

# USA 1930 – 2000 Exam Guide

In this paper you will have **1 hour and 15 minutes (plus any extra time)** to complete 3 sections.

The first two sections follow the same format of three questions – **a, b** and **c**.

The final section is an essay on the overall topic – either Race Issue or Foreign Policy. (We recommend the Race Issue essay as we feel that this is the most straight forward)

## Question A

- “Describe.....” [5]
- Only include relevant information
- Discuss chronologically
- Reword the question to begin answering it
- Include facts, names, dates, events
- Write about 12 lines – facts = points

Tell the story to answer the question – give as much detail as possible with names, dates, facts etc.

## Question B

- Explain why ..... changed by the year 19.... [7]
- Describe the first source – “Source A shows....” – you **MUST** refer to the two sources!
- Compare to Source B – “Source A shows....”, “this differs from B because...”
- Explain what has happened in the time between Source A and Source B
- Give dates, names, events, places, organisations etc.

Focus on what has **CHANGED** and what has **NOT CHANGED**

### Question C

“How important / significant / successful was....” [8]

- Analyse and evaluate the reasons for importance
- Support comments with factual detail / examples
- Consider the effects of the factor – what changed because of it? Much? Not a lot?
- Provide a judgement, giving reasons
- You can argue that it is NOT important etc.

### Essay Question [12 + 3 SPaG]

This will always be along the lines of ‘How much did life improve for Black Americans between 1930 and 2000?’ or ‘What were the main developments for Black Americans between 1930 and 2000?’..... the focus is always on the whole period and you need to give an overview of the **whole** period.

Give a bit of background – pre-1930s. Discuss several events / factors / topics for each decade.

Make sure you highlight what has changed as the story progresses – also discuss what has not changed in the period.

Discuss key individuals and their effects on the overall story – what did they change?

Conclude by discussing 2000 – has equality been achieved? Is there still unfairness?

You will have about 30 minutes to write this essay – for 6 paragraphs that is about 5 minutes per decade. You do not have the time to go into lots of detail about each event – just place it in the overall story and give short, but important facts.

The essay is marked out of 12 – plus you can get up to 3 extra marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar.