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HISTORY **0470/21**

Paper 2 Document Questions **May/June 2026**

1 hour 45 minutes

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You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **one** question on **one** option only.
  - Option A: Nineteenth century topic
  - Option B: Twentieth century topic
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 40.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].

This document has **16** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Option A: Nineteenth century topic

1 Why did Reconstruction fail?

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** parts of Question 1.

Background Information

Most historians would agree that Reconstruction was, on the whole, a failure. Some argue that the governments of Presidents Johnson and Grant lacked the political determination to make it work. Others blame the Republicans for introducing Radical Reconstruction which, they claim, was too extreme and alienated the South. However, there are also those who place the blame on the South and the Democratic Party. They claim that many Southerners were determined to deny black Americans equality and civil rights. They achieved this by the terror tactics of the Ku Klux Klan and by introducing 'Black Codes' which ensured that freedmen enjoyed little in the way of rights.

Whose fault was it that Reconstruction failed?

Source A

The new era of Reconstruction offered great promise and could have changed the history of the USA. Freed black people put aside their enslavement and embraced education, hard work, faith and citizenship with enthusiasm. By 1868, over 80% of black men eligible to vote had registered, schools for black children were opening, and courageous black leaders overcame enormous obstacles to win election to public office. For the first time, black people became public officials and the new governments took brave action and repealed discriminatory laws. However, it soon became clear that emancipation did not mean equality for black people and the hope of Reconstruction quickly became a nightmare of violence and oppression. Most white people refused to accept emancipation and black citizenship and used force to uphold white supremacy, while the Ku Klux Klan terrorised black communities and killed countless black people. Confederate veterans regained political control by using white supremacist language and terror tactics of intimidation.

From an article on the internet.

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Source B

The Republican-imposed governments in the Southern states proved hopelessly inefficient and corrupt.

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State governments were reformed and taxation was reduced, and the new white regimes set about legislating black people into a lowly place in the scheme of things.

From a recent history book.

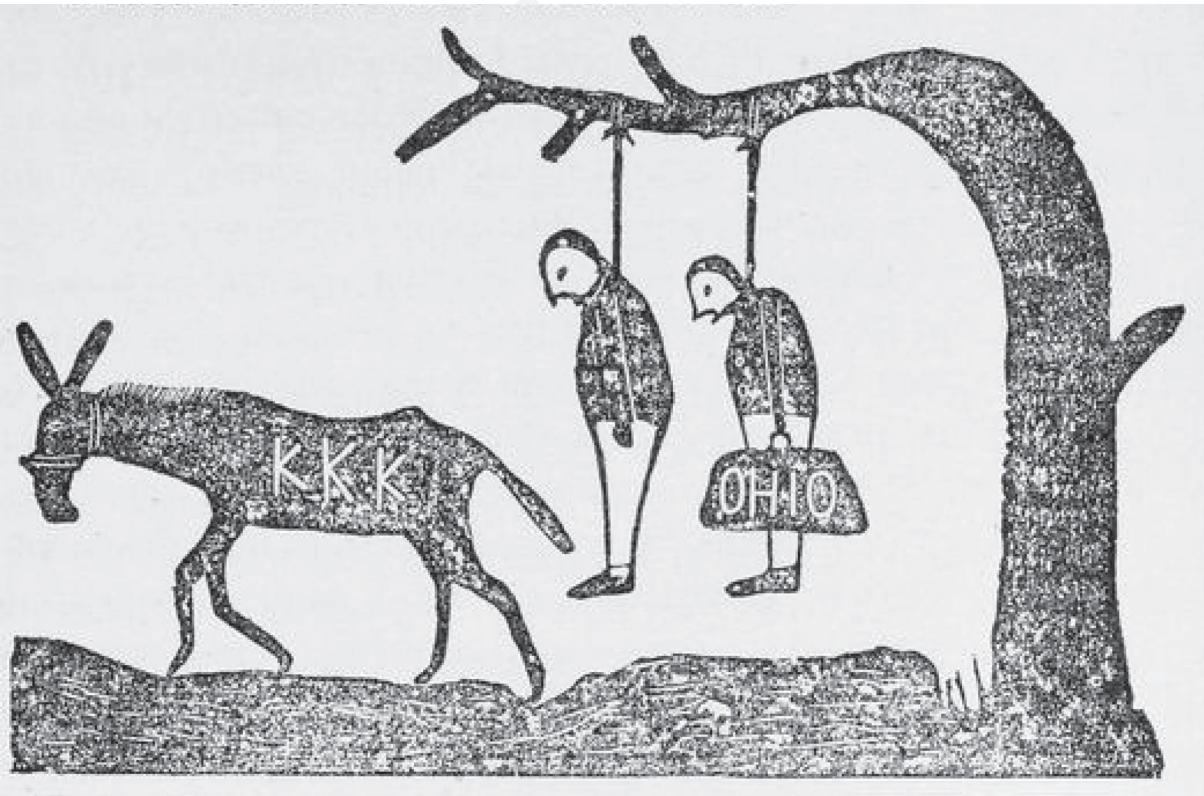
Source C

Now that we know slavery is dead, we should prepare for the consequences. We have seen how lazy and worthless the African American has become since he has been given his freedom. If only he understood what is expected of him. But he will not understand. We need to see if there is some lawful means by which he may become a peaceful and industrious worker. If we shut our eyes to his faults and the inefficiency of measures being used for his guidance and control, we are not his friend. Let us try and get him, who has little idea of what freedom is, on the right track. The government will listen because those who have lived with the African Americans all their lives, and know their character, are more competent to devise a system for their government than those who do not know them and have only recently come into contact with them.

From the Milledgeville Federal Union *newspaper, July 1865. The newspaper was published in Georgia.*

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Source D



Published in the Independent Monitor *newspaper a few months before the presidential election of 1868. The newspaper was published in Alabama and declared itself to be a 'Whiteman's newspaper'. The caption read 'The above represents what is going to happen to those great pests of Southern society – the carpet bagger and scalawag – if found in the South after the 4th of March 1869.' This date was the date of the inauguration of the new president.*

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Source E

The Reconstruction Act is already virtually accepted by the South. It is, of course, denounced by certain noisy ex-Rebels. If they refuse to organise their States under the Act, the Unionists (white and black) will organise each one. The rebel States are to choose Representatives and Senators for the Congress. It is certain that a large majority of their people will participate in the elections. The prospect for peace and order is better than has been the case in the South for years. Violence is less common. The good work of Reconstruction is progressing favourably and rapidly. Those who claimed that the Radicals wanted to keep the Southern States unrepresented and in chaos will be shown to be wrong.

From the New York Tribune *newspaper, March 1867. The* Tribune *was owned by Horace Greeley who was a Radical Republican at that time.*

Source F

You divided the South into military districts. Your military commanders, distrusting the Southern people and knowing that African Americans were incompetent to manage the affairs of government, put into the government of the States a set of men from the North who were hostile to our people in the South. They received all the revenues of the South and every dollar of taxes went into their pockets.

When civil governments were reinstated, these men carried their power over into these governments. A large portion of the white people of the Southern states lost the right to vote. These governments tore the two races apart and hurled one in violent hatred upon the other, and to this day the African American vote is massed in opposition to the whites. Not one of these governments represents the will of the people. They are completely cut off from the traditions, the feelings, the interests of the people of the South.

From a speech by Lucius Lamar in the House of Representatives, June 1874. Lamar had been a Confederate soldier and was a member of the Democratic party, representing Mississippi in Congress.

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Now answer **all** parts of Question 1. You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources which you are told to use. In answering **1(a)–(e)** you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

(a) Study Sources A and B.

How far do these two sources agree? Explain your answer using details of the sources. [7]

(b) Study Source C.

Why was this source published at that time? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [8]

(c) Study Source D.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [8]

(d) Study Sources E and F.

How far does Source E make Source F surprising? Explain your answer using details of the sources and your knowledge. [8]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

How far do these sources provide convincing evidence that white Southerners were to blame for the failure of Reconstruction? Use the sources to explain your answer. [9]

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Option B: Twentieth century topic

2 How far were the Germans justified in protesting against the Treaty of Versailles?

Study the Background Information and the sources carefully, and then answer **all** parts of Question 2.

Background Information

The terms of the Treaty of Versailles were decided at the Paris Peace Conference. The peace terms agreed by the Allies were presented to the German delegation on 7 May 1919. Both the German delegation and people in Germany were shocked by the terms. The German Chancellor said that the Treaty was completely unacceptable. Why should Germany lose territory? Why should Germany disarm? Why should Germany be blamed for starting the war? Why should Germany pay reparations? Many Germans believed that Germany had not been defeated on the battlefield and blamed their leaders for signing the Treaty.

Did the Germans have good reason to criticise the Treaty?

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Source A



A cartoon published in an American newspaper, 1921.

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Source B

After the loss of its colonies and merchant fleet, Germany will no longer be in a position to import raw materials in sufficient quantities. An enormous part of German industry will be condemned to extinction and it will no longer be able to provide bread and work for millions of people. The enforcement of the Peace Treaty will lead to the deaths of several million people. This will occur soon because the health of the population has been broken by the starvation blockade. The Peace will impose on Germany many times the number of deaths caused by the war. Those who sign this Treaty will be responsible for the deaths of many millions of German men, women and children.

From the response of the German delegation to the proposed Treaty, 15 May 1919.

Source C

Germany's responsibility is not limited to planning and starting the war. It is also responsible for the savage way in which it was fought. At least seven million dead lie buried in Europe because Germany wanted to satisfy its desire for domination by going to war. We will betray those who fought to save the freedom of the world if we do not treat this war as a crime against humanity. Justice is what the German delegation asks for. Justice is what Germany shall have. But it must be justice for all. There must be justice for the dead and wounded. There must be justice for the peoples who now struggle under war debts which exceed £30 billion. There must be justice for those millions whose homes and land have been destroyed by German savagery. We have insisted that Germany must make reparation for wrongs inflicted.

From the Allies' letter replying to the response of the German delegation, May 1919. Although their reply was agreed by the Allies, this letter was written by Clemenceau.

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Source D



A cartoon published in a German newspaper, July 1919. The title of the cartoon is 'Clemenceau the vampire'.

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Source E



An American cartoon, June 1919.

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Source F

With the armistice began the humiliation of Germany. If the Republic had appealed to the German people to stand together and resist the enemy, millions who are now hostile to the Republic would be loyal Republicans. So long as the Treaty of Versailles remains there can be no rebirth of the German people; no social reform of any kind! The Treaty was made to bring 20 million Germans to their deaths and to ruin the German nation. But those who made the Treaty cannot set it aside. Our Movement has three demands:

1 Setting aside the Peace Treaty.

2 Unification of all Germans.

3 Land and soil to feed our nation.

Our Movement can make these demands because it was not our Movement which signed the Peace Treaty.

From a speech by Hitler, 17 April 1923.

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Now answer **all** parts of Question 2. You may use any of the sources to help you answer the questions, in addition to those sources which you are told to use. In answering **2(a)–(e)** you should use your knowledge of the topic to help you interpret and evaluate the sources.

(a) Study Source A.

What is the cartoonist's message? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [7]

(b) Study Sources B and C.

Does Source B make Source C surprising? Explain your answer using details of the sources and your knowledge. [8]

(c) Study Sources D and E.

How similar are these two cartoons? Explain your answer using details of the sources and your knowledge. [8]

(d) Study Source F.

Why did Hitler make this speech at that time? Explain your answer using details of the source and your knowledge. [8]

(e) Study **all** the sources.

How far do these sources provide convincing evidence that the Germans were justified in criticising the Treaty of Versailles? Use the sources to explain your answer. [9]

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