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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

In this study guide, you will see a series of icons, highlighted words and page references. The key below will help you quickly establish what these mean and where to go for more information.

Icons

WHAT questions cover the key events and themes.
 WHO questions cover the key people involved.
 WHEN questions cover the timings of key events.
 WHERE questions cover the locations of key moments.
 WHY questions cover the reasons behind key events.
 HOW questions take a closer look at the way in which events, situations and trends occur.

IMPORTANCE questions take a closer look at the significance of events, situations, and recurrent trends and themes.

DECISIONS questions take a closer look at choices made at events and situations during this era.

Highlighted words

Abdicate - occasionally, you will see certain words highlighted within an answer. This means that, if you need it, you'll find an explanation of the word or phrase in the glossary which starts on page 19.

Page references

Tudor (*p*.7) - occasionally, a certain subject within an answer is covered in more depth on a different page. If you'd like to learn more about it, you can go directly to the page indicated.

WHAT IS THIS BOOK ABOUT?

A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945-74 is the period study investigating the issues that divided America, how these issues were challenged, and to what extent the challenges were successful. You will focus on crucial events during this period, and study the different political, economic and social changes that occurred.

Purpose

This study will help you understand the complexities of America between 1945 and 1974. You will investigate themes such as communism, capitalism, racism, segregation, discrimination, sexism, counter-culture, equal rights, boycotts and protest. This course enables you to develop the historical skills of identifying key features of a time period, and encourages you to analyse and compare sources and evaluate interpretations.

Topics

A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945-74 is split into 5 enquiries:

- Enquiry I looks at the Red Scare and McCarthyism. You will investigate the reasons why the USA was gripped by the Red Scare and the key events that took place during it, including the Hiss and Rosenberg trials. You will study the impact of the Red Scare on America.
- Enquiry 2 looks at civil rights in the 1950s. You will investigate the issues of segregation and discrimination. You will study the impact of early civil rights cases such as Brown v Topeka and the murder of Emmett Till, as well as the significance of key civil rights protests and the impact of the KKK.
- Enquiry 3 looks at the impact of civil rights protests between 1960 and 1974. You will study the significance and impact of the Freedom Riders and sit-ins, as well as the role of individuals and organisations on the development of the civil rights movement from Martin Luther King to the Black Power movement.
- Enquiry 4 looks at other protest movements that developed because of the Vietnam War and counterculture movement such as the hippies. You will also study the women's movement and the reasons why there was opposition to it.
- Enquiry 5 looks at President Nixon and the Watergate scandal. You will investigate the causes of the scandal, what happened and the impact it had on American politics.

Key Individuals

Some of the key individuals studied on this course include:

- Senator McCarthy.
- 😫 Ethel and Julius Rosenberg.
- 🕒 Emmett Till.
- **Q** President Kennedy.
- President Johnson.
- Martin Luther King Jr.
- \rm Malcolm X.
- President Nixon.

Key Events

Some of the key events you will study on this course include:

- The Trial of Alger Hiss.
- 🔂 The Execution of the Rosenbergs.
- 🔂 The Montgomery Bus Boycott.
- 🚺 The Civil Rights Act, 1957.
- 🚺 The Black Panthers.
- 🖬 Anti-Vietnam and Student Protests.
- 🖸 The Watergate Scandal.

Assessment

A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945-74 forms part of paper 1 which you have a total of 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete. You should spend 45 minutes on this section of the paper. There will be 1 exam question on A divided union: civil rights in the USA, 1945-74. The question will be broken down into 4 sections: a, b, c(i) and c(ii). You will answer a, b and either c(i) or c(ii).

- Question a is worth 6 marks. This question requires you to examine an extract and assesses your ability to analyse and evaluate a historical interpretation. You will need to identify the author's opinion or perspective by analysing the language the author uses and what they have chosen to comment on. You will explain how valid the overall impression is by using your own knowledge to evaluate that impression.
- Question b is worth 8 marks. This question requires you to explain two effects of an event on something else by using your contextual knowledge and looking at the consequences. You will need to identify two effects and then demonstrate how the event led to the effect you have identified.
- Question c(i) and c(ii) are worth 16 marks. This question requires you to construct an argument to support and challenge an interpretation stated in the question. You will be given two pieces of information to help jog your memory but you must use information of your own. You will have the opportunity to show your ability to explain and analyse historical events using second order concepts such as causation, consequence, change, continuity, similarity and difference.

Sarre



THIS IS A SAMPLE. REVISION SECTION REMOVED.

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A DIVIDED UNION: CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA, 1945-74



A DIVIDED UNION: CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA, 1945-74





Sarre



THE US GOVERNMENT

'To live under the American constitution is the greatest political privilege that was ever accorded to the human race.' - President Calvin Coolidge



How does the American government work?

The USA is a democracy and a republic. Its government is defined by the constitution, which sets out how it should be run.



What role does the constitution play in the American government?

The constitution is a set of laws that define how America is run. It is seen as having the highest authority in any government.



How is the constitution amended in the American government?

The American constitution is designed to be difficult to amend. There are 2 main ways it can be done.

- Congress has to pass the amendment with a two-thirds majority in both houses. It then has to be approved by three quarters of all state legislatures.
- A constitutional convention can be called to draft an amendment if desired by two thirds of all states. This method has never been used.

What does unconstitutional mean in the American government?

Anything that breaks the laws of the constitution is said to be unconstitutional and can not legally exist.

What were the powers of the American government in 1918?

Law-making powers were shared between the federal (central) and state governments in 3 main ways:

- The federal government in Washington DC was responsible for foreign policy, war, trade between states and the currency.
- The state governments were responsible for education, marriage laws, trade within the state and local government.
- The federal and state governments shared control of law and order, the courts, taxes, banks, and public welfare.

(Ref)

How was the American government structured?

Power in the federal government was divided between 3 branches - the executive (president), legislature (Congress) and judiciary (courts).

- The president (executive) suggested laws, ran foreign policy and the army, and appointed government ministers.
- Congress (legislature) was split into two houses: the Senate and the House of Representatives. They passed laws, agreed taxes and endorsed the president's appointments of judges and ministers.
- The Supreme Court (the judiciary) interpreted laws and the constitution and was the highest court of appeal for people to question decisions by the government and courts.

What checks and balances are there in the American government?

The US government was arranged to make sure no single group could take over or have too much power over the others in 4 main ways:

- The president could veto laws by Congress, but Congress could override the veto with a two-thirds majority. Congress could also withhold taxes or stop the president from appointing judges or ministers.
- The president could appoint judges for the Supreme Court, but the Supreme Court could stop the president's actions if it decided they were unconstitutional.
- Congress could override Supreme Court judgements by passing amendments to change the constitution, but the Supreme Court could say Congress's other laws were unconstitutional.



Congress could remove a president from office due to acts of treason, bribery or another high crime; this is known as impeachment.

How can a president be impeached within the American government?

There are 4 key stages to impeach a president.

- Impeachment proceedings can begin if it is believed the president has committed treason, bribery or another high crime.
- First, Congress investigates the accusations.
- Then, the House of Representatives passes articles of impeachment.
- Finally, Congress puts the accused president on trial. If they vote by a two-thirds majority that the president is guilty, the president is removed from office.

Which political parties were there in the American government in 1918?

By 1918, there were 2 main political parties in America:

- The Republicans, who wanted businesses to succeed.
- The Democrats, who wanted a solution to America's social problems.

Who are the Republicans in American government?

In 1918, the Republicans wanted to see businesses succeed and believed the government should only play a small role in running the country.

Who are the Democrats in American government?

In 1918, the Democrats wanted the government to play a larger role in running America in order to solve the country's social problems.

How do state governments work within the American government?

Like the federal government, state governments were divided into executive, legislature and judicial branches.

- The executive branch was headed by a governor, elected by the people.
- 🗹 The legislature usually had two houses, a Senate and a House of Representatives, to vote on laws and the state budget.
- The state judicial branch was led by the state Supreme Court.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **3 interesting facts about the American Constitution:**
 - ✓ The Constitution contains 4,534 words.
 - ✓ Four of the Constitution's signatories were born in Ireland.
 - ✓ It is the shortest written Constitution of any major country in the world.



US POLITICAL SYSTEM

'With all its faults, the American political system is the freest and most democratic in the world.' -Eldridge Cleaver



What was the political system in the USA after the Second World War?

Each state has its own government. The federal government, based in Washington DC, governs the whole country.

DID YOU KNOW?

It's possible for a presidential candidate to win the popular vote but lose the overall election through the electoral college system.

This happened with both Al Gore in 2000 and Hillary Clinton in 2016.



COLD WAR

The Cold War originated in the ideological conflict between capitalism and communism.



What was the Cold War?

The Cold War was a state of hostility that existed between the USSR and the USA in the second half of the 20th century.



What is the definition of a cold war?

A cold war is a conflict in which there is no direct fighting between the two sides. It is fought through economic and political actions.

When was the Cold War?

The Cold War lasted from 1945 to 1991.

Who was involved in the Cold War?

The Cold War was between the USA and its allies, and the Soviet Union, its satellite states and its allies.

What were the long-term causes of the Cold War?

There are 7 main reasons the Cold War happened:

- ✓ In October 1917, the Bolsheviks seized power in Russia. By 1921 they had created the first communist state. They were anti-capitalism and wanted to spread the communist revolution across the world.
- America and Britain did not trust the USSR as Russia had withdrawn from the First World War in 1917, despite being a member of the Triple Entente with Britain and France.
- The USSR did not trust the USA, France and Britain because they sent troops to fight against the Bolsheviks in the Russian Civil War.
- In the 1920s, the USA suffered from the First Red Scare and was hostile towards the USSR.
- The USSR was angry it was not recognised as a country by the USA until 1933.
- The relationship between the USSR and the West deteriorated before the Second World War. The Soviet Union was angry at not being invited to the Munich Conference in 1938.
- 🗹 When the USSR signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact in 1939, Britain and France were horrified.



How was the Cold War fought?

The Cold War was fought in 7 key ways:

- Propaganda.
- Spying or espionage, such as using spy planes to take photographs.
- An arms race to have the most developed weapons, particularly nuclear missiles.
- A space race competing for success in space, such as being the first nation to put a man on the moon.
- Financial aid or loans to other countries to gain their support.
- Proxy wars, where the USA and the USSR became involved in conflicts in other countries. An example is the Korean War (p.0) of 1950-53.
- ✓ Threats made by either side.

What created tension between the Soviet Union and the USA at the beginning of the Cold War?

The ideological differences between the superpowers created tension between them. The Soviet Union supported communism, whereas the USA and Britain were capitalist countries.

What were the different ideologies in the Cold War?

The Cold War was a result of ideological differences between the two sides:

- The USSR was communist. Communism is a system where there is no private ownership of land, property or business. The aim is to achieve economic equality for the benefit of the people through central control of the state economy.
- The USA was capitalist. Capitalism is a system where individuals are free to own land, property and businesses to create wealth and accept there will be economic inequality as a result.

Why were the USA and the USSR considered superpowers during the Cold War?

The USSR and the USA were considered to be superpowers because they possessed 3 key things:

Massive military might, including nuclear weapons.

Economic might.

The ability to dominate other countries.

Why was Stalin distrustful of Truman at the beginning at the Cold War?

Joseph Stalin was distrustful of Harry S Truman for 3 key reasons:

- 🔽 Truman was anti-communist.
- He tried to control the Potsdam meeting.
- He successfully tested the atomic bomb without consulting Stalin and used it in the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings in the days after Potsdam.



GLOSSARY

Α

Abolish, Abolished - to stop something, or get rid of it.

Aggression - angry, hostile or violent behaviour displayed without provocation.

Agricultural - relating to agriculture.

Alliance - a union between groups or countries that benefits each member.

Allies - parties working together for a common objective, such as countries involved in a war. In both world wars, 'Allies' refers to those countries on the side of Great Britain.

Amputate, Amputation - to surgically remove a limb from someone's body.

Armistice - an agreement between two or more opposing sides in a war to stop fighting.

Artillery - large guns used in warfare.

Assassinate - to murder someone, usually an important figure, often for religious or political reasons.

Assassination - the act of murdering someone, usually an important person.

Attorney general - the main legal advisor to the government.

В

Blacklist - the blocking of trade as a means to punish.

Blockade - a way of blocking or sealing an area to prevent goods, supplies or people from entering or leaving. It often refers to blocking transport routes.

Boycott - a way of protesting or bringing about change by refusing to buy something or use services.

Bribe, Bribery, Bribes - to dishonestly persuade someone to do something for you in return for money or other inducements.

Buffer - a protective barrier.

Buffer zone - a neutral area of land to separate hostile forces or nations and provide protection. In the Cold War, Eastern Europe was the buffer zone between Western Europe and the USSR.

С

Campaign - a political movement to get something changed; in military terms, it refers to a series of operations to achieve a goal.

Capitalism - the idea of goods and services being exchanged for money, private ownership of property and businesses, and acceptance of a hierarchical society.

Censorship - the control of information in the media by a government, whereby information considered obscene or unacceptable is suppressed.

Civil rights - the rights a citizen has to political or social freedoms, such as the right to vote or freedom of speech.

Civilian - a non-military person.

Claim - someone's assertion of their right to something - for example, a claim to the throne.

Coalition government - a government formed by more than one political party.

Coalition, Coalitions - a temporary alliance, such as when a group of countries fights together.

Commune - a place where a group of people live and work together and share resources.

Communism - the belief, based on the ideas of Karl Marx, that all people should be equal in society without government, money or private property. Everything is owned by by the people, and each person receives according to need.

Communist - a believer in communism.

Conference - a formal meeting to discuss common issues of interest or concern.

Conservative - someone who dislikes change and prefers traditional values. It can also refer to a member of the Conservative Party.

Constitution - rules, laws or principles that set out how a country is governed.

Constitutional - relating to the constitution.

Containment - meaning to keep something under control or within limits, it often refers to the American idea of stopping the spread of communism.

Corrupt - when someone is willing to act dishonestly for their own personal gain.

Council - an advisory or administrative body set up to manage the affairs of a place or organisation. The Council of the League of Nations contained the organisation's most powerful members.

Crusades - a series of religious wars during the Middle Ages where the Christians of Europe tried to take control of the holy land (Jerusalem).

Culture - the ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular people or society.

Currency - an umbrella term for any form of legal tender, but most commonly referring to money.

D

Deadlock - a situation where no action can be taken and neither side can make progress against the other; effectively a draw.

Democracy - a political system where a population votes for its government on a regular basis. The word is Greek for 'the rule of people' or 'people power'.

Democratic - relating to or supporting the principles of democracy.

Deploy - to move military troops or equipment into position or a place so they are ready for action.

Desegregation - a policy of removing racial segregation (separation).

Discriminate, Discrimination - to treat a person or group of people differently and in an unfair way.

Dispute - a disagreement or argument; often used to describe conflict between different countries.

Dissolution, Dissolve - the formal ending of a partnership, organisation or official body.

Doctrine - a stated principle of government policy; can also refer to a set of beliefs held and taught by a church, political party or other group.

Dollar imperialism - a phrase used by the Soviet Union's Foreign Minister, Molotov, in accusing the USA of using its economic strength to take over Europe through the Marshall Plan.

Ε

Economic - relating to the economy; also used when justifying something in terms of profitability.

Economy - a country, state or region's position in terms of production and consumption of goods and services, and the supply of money.

Embassy - historically, a deputation sent by one ruler, state or country to another. More recently, it is also the accepted name for the official residence or offices of an ambassador.

Exile - to be banned from one's original country, usually as a punishment or for political reasons.

Extreme - furthest from the centre or any given point. If someone holds extreme views, they are not moderate and are considered radical.

F

Fascist - one who believes in fascism.

Federal - in US politics this means 'national', referring to the whole country rather than any individual state.

Feminist - someone who believes in feminism.

Figurehead - Someone who acts as a symbolic leader for something.

Foreign policy - a government's strategy for dealing with other nations.

Free elections - elections in which voters are free to vote without interference.

Full employment - when virtually everyone able and willing to work in a country has a job.

G

Ghetto - part of a city, often a slum area, occupied by a minority group.

Guerrilla tactics, Guerrilla warfare - a way of fighting that typically involves hit-and-run style tactics.

н

Hippies - Groups of Americans who 'dropped out' of traditional life. Most did not go to college or work and travelled around the country, organising music festivals and protests against the Vietnam war and campaigning for world peace.

1

Ideology - a set of ideas and ideals, particularly around political ideas or economic policy, often shared by a group of people.

Immigrant - someone who moves to another country.

Immigration - the act of coming to a foreign country with the intention of living there permanently.

Impeach, Impeachment - to charge someone, usually a high-ranking government official, with treason or a crime against the state.

Imperial, Imperialisation, Imperialism, Imperialist - is the practice or policy of taking possession of, and extending political and economic control over other areas or territories. Imperialism always requires the use of military, political or economic power by a stronger nation over that of a weaker one. An imperialist is someone who supports or practices imperialism and imperial relates to a system of empire, for example the British Empire.

Independence, Independent - to be free of control, often meaning by another country, allowing the people of a nation the ability to govern themselves.

Industry - the part of the economy concerned with turning raw materials into into manufactured goods, for example making furniture from wood.

Inferior - lower in rank, status or quality.

Integrate - to bring people or groups with specific characteristics or needs into equal participation with others; to merge one thing with another to form a single entity.

Intercontinental ballistic missile - a guided ballistic missile with a minimum range of 5,500km or 3,400 miles.

Iron Curtain - a phrase used by Winston Churchill to describe the non-physical divide created by Stalin between Eastern Europe and the West.

J

Juries, Jury - a group of people sworn to listen to evidence on a legal case and then deliver an impartial verdict based on what they have heard.

L

Left wing - used to describe political groups or individuals with beliefs that are usually centered around socialism and the idea of reform.

Legislation - a term for laws when they are considered collectively, for example housing legislation.

Legislature - The organisation or set of people who have the power to create laws.

Legitimacy, Legitimate - accepted by law or conforming to the rules; can be defended as valid.

Loophole - an ambiguity or inadequacy in the law or a set of rules which allows people to do something that would otherwise be forbidden or illegal.

Lynch, Lynched, Lynching - the killing of someone by a group of people for an alleged offence without a legal trial, usually publicly and often by hanging.

Μ

Middle class - refers to the socio-economic group which includes people who are educated and have professional jobs, such as teachers or lawyers.

Militant - using violent or more aggressive methods in a protest or for a cause.

Minister - a senior member of government, usually responsible for a particular area such as education or finance.

Moderate - someone who is not extreme.

Morale - general mood of a group of people.

Ν

National Guard - A reserve force of the US Army.

Nationalism, Nationalist, Nationalistic - identifying with your own nation and supporting its interests, often to the detriment or exclusion of other nations.

0

Occupation - the action, state or period when somewhere is taken over and occupied by a military force.

Ρ

Peasant - a poor farmer.

Persecute - to treat someone unfairly because of their race, religion or political beliefs.

Pilgrimage - journey undertaken to a sacred place, usually for religious or spiritual reasons.

Poll - a vote or survey.

Polling Station - a place where people go to vote.

Population - the number of people who live in a specified place.

Poverty - the state of being extremely poor.

Precedent - an earlier event used as an example in later, similar situations; often used the courts when they rule on a case similar to one held previously.

Predecessor - the person who came before; the previous person to fill a role or position.

Prejudice - prejudgement - when you assume something about someone based on a feature like their religion or skin colour, rather than knowing it as fact. President - the elected head of state of a republic.

Prevent, Preventative, Preventive - steps taken to stop something from happening.

Propaganda - biased information aimed at persuading people to think a certain way.

Prosecute - to institute or conduct legal proceedings against a person or organisation.

Provision - the act of providing or supplying something for someone.

Proxy war - a conflict between two sides acting on behalf of other parties who are not directly involved, but who have usually supplied equipment, arms and/or money.

R

Radical, Radicalism - people who want complete or extensive change, usually politically or socially.

Rallies, Rally - a political event with speakers and a crowd, designed to increase support for a politician, political party or an idea.

Ratification, Ratified - to give formal agreement or consent to something.

Rational - when something is based on reason or logic, like science.

Rebels - people who rise in opposition or armed resistance against an established government or leader.

Republic – a state or country run by elected representatives and an elected/nominated president. There is no monarch.

Revolution - the forced overthrow of a government or social system by its own people.

Rig, Rigged - politically, to interfere in or fix an election to determine the winner.

Riots - violent disturbances involving a crowd of people.

S

Satellite state - a country under the control of another, such as countries under USSR control during the Cold War.

Scandal, Scandalous - something that angers or shocks people because rules or accepted standards of behaviour have been broken.

Segregation - when people are kept separately from each other - often used in the context of race.

Soviet - an elected workers' council at local, regional or national level in the former Soviet Union. It can also be a reference to the Soviet Union or the USSR.

Stalemate - a situation where no action can be taken and neither side can make progress against the other; effectively a draw.

State, States - an area of land or a territory ruled by one government.

Strike - a refusal by employees to work as a form of protest,

usually to bring about change in their working conditions. It puts pressure on their employer, who cannot run the business without workers.

Т

Tactic - a strategy or method of achieving a goal.

Territories, Territory - an area of land under the control of a ruler/ country.

Trade unions - organised groups of workers who cooperate to make their lives better at work. For example, they might negotiate for better pay and then organise a strike if one is refused.

Treason - the crime of betraying one's country, often involving an attempt to overthrow the government or kill the monarch.

Treaty - a formal agreement, signed and ratified by two or more parties.

U

Unconstitutional - not in accordance with the constitution of a country or organisation.

Upper class - a socio-economic group consisting of the richest people in a society who are wealthy because they own land or property.

V

Veto - the right to reject a decision or proposal.

W

WASP - white Anglo-Saxon Protestant.

Welfare - wellbeing; often refers to money and services given to the poorest people.

Western powers - a group term used to describe developed capitalist nations, such as Britain and the USA.

White supremacist - one who believes white people are superior to people of other ethnicities and should therefore be dominant.

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