

General Certificate of Secondary Education
June 2004



**HISTORY Specification A
(Schools History Project)
Paper 2 Option A
The American West, 1840-95**

3041/6/2A

Wednesday 23 June 2004 9.00 am to 10.45 am

In addition to this paper you will require:

- a 12-page answer book
- a Sources Booklet (enclosed).

Time allowed: 1 hour 45 minutes

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is 3041/6/2A.
- Answer **two** questions. Answer **Question 1** from **Section A** and **one** question from **Section B**.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work you do not want marked.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 75.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- The sources for use in answering Question 1 are printed in the separate Sources Booklet.
- The sources have been simplified to make them easier to understand.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of language will be assessed in all answers.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 65 minutes on Section A and 40 minutes on Section B.

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SOURCES BOOKLET

Sources A to D for use in answering Question 1 in Paper 2 Option A

Source A A description of life on the Plains

In our neighbourhood there was a fine class of people. Social gatherings were common and the lunches were fried chicken, cake and other delicacies. The sod schoolhouse had given way to a small wooden school building just before we arrived. This building became the public hall for all entertainments, social gatherings, Sunday school and religious services.

Dr. C. G. Barnes remembers life in Nebraska on the Great Plains in 1878

Source B A description of life on the Plains


Life shut up in the little wooden farmhouses cannot be very cheerful. There are few social events in the life of these prairie farmers to enliven the boredom of the long winter evenings; no choirs, spelling schools, debating clubs or church gatherings. Calls from neighbours are infrequent because of the long distances that people have to travel between farmhouses.

From an article in an American East Coast magazine of 1893

Source C: A railroad advertisement for land

LARGE DISCOUNTS FOR CASH.

BETTER TERMS THAN EVER!



VALLEY OF THE BIG BLUE RIVER OF NEBRASKA, IOWA

THE BEST

PRAIRIE LANDS

IOWA AND NEBRASKA

ARE FOR SALE BY THE

Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Co.

10 Years' Credit. LOW PRICES 6 Per Cent. Interest.

ONLY THE INTEREST PAYMENT DOWN.
PAYMENTS ON PRINCIPAL BEGIN THE FOURTH YEAR.

BUY LAND EXPLORING TICKETS.

LAND COMMISSIONER B. & M. R. R.,
SIOUX FALLS, SD., for Nebraska Lands
ST. LOUIS, MO., for Iowa Lands

PREMIUMS FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

PRODUCTS will PAY for LAND and IMPROVEMENTS.

BUY BEFORE JULY 1st, 1875, and Secure these Terms.

An advertisement by the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company in 1875

Source D: An interpretation of women's role in the West

Women flourished in the West. It offered many opportunities. At a time when they generally did not own land they could claim 160 acres, free. Women went out west – with or without husbands – to take part in the American dream. Settling in tiny cabins or tents, they made do with very little. They helped create the mining, ranching and homesteading communities of the West, contributing to its economic and social development and forging the pioneer spirit that is at the heart of the American experience.

From 1 Dwell in Possibility: Women build a nation 1600–1920, a book about the contribution of women to the development of the USA by Donna M. Lucey, 2001

END OF SOURCES

SECTION A

You must answer **Question 1**.

You are advised to spend about 65 minutes on this Section.

This question carries 45 marks.

Settling the West

- 1** Study **Sources A to D** in the Sources Booklet and then answer **all** parts of Question 1 which follow. In your answers, you should refer to the sources by their letters.
- (a) Read **Source A**.
What does **Source A** tell us about life on the Great Plains? *(4 marks)*
- (b) Read **Source B**.
What different view of life on the Great Plains do you get from **Source B**? *(6 marks)*
- (c) Why do you think **Sources A and B** give different views?
Explain your answer using **Sources A and B and your own knowledge**. *(7 marks)*
- (d) Study **Source C**.
How useful is **Source C** for explaining why white people moved onto the Great Plains?
Explain your answer using **Source C and your own knowledge**. *(8 marks)*
- (e) Read **Source D**.
Is **Source D** an accurate interpretation of the part played by women in the American West?
Explain your answer using **Source D and your own knowledge**. *(8 marks)*
- (f) By 1895 white people had successfully settled in the American West.
How important were the actions of the American government in the successful settlement of the Great Plains by white people?
Explain your answer using **the sources and your own knowledge**. *(12 marks)*

SECTION B

Answer **either** Question 2 or Question 3.

You are advised to spend about 40 minutes on this Section.

Each question carries 30 marks.

EITHER

The way of life of the Plains Indians

- 2 (a) How did the tipi suit the way of life of the Plains Indians? (6 marks)

- (b) Source E: A white man comments on how Indian tribes were organised

I cannot say exactly how the powers and duties of these three forms of government – chiefs, councils and dog-soldiers – blend together. I have never met an Indian or a white man who could satisfactorily explain them. The result, however, is fairly good and well suited to the character and needs of the Plains Indians.

From The Hunting Grounds of the Great West, by Colonel R. Dodge, 1877

Using **Source E and your own knowledge**, explain how Plains Indian tribes were organised and governed. (9 marks)

- (c) Why did some white people consider that the Plains Indians were uncivilised savages? (15 marks)

OR

The "problem" of the Plains Indians

- 3 (a) What, for white people, was the Indian "problem"? (6 marks)

- (b) Source F: Evidence to a government inquiry

Colonel J Chivington with his regiment of Colorado cavalry attacked the camp of friendly Indians; most were women and children. Everyone I have spoken to agrees that the most fearful atrocities were committed; women and children killed and scalped, bodies mutilated. Chivington all the time encouraged his troops to do these dreadful things. Although he knew that myself and Major Anthony had promised these Indians protection, Chivington did not tell his men this.

Major E Wynkoop of the US army testifies about the Sand Creek Massacre in November 1864

Using **Source F and your own knowledge**, explain why the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864 happened. (9 marks)

- (c) Why did many white people think that the Indian "problem" had been solved by 1895? (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS