defending indigenous rights.
8. To what extent was Quaker resistance to religious intolerance successful?

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

9. Examine the role of colonial powers in the establishment and expansion of slavery.
10. Discuss the living and working conditions of slaves in **two** of the following: West Indies, Brazil, or the southern colonies of British America.

Section 6: Independence movements (1763–1830)

11. Evaluate the significance of either Bolivar or San Martin to the process of independence.
12. “The attitude of the US towards Latin American independence was largely inconsistent.” Discuss.

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

13. “The policies implemented by *caudillo* rule were mostly effective in dealing with the challenges of independence.” Discuss with reference to **one** *caudillo*.
14. “Protection of maritime rights was the primary reason why the US declared war against Britain in 1812.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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

15. To what extent was the argument over states’ rights the main cause of the Civil War?
16. To what extent did southern resistance lead to the failure of Reconstruction?

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

17. Discuss the social and economic impact of Manifest Destiny in the United States.
18. “There was limited change in the role of women between 1865 and 1929.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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

19. Evaluate Wilson’s reasons for asking for a declaration of war in April 1917.
20. Discuss the reasons for, and nature of, the involvement of **one** country of the Americas (except the US) in the First World War.

Section 11: The Mexican Revolution (1884–1940)

21. “Porfirio Diaz’s rule was the main cause of the outbreak of the Mexican Revolution.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
22. Evaluate the achievements of both Villa and Zapata during the Mexican Revolution.

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

23. Evaluate how effectively Canada dealt with the impact of the Great Depression between 1929 and 1939.
24. “Social and economic challenges were the main consequence of the Great Depression in Latin America.” Discuss with reference to **one** country between 1929 and 1939.

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

25. Evaluate the effectiveness of Roosevelt’s Good Neighbor Policy.
26. Compare and contrast the treatment of people of Japanese origin throughout the Americas during the Second World War.

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

27. Evaluate the importance of economic factors in the rise to power of **two** populist leaders between 1945 and 1980.
28. Discuss the origins of Liberation theology in Latin America.

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

29. “Eisenhower’s domestic policies were largely successful.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
30. Evaluate Nixon’s domestic policies between 1969 and 1974.

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

- 31. Evaluate the impact of Eisenhower’s New Look foreign policy on the Americas.
- 32. Discuss the changing nature of US involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1975.

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

- 33. “The African American civil rights movement was more successful prior to 1965 than afterwards.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
- 34. “Feminism movements in Latin America had limited impact.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Section 18: The Americas (1980–2005)

- 35. Compare and contrast the ways in which **two** Latin American countries faced their challenges following their transition to democracy.
 - 36. Evaluate the impact of Reagan’s foreign policy on the Americas.
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