



GCSE HISTORY

Paper 1 Section A/A: America, 1840–1895: Expansion and consolidation

Interpretations Booklet

Interpretations **A** and **B** for use in answering Questions 01, 02 and 03



2 1 6 G 8 1 4 5 / 1 A / A

Interpretation A Adapted from 'Land of the Spotted Eagle' by a Sioux Chief, Luther Standing Bear, published in 1933.

Luther Standing Bear was an author and educator who worked to preserve Sioux beliefs, traditions and way of life. He was a leader of the movement to change government policy towards the Native Americans.

We saw the Great Plains as a gift from the Great Spirit. The land, with its beautiful hills and streams, was not wild and dangerous but tame. The Great Plains strengthened and healed us. We never complained about the storms and snow but adapted ourselves to whatever came.

Interpretation B Adapted from 'The Great Plains' by Randall Parrish, published in 1907. It was a history of the American exploration and settlement of the Great Plains.

Parrish had worked on cattle drives, sheep farms and the railways, as well as being a gold miner. He later became a journalist and author of novels and factual books about the West.

The Great Plains were a vast unchanging area of grassland. In places, Nature had created ugly features in the landscape. Storms were fierce and terrifying, while winter blizzards meant death to anyone caught unprotected on the open plain. During the summer, fires could sweep over huge distances destroying everything.

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END OF INTERPRETATIONS

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