



UXBRIDGE  
HIGH SCHOOL



# Sixth Form Transition Pack

**HISTORY Yr 13**

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# COURSE INTRODUCTION

The relatively short history of the United States remains a contentious one, remembered through flashpoints such as the civil rights movement and the Watergate Scandal. This topical study focuses on the second half of the twentieth century and assesses how the USA became the global hegemony and most prosperous country, but domestically faced a range of social, political and economic issues.

## **Year 13 - Paper 2: The USA, 1955-1992: Conformity and Challenge**

2 hour 15 minute exam on the topic

30% of full A-Level qualification

### **Assessment:**

Section A: one depth essay

Section B: one source based essay

Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, assessing source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2).

Section B comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, based on two sources. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills (AO2).

### **Coursework**

Essay on an independently researched enquiry on historical interpretations. The three questions to choose from are:

1. Historians have disagreed about the notion of a post-war consensus in British politics following the Second World War.  
What is your view about the notion that a post-war consensus did exist?
2. Historians have disagreed about the significance of the 'Butler act' by 1979 for improving educational equality.  
What is your view about the significance of the 'Butler act' by 1979 for improving educational equality?
3. Historians have disagreed about the role of Enoch Powell as the most significant cause of increasing racial tensions in Britain, 1918-1979.  
What is your view about the role of Enoch Powell as the most significant cause of increasing racial tensions in Britain, 1918-1979?

20% of full A-Level qualification

Assessment:

3000-4000 word essay

The assignment will assess the ability to carry out a historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations, and organising and communicating the findings (AO1/AO3).

*To become an expert in your field you need to dedicate 10,000 hours to your craft. Good luck Year 13 on becoming expert historians.*

### Essential summer reading

Jean-Christophe Agnew and Roy Rosenzweig (eds), *A Companion to Post-1945 America* (Blackwell, 2005).

Robert Dallek, *John F. Kennedy: An Unfinished Life, 1917-1963*.

Adam Fairclough, *Better Day Coming: Blacks and Equality, 1890-2000* (Penguin, 2001).

Michael Heale, *The Sixties in America: History, Politics and Protest* (Edinburgh University Press, 2001).

Vivienne Sanders, *Race Relations in the USA 1863-1980* (Hodder Education, 2006).

Vivienne Sanders, *Politics, Presidency and Society in the USA 1968-2001* (Hodder Education, 2008).

### Essential summer viewing/listening

*The Butler* (2013)

Civil Rights Movement Documentary - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7tas9OzGYcM>

US Presidents' Greatest Speeches - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vnVwvPpdFeY>

## Task to be completed

1. Text goes here There are four key topics for this study. Please read the first two key topics from pages 352 to 422. Key topic one is about America's growing affluence and how society became more conformed between 1955 and 1963. Whereas, key topic two is about protest and reaction in America during the civil rights movement. Make simple notes which pick out the key dates, people and events. The key people you should focus on are: Dwight Eisenhower, John F Kennedy, Lyndon B Johnson and Martin Luther King and Malcolm X.
2. Create an A3 timeline for each key topic to show to demonstrate the continuity and change.
3. Read through all of the sources in key topic one and two and complete all of the source based activities and questions – this is very important.
4. Purchase the two Sanders books on the reading list and focus on the post-1955 periods.
5. Watch *The Butler*, a Hollywood adaptation of an African-American man's life throughout the twentieth century which covers the civil rights movement as well as the different presidencies and important events.