

A-level HISTORY

Component 2Q The American Dream: reality and illusion, 1945–1980

Time allowed: 2 hours 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 16-page answer book.

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Paper Reference** is 7042/2Q.
- Answer **three** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **two** questions.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about:
 - 1 hour on Question 01 from **Section A**
 - 45 minutes on each of the **two** questions answered from **Section B**.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a report by the House of Representatives' Committee on the Judiciary, 27 July 1974. This followed the committee's investigation and included a recommendation to impeach Nixon.

In his conduct of the office of President of the United States, Richard M Nixon, in violation of his constitutional oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States and preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, and in violation of his constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, has prevented, obstructed, and impeded the administration of justice. On June 17, 1972, and prior thereto, agents of the Committee for the Re-election of the President committed unlawful entry of the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee in Washington, District of Columbia, for the purpose of securing political intelligence. Following this, Richard M Nixon, using the powers of his high office, engaged personally and through his subordinates and agents, in a course of conduct or plan designed to delay, impede, and obstruct the investigation of such unlawful entry; to cover up, conceal and protect those responsible; and to conceal the existence and scope of other unlawful covert activities.

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Source B

From President Nixon's televised resignation speech, 8 August 1974.

Throughout the difficult period of Watergate, I have felt it was my duty to persevere, to make every possible effort to complete the term to which you elected me. In the past few days, however, it has become evident to me that because of the Watergate matter I might not have the support of the Congress to carry out the duties of this office. I have never been a quitter. To leave office before my term is completed is abhorrent to every instinct in my body. But as President, I must put the interest of America first. America needs a full-time President and a full-time Congress, particularly at this time with the problems we face at home and abroad. To continue to fight to clear myself of blame would absorb the time and attention of both the President and the Congress when our focus should be on the great issues of peace abroad and prosperity without inflation at home. Therefore, I shall resign the Presidency at noon tomorrow.

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Source C

From 'The Final Days', by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, published May 1976. The authors were journalists who had been involved in uncovering the Watergate scandal.

Two of the President's key lawyers, Leonard Garment and J Fred Buzhardt, said that they couldn't function as lawyers anymore. They couldn't get the evidence to defend their client, even if it existed. The President wouldn't give them access to it. Instead he gave them excuses. Garment said that, in defending himself, Nixon had concealed, he had hedged, he had lied. Individually the problems might be manageable, but taken together they were insurmountable. They all interlocked, and the single thread that linked the problems together was the President's tapes. The lawyers represented a President who had bugged himself, who had blurted his secrets into hidden microphones. They had not yet heard the tapes, nor seen any transcripts of them. The President would not permit it. They were told to mount a defense, but were not given the information to do so. They could no longer assume their client's innocence, not unless they had evidence to the contrary.

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0 1

With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, assess the value of these three sources to an historian studying President Nixon's resignation.

[30 marks]**Turn over for Section B**

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

0 2 To what extent did Eisenhower adopt policies of dynamic conservatism in the USA?
[25 marks]

0 3 'Kennedy's foreign policy was a disastrous failure.'
Assess the validity of this view.
[25 marks]

0 4 To what extent were the urban riots, in the years 1964 to 1968, the result of the increased radicalisation of African-Americans?
[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

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