**CHOOSE 2 UNITS TO KNOW INSIDE AND OUT & ATLEAST 5 EXTRA SECTIONS**

**United States’ Civil War: Causes, course and effects (1840–1877)**

This section focuses on the United States’ Civil War between the North and the South (1861–1865), which is often perceived as the great watershed in the history of the United States. It transformed the country forever, but the war created a new set of problems: how would the country be reunited? How would the South rebuild its society and economy? How would the four million freed former slaves fit into society?

* Slavery: cotton economy and slavery; conditions of enslavement; adaptation and resistance; abolitionist debate—ideological, legal, religious and economic arguments for and against slavery, and their impact
* Origins of the Civil War: the Nullification Crisis; states’ rights; sectionalism; slavery; political issues; economic differences between the North and South
* Reasons for, and effects of, westward expansion and the sectional debates; the crises of the 1850s; compromise of 1850; political developments, including the Lincoln–Douglas debates and the presidential election of 1860
* Union versus Confederate: strengths and weaknesses; economic resources; role and significance of leaders during the Civil War; role of Lincoln; significant military battles/campaigns
* Factors affecting the outcome of the Civil War; the role of foreign relations; the Emancipation Proclamation (1863) and participation of African Americans in the Civil War
* Reconstruction: presidential and congressional plans; methods of southern resistance; economic, social and political successes and failures
* African Americans in the New South: legal issues; the black codes; Jim Crow laws

**The Great Depression and the Americas (mid 1920s–1939)**

This section focuses on the causes and nature of the Great Depression as well as the different solutions adopted by governments in the region, and the impact on these societies. The Great Depression produced the most serious economic collapse in the history of the Americas. It affected every country in the region and brought about the need to rethink economic and political systems. The alternatives that were offered, and the adaptations that took place, marked a watershed in political and economic development in many countries in the region. With respect to the last three bullets, a case-study approach should be adopted, using **one** country from the region as an example. The chosen country should be identified in the introduction to the examination answers.

* The Great Depression: political and economic causes in the Americas
* Nature and efficacy of solutions in the United States: Hoover; Franklin D Roosevelt and the New Deal
* Critics of the New Deal; impact of the New Deal on US political and economic systems
* Nature and efficacy of solutions in Canada: Mackenzie King and RB Bennett
* Impact of the Great Depression on Latin America; political instability and challenges to democracy; economic and social challenges
* Latin American responses to the Great Depression: import substitution industrialization (ISI); social and economic policies; popular mobilization and repression
* Impact of the Great Depression on society: specifically the impact on women and minorities; impact of the Great Depression on the arts and culture

**The Second World War and the Americas (1933–1945)**

As the world order deteriorated in the late 1930s, resulting in the outbreak of war in Europe and Asia, the countries of the region reacted in different ways to the challenges presented. This section focuses on the changing policies of the countries in the region as a result of growing political and diplomatic tensions prior to, and during, the Second World War. It also examines the impact of the war upon the Americas.

* Hemispheric reactions to the events in Europe and Asia: inter-American diplomacy; cooperation and neutrality; Franklin D Roosevelt’s Good Neighbour policy—its application and effects
* Involvement and participation of any **two** countries of the Americas in the Second World War
* Social impact of the Second World War; impact on women and minorities; conscription
* Treatment of Japanese Americans, Japanese Latin Americans and Japanese Canadians
* Reasons for, and significance of, US use of atomic weapons against Japan
* Economic and diplomatic effects of the Second World War in any **two** countries of the Americas

**The Cold War and the Americas (1945–1981)**

This section focuses on the development and impact of the Cold War on the region. Most of the second half of the 20th century was dominated by the global conflict of the Cold War. Within the Americas, some countries were closely allied to the United States and some took sides reluctantly. Many remained neutral or sought to avoid involvement in Cold War struggles. A few, influenced by the Cuban Revolution, instituted socialist governments. No nation, however, escaped the pressures of the Cold War, which had a significant impact on the domestic and foreign policies of the countries of the region.

* Truman: containment and its implications for the Americas; the rise of McCarthyism and its effects on domestic and foreign policies of the United States; social and cultural impact of the Cold War
* Korean War, the United States and the Americas: reasons for participation; military developments; diplomatic and political outcomes
* Eisenhower and Dulles: New Look and its application; characteristics and reasons for the policy; repercussions for the region
* United States’ involvement in Vietnam: the reasons for, and nature of, the involvement at different stages; domestic effects and the end of the war; Canadian non-support of the war; Latin American protest against the war
* United States’ foreign policies from Kennedy to Carter: the characteristics of, and reasons for, policies; implications for the region: Kennedy’s Alliance for Progress; Nixon’s covert operations and Chile; Carter’s quest for human rights and the Panama Canal Treaty (1977)
* Cold War in either Canada or **one**Latin American country: reasons for foreign and domestic policies and their implementation

**Civil rights and social movements in the Americas post-1945**

This section examines the origins, nature, challenges and achievements of civil rights and social movements after 1945. Causes of some of these movements may be pre-1945. These movements represented the attempts to achieve equality for groups that were not recognized or accepted as full members of society, and they challenged established authority and attitudes.

* Indigenous peoples and civil rights in the Americas
* African Americans and the civil rights movement: origins, tactics and organizations; the US Supreme Court and legal challenges to segregation in education; ending of segregation in the south (1955–1980)
* Role of Dr Martin Luther King Jr in the civil rights movement; the rise of radical African American activism (1965–1968): Black Panthers; Black Power and Malcolm X; role of governments in civil rights movements in the Americas
* Feminist movements in the Americas; reasons for emergence; impact and significance
* Hispanic American movement in the United States; Cesar Chavez; immigration reform
* Youth culture and protests of the 1960s and 1970s: characteristics and manifestation of a counter-culture

**EXTRA SYLLABUS SECTIONS COVERED IN IB 11**

* United States: processes leading to the Declaration of Independence; influence of ideas; nature of the declaration; military campaigns/battles and their impact on the outcome
* United States: Articles of Confederation; the 1787 Constitution: philosophical underpinnings; major compromises and changes in the US political system
* Social, economic and legal conditions of African Americans between 1865 and 1929; Plessy versus Ferguson, the Great Migration and the Harlem Renaissance; the search for civil rights and the ideas, aims and tactics of Booker T Washington, WEB Du Bois and Marcus Garvey
* United States’ expansionist foreign policies: political, economic, social and ideological reasons
* Spanish–American War (1898): causes and effects
* Impact of United States’ foreign policies: the Big Stick; Dollar Diplomacy; moral diplomacy
* United States and the First World War: from neutrality to involvement; reasons for US entry into the First World War; Wilson’s peace ideals and the struggle for ratification of the Treaty of Versailles in the United States; significance of the war for the United States’ hemispheric status
* The Cuban Revolution: political, social and economic causes
* Rule of Fidel Castro: Cuban nationalism; political, economic, social and cultural policies; treatment of opposition; successes and failures; impact on the region
* Truman and the Fair Deal; division within Democratic Party; congressional opposition; domestic policies of Eisenhower
* Kennedy and the New Frontier; Johnson and the Great Society