
AS HISTORY

The American Dream: Reality and Illusion, 1945–1963

Paper 2Q

Specimen 2014

Morning

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-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 **2Q**.
- Answer **two** questions.
In **Section A** answer Question 01.
In **Section B** answer **either** 02 **or** 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.
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Section A

Answer Question 01.

Source A

From a speech at Wheeling in West Virginia by Senator Joseph McCarthy, February 9 1950.

Five years after a world war has been won, men's hearts should anticipate a long peace, and men's minds should be free from the heavy weight that comes with war. But this is not a period of peace. This is a time when all the world is split into two vast, hostile armed camps. The reason why we find ourselves in a position of impotency is because of the traitorous actions of those who have been treated so well by this Nation. It has not been the less fortunate who have been selling this Nation out but those with the finest college education and the finest jobs in Government we can give. This is glaringly true of the State Department. I have in my hand 57 cases of individuals who are loyal to the Communist Party but who nevertheless are still helping to shape our foreign policy.

Source B

From *Good Evening*, the memoirs of the US radio broadcaster Raymond Gram Swing, published in 1954.

(Swing had had to resign from *Voice of America* after being attacked by McCarthy)

When Senator Joseph R McCarthy delivered his speech at Wheeling, an episode was begun in American history which ended with his condemnation by a Senate committee in 1954. It was a season of terror for which Senator McCarthy somewhat incorrectly bears all the blame. True, he became the name-symbol of the times, not by accident, for that was precisely what he wanted. He found the Communist issue when he needed something to make himself known and powerful. Through his exploitation of it and by his attacks on innocent persons, he did the United States more harm at home, and in democratic countries abroad, than any individual in modern times. Even so, I do not think all the blame for McCarthyism was McCarthy's, for it already existed before McCarthy gave it its name.

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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 McCarthyism in the United States?

[25 marks]

Section B

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

EITHER

0 2

‘President Truman achieved far more for African-American civil rights than President Eisenhower.’

Explain why you agree or disagree with this view.

[25 marks]

OR

0 3

‘John F Kennedy won the presidential election of 1960 because of his personal popularity.’

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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