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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 independence processes of **two** Latin American countries.
12. “The Monroe Doctrine was established because of American self-interest.” 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. “Southern arguments for slavery were mostly focused on economic factors.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
16. Evaluate the significance of battles and/or military campaigns to the outcome of the US Civil War.

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

17. Evaluate the impact of “indigenismo” in **two** countries of the Americas.
18. “Theodore Roosevelt’s economic policies had only limited success.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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

19. Discuss the reasons why President Wilson failed to achieve ratification of the Treaty of Versailles in the US Senate in 1919.
20. Evaluate the involvement of **one** country of the Americas in the First World War (except the US).

Section 11: The Mexican Revolution (1884–1940)

- 21. Evaluate the factors that led to growing discontent with the rule of Porfirio Diaz.
- 22. “The Mexican Revolution resulted in more failures than successes between 1910 and 1917.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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

- 23. “Political factors were the most significant cause of the Great Depression in the Americas.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
- 24. Evaluate the impact of the Great Depression on **one** Latin American country.

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

- 25. Evaluate the reasons why countries in the Americas followed a policy of neutrality towards events in Europe and Asia up to 1942.
- 26. “The Second World War had limited impact on women 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. Evaluate the impact of McCarthyism on the domestic policy of the United States.
- 32. Evaluate the impact of Carter’s foreign policy on the Americas.

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

- 33. Evaluate the effectiveness of organizations that contributed to African American civil rights after 1945.
- 34. “Indigenous peoples saw only limited improvement in their civil rights after 1945.” Discuss.

Section 18: The Americas (1980–2005)

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