

**Paper Reference(s) WHI03/1A**  
**Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level**

## **History**

**International Advanced**

**PAPER 3: Thematic Study with Source Evaluation**

**Option 1A: The USA, Independence to Civil War, 1763–1865**

**Time: 2 hours**

## **Sources Booklet**

**DO NOT RETURN THIS BOOKLET WITH  
THE QUESTION PAPER.**

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## Sources for use with Section A.

**SOURCE 1:** From a speech written by Senator John C Calhoun to the US Senate, 4 March 1850. Calhoun was responding to an earlier speech of Senator Henry Clay who had introduced, for discussion, several legislative resolutions that ultimately became known as the ‘Compromise of 1850’.

I have always believed that disagreements over slavery would end in disunion and it can no longer be disguised that the Union is in danger.

The main cause of this is that the balance between the interests of the North and South in government has been destroyed. This Compromise will harm the interests of the Southern states by excluding them from newly acquired Territories. Before the end of the decade, there will effectively be twenty Northern States to fourteen Southern with forty Northern senators to twenty-eight Southern. This great increase of senators will effectively destroy the balance which existed before. The North is making huge efforts to take the whole of the territory recently acquired by the treaty with Mexico, by excluding the South from all of it.

(continued on the next page)

Unless something decisive is done, this will ultimately lead to the abolition of slavery in all the States. If something is not done, then the South will be forced to choose between abolition and secession.

The North can save the Union by giving the South an equal right in the acquired Territories, by supporting the requirements about fugitive slaves to be faithfully fulfilled, 20 by ceasing the stirring up of the slave question, and by restoring balance within the Union to the interests of North and South.

If the North are unwilling to agree then we should part 25  
in peace. If the North remains silent, you will force us  
to conclude what you intend. In that case California will  
become the test question. If you admit her to the Union  
despite all the difficulties that oppose her admission, you  
force us to infer that you intend to exclude our Southern  
viewpoint from the whole of the acquired Territories. 30  
Consequently, we would be right to conclude that the real  
aims of the North are its own power and expansion, and so  
act accordingly.

**SOURCE 2:** From an article in **The New York Herald** newspaper, published 8 September 1850. The article was entitled ‘Very Important News from Washington. Settlement of the Territorial Questions in Congress’. **The New York Herald** was a popular Northern newspaper.

Within two days, the House of Representatives has passed four of the most important measures connected with the slavery agitation, which arose out of the acquisition of new territory through the Mexican War. This leaves only the Fugitive Slave Bill and the bill for the abolition of slave trading in the District of Columbia to be dealt with. The whole of this disagreeable subject will, therefore, be shortly concluded. A check will be put on fanatics on both sides, who have worked hard to keep alive conflict over the issue of slavery and maintain hostile feelings between the Northern and the Southern States. Therefore, the subject, which has caused so much uneasiness to supporters of the Union everywhere, as well as to the admirers of our political institutions, is solved in a manner satisfactory to all.

Now that the danger which threatened the existence of the Union is safely passed, we must recognise the work of those statesmen who stood together in restoring harmony to our public debates. At this important moment in our history, these statesmen stepped forward, and by their firmness and patriotism hushed the storm and calmed the waves of disunion.