

AS HISTORY

America: A Nation Divided, c1845–1877

Component 2J The origins of the American Civil War, c1845–1861

Monday 20 May 2019

Afternoon

Time allowed: 1 hour 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 7041/2J.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 50.
- 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:
 - 50 minutes on Section A
 - 40 minutes on Section B.

Section AAnswer Question 01.

Source A

From a public declaration to other Southern States by the Constitutional Convention of South Carolina, explaining reasons for South Carolina's secession, 24 December 1860.

For twenty-five years anti-Slavery agitation has been steadily increasing, until it now has the backing of the full power of the Government. A sectional party has found the means of subverting the Constitution. A geographical line has been drawn across the Union, and all the States north of that line have united in the election of a man to the high office of President of the United States whose opinions and purposes are hostile to slavery. He is to be entrusted with the administration of the common Government, because he has declared that 'Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free', and that the public mind must rest in the belief that slavery is moving towards extinction. 5

Source B

From a letter written by Robert E Lee to his son, 23 January 1861. Lee left the US army to become the leading general for the Confederacy.

I can anticipate no greater calamity for the country than a dissolution of the Union. It would be an accumulation of all the evils we complain of, and I am willing to sacrifice everything but honour for its preservation. I hope, therefore, that all constitutional means will be tried before there is a resort to force. Secession is nothing but revolution. The framers of our Constitution would never have used so much labour, wisdom and patience in its formation, and surrounded it with so many checks, had they intended it to be broken. If the Union is dissolved, I shall return to my native State and share the miseries of my people and never draw my sword, save in defence. 5

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With reference to these sources and your understanding of the historical context, which of these two sources is more valuable in explaining attitudes to secession of the South?

[25 marks]

Section B

Answer **either** Question 02 **or** Question 03.

Either

0 2

'In c1845 the most serious division between the North and South was economic.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

or

0 3

'The 1850 Compromise favoured the North over the South.'

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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