

**Section B: American Option****The History of the USA, 1840–1941**

Answer **both** parts of **two** questions.

**5 The Expansion of US Power from the 1840s to the 1930s**

- (a) Why, in 1867, did the USA acquire Alaska from Russia? [10]
- (b) How consistent was US policy towards Central America and the Caribbean from 1900 to 1939? [20]

**6 Civil War and Reconstruction, 1861–1877**

- (a) Why did President Lincoln introduce the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863? [10]
- (b) How severe were the limitations on civil liberties imposed by the federal government during the Civil War? [20]

**7 The Gilded Age and the Progressive Era from the 1870s to the 1920s**

- (a) Why did many leading US corporations turn themselves into trusts in the late nineteenth century? [10]
- (b) How far do you agree that the expansion of the railroad network was the main cause of the rapid growth of the American economy in the period from 1865 to 1914? [20]

**8 The Great Crash, the Great Depression and the New Deal, 1929–1941**

- (a) Why, in 1937, did President Roosevelt embark on his 'court packing plan'? [10]
- (b) How far did the New Deal encourage economic growth? [20]