### Example Exam Questions – Paper 2 Section A: American West

| 8 Marks | 1. Explain two consequences of the setting up of the Oregon Trail 1836  
2. Explain two consequences of the Battle of Little Bighorn 1876  
3. Explain two consequences of the Dawes Act 1887  
4. Explain two consequences of the Introduction of barbed wire in the West 1874  
5. Explain two consequences of the discovery of gold in Montana 1862  
6. Explain two consequences of the coming of the Transcontinental Railroad (1869)  
7. Explain two consequences of the setting up of the Oregon Trail (1836)  
8. Explain two consequences of the Fort Laramie Treaty (1851)  
9. Explain two consequences of the Wounded Knee Massacre  
10. Explain two consequences of the Johnson County War (1892)  
11. Explain two consequences of overstocking the open range  
12. Explain two consequences of Red Cloud’s War.  
13. Explain two consequences of the California Gold Rush  
15. Explain two consequences of the Sand Creek Massacre in 1864.  
16. Explain two consequences of the Mexican-American War 1848  
17. Explain two consequences of the defeat of the Seventh Cavalry at the Battle of the Little Big Horn.  
18. Explain two consequences of the discovery of gold in the Rocky Mountains around Virginia City in 1862.  
19. Explain two consequences of the development of ranching on the Plains in the years 1866-76. |

| Write a narrative account analysing... | 1. Write a narrative account analysing the ways in which the US government policy towards the Plains Indians developed in the period 1835-51  
   - Permanent Indian Frontier 1834  
   - The Indian Appropriations Act 1851  
2. Write a narrative account analysing the conflict between the Plains Indians and the US government in the years 1876-90:  
   - The Battle of Little Bighorn 1876  
   - The Ghost Dance 1890  
3. Write a narrative account analysing the key stages of growth of cattle ranching in the years 1861-72  
   - Joseph McCoy and Abilene  
   - Cattle Barons  
4. Write a narrative account analysing the key events in the years 1851-66 that led to the beginning of Red Cloud’s War.  
   - The Fort Laramie Treaty 1851  
   - The discovery of gold in Montana  
5. Write a narrative account analysing the reasons why the Mormons moved West:  
   - Joseph Smith  
   - Persecution  
6. Write a narrative account analysing the destruction of the traditional life of the Plains Indians in the years 1876-1895  
   - Extermination of the buffalo  
   - The Dawes Act 1887 |
8. Write a narrative account analysing the events of the Indian Wars 1862-68
   - Little Crow’s War 1862
   - The Second Fort Laramie Treaty (1868)

9. Write a narrative account analysing the ways in which migration to the West grew in the years 1836-1850.
   - The setting up of the Oregon Trail (1836)
   - Economic problems in the East.

10. Write a narrative account analysing the development of the railroads in the years 1860-75.
    You may use the following in your answer:
    - The Railroad Act 1862
    - The use of Chinese labour.

11. Write a narrative account analysing why Americans went West in the years 1836-49.
    You may use the following in your answer:
    - The Oregon Trail from 1836
    - The California Gold Rush 1849

12. Write a narrative account analysing the ways in which homesteaders solved the problems of farming on the Great Plains in the years 1862-76.
    You may use the following in your answer:
    - The development of the railroads.
    - The invention of barbed wire.

**16 Marks (2 x 8)**

**Explain the importance...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain two of the following:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The importance of the Oregon Trail for the early settlement of the west.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The importance of the Indian Appropriations Act (1851) for the way of life of the Plains Indians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The importance of the development of new mining towns for law and order in the early West.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Explain two of the following:**

| The importance of the Battle of the Little Bighorn (1876) for government attitudes towards the Plains Indians. |
| The importance of the Johnson County War (1892) for law and order in the West. |
| The importance of the Oklahoma Land Rush of 1893 for settlement of the West. |

**Explain two of the following:**

| The importance of the Indian Appropriation Act to the way of life of the Plains Indians. |
| The importance of religion to the way of life of the Plains Indians. |
| The importance of the buffalo to the way of life of the Plains Indians. |

**Explain two of the following:**

| The importance of the concept of Manifest Destiny for migration West. |
| The importance of the Homestead Act (1862) for the development of the Plains. |
| The importance of Abilene for the growth of the cattle industry. |

**Explain two of the following:**
The importance of cattle trails for the development of the cattle industry in the 1860s
The importance of railroads for the changes of the way of life of the Plains Indians
The importance of wagon trails for the early settlement of the West

**Explain two of the following:**

- Explain the importance of the Dawes Act 1887, for the way of life of the Plains Indians.
- Explain the importance of the winter of 1886-7 for the cattle industry.
- Explain the importance of the strategy of total war for the US army’s defeat of the Plains Indians.

**Explain two of the following:**

- Explain the importance of cowboys for the cattle industry.
- Explain the importance of the rapid growth of mining settlements for government efforts to bring law and order to the West.
- Explain the importance of the leadership of Brigham Young to the successful settlements of the valley of Great Salt Lake by the Mormons.

**Explain two of the following:**

- Explain the importance of breeding and training horses to the way of life and means of survival of the Plains Indians.
- Explain the importance of religion to the way of life of the Plains Indians.
- Explain the importance of the buffalo to the Plains Indians.