

THE DUSTON ^{TDS} 4-19 SCHOOL

Curriculum Knowledge History

Year 9 Term 2 and 3:
Boom to Bust America



Enquiry Question:

To what extent did America recover from the turbulent 1920s?

Big questions that will help you answer this enquiry question:

1. What was America like after WW1?
2. In what ways did the American economy boom?
3. Why was there an economic boom in America?
4. How was society changing in the 1920s?
5. Why was Henry Ford so important?
6. To what extent did Americans benefit from the Boom?
7. How successful was prohibition? 2 hours
8. Why did Wall Street crash?
9. How did the Depression affect ordinary Americans?
10. Why did Roosevelt win the 1932 election?
11. What was the New Deal and how effective was it?
12. How did America become involved in World War Two?

The USA had been reluctant to get involved in the First World War. Throughout the 19th century the USA's official policy was to isolate itself from European politics. It did not take sides in the disputes which affected Europe or get involved in alliances which might drag America into a war. In 1917 the USA joined the war on the side of Britain and her Allies and made the deciding contribution that brought about the defeat of Germany and the Central Powers. The USA emerged from WW1 strong, but it all came crashing down in 1929 when the Great Depression hit America following the Wall Street Crash. The government did not deal effectively with the effects of the depression, and the 1932 election proved to be one of the most intense campaigns. Roosevelt won the elections with 7 million more votes than Hoover—the biggest victory recorded in an American presidential election up to that time. Roosevelt then embarked on a series of reforms that transformed America's fortunes.

Homework for week 1 and 2: Preparation

Instructions: Create a biography on Henry Ford – who he was, what he did, why he was so important to America .

Bring this biography to the lesson as it will be needed as background for the lesson and why Henry Ford was so significant.

Homework for week 3 and 4: Exam

Instructions: Based on the work done in lesson, answer the following exam question. Try and complete this in 15-20 minutes.

“Explain why there was an economic boom in America following WW1.” (12 marks)

You may use the following in your answer, but you must also use information of your own: Resources; mass-production. 3 x PEEL paragraphs, no conclusion needed.

Homework for week 5 and 6: Revision

Instructions: Revise and prepare for a knowledge test on the work studied so far. You should revise the experience of women, black Americans, farmers and workers during the 1920s, and why there was an economic boom.

You could revise by re-writing your notes, saying your notes aloud, creating a mind-map on the key topics we have studied so far.

Homework for week 7 and 8: Preparation

Instructions: Create a biography on the Ku Klux Klan. Focus on who were they; what did they do? Why did membership decline after 1925? What groups are like the KKK now?

Bring this biography to the lesson as it will be needed as background for the lesson and why this group are significant.

Homework for week 9 and 10: Revision

Instructions: Revise and prepare for a knowledge test on the work studied so far. You should revise the Depression, prohibition and the New Deal

You could revise by re-writing your notes, saying your notes aloud, creating a mind-map on the key topics we have studied so far.

Sample assessment material

“Not all Americans benefited from the economic boom.” To what extent do you agree (16marks)

You may use the following in your answer: women, black Americans. You must also use information of your own

The 1920s was a time which changed some of the lives of the Americans. It is also known as the 'Roaring Twenties.' It led to some groups having luxurious time-saving devices which enabled them to be freed from everyday life chores. However, it only benefitted some Americans.

On the one hand, middle-class women benefitted from the economic boom. Middle-class women had a disposable income whereby they were able to buy time-saving devices such as washing machines and vacuum cleaners. This meant that women had more free time to go out and enjoy themselves. They were able to use this free time to go out drinking and smoking and enjoying the jazz era of music. Therefore, middle-class women benefitted from the economic boom.

Another group that benefited from the economic boom were middle-class black Americans who had a talent such as being a jazz musician. Black Americans living in the North of America had a better chance of getting good jobs and education due to the North being more liberal and open-minded. Marcus Garvey set up an association called the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) where he urged black Americans to be proud of their race and colour. By the mid-1920s there were UNIA grocery stores, laundries and restaurants set up to help black Americans profit from the boom. In addition, some farmers benefitted from the boom. For example, Midwestern grain growers and the California and Florida fruit growers made a good living because these areas had the perfect weather conditions to grow the crops needed. Therefore, there are some other groups that also benefitted from the economic boom.

On the other hand, there were several groups that did not benefit from the economic boom. The majority of black Americans did not benefit from the period due to the amount of severe racism apparent throughout America. They were treated badly and given no equal rights, facing fierce discrimination from groups like the Ku Klux Klan. Moreover, the majority of farmers did not benefit from the economic boom as they could not afford the new machinery due to the average farm income dropping from 22 billion dollars in 1919 to 13 billion dollars in 1928. This was due to farms in Canada taking over and 6 million farmers being forced off their land. Additionally, working-class women did not benefit from the economic boom as they could not afford the time-saving devices, and therefore ended up completing double duties throughout the homes. Furthermore, women were also paid less than men for doing the same jobs, suggesting they faced some discrimination and inequality.

In conclusion, it is clear to see that not all Americans benefitted from the economic boom. It largely depended on wealth. If you had a disposable income and could afford the new technological goods then you would benefit, however, unless you had the disposable income you did not benefit.

Sample assessment material

Study interpretations 1 and 2. They give different views about the impact of the New Deal. What are the differences?

Interpretation 1: The New Deal in Review, 1936-1940 in *New Republic*, 20th May 1940

"The New Deal has clearly done far more for the general welfare of the country and its citizens than any administration in the previous history of the nation. Its relief for the underprivileged in city and country has been indispensable. Without this relief an appalling amount of misery would have resulted... In additions, the New Deal has accomplished much of permanent benefit to the nation."

Interpretation 2: Sean Dennis Cashman, *America in the Twenties and Thirties*

"The New Deal... left largely untouched the problem of tenant farmers, sharecroppers, migrant workers in agriculture and, among ethnic groups, blacks, Puerto Ricans, and Mexican-Americans... It bypassed black Americans, made only symbolic concessions to the status of women, and did little to improve the general standard of education"

How do I answer the question?

1. Read both interpretations and in your rough notes, summarise what the interpretation is saying
2. Play spot the difference—how do the interpretations differ?
3. Interpretation 1 gives the view of the New Deal having a impact. Details in the interpretation that support this are "....."

On the contrary, interpretation 2 gives the view of the New Deal having a impact. Details in the interpretation that supports this are.....

How long will the answer take me?

5 minutes

Will there be other questions on the assessment?

Yes, 2 x other four markers (e.g. a describe question, and an inference question)

Key Events

1.	1917	America enters World War One on the side of Britain and the Allies
2.	1919	Treaty of Versailles. Woodrow Wilson (President of USA) joins negotiations as one of the Big Three. He is an idealist
3.	1920	Prohibition is introduced
4.	May 1921	A limit is set on the number of immigrants allowed into America
5.	June 1924	The Ford Motor Company sells its 10 th millionth Model T
6.	August 1927	Sacco and Vanzetti executed
7.	October 1929	The US stock market on Wall Street crashes, kick-starting the Depression
8.	January 1932	Unemployment in America reaches 12 million
9.	November 1932	Franklin D Roosevelt (FDR) defeats President Hoover in the presidential election
10.	March 1933	FDR's New Deal begins
11.	December 1933	Prohibition ends
12.	November 1936	FDR elected for a second time. FDR cuts down on the amount spent on the New Deal programme
13.	September 1939	World War Two breaks out in Europe
14.	December 1941	Pearl Harbour is attacked by Japanese forces; the USA officially enter the Second World War
15.	April 1945	President Roosevelt dies suddenly. Vice-President Harry Truman succeeds him
16.	August 1945	The US drops two nuclear bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, ending the Second World War

Key Terms

17.	Bootleggers	Manufacturers or suppliers of illegal alcohol
18.	Congress	Law-making body of central government in USA. Made up of two houses – House of Representatives and Senate
19.	Democrats	One of the two main parties in the USA. More likely to believe in intervention by the federal government to regulate industry and business.
20.	Dries	People who did not drink alcohol, who supported prohibition
21.	Flapper	A young free woman from the 1920s. They dressed in the new fashions and did not behave in a traditional way
22.	Ghettos	An area of a city where members of a particular ethnic or social group were forced or chose to live
23.	Great Depression	Period 1929-1941 in the USA which saw the crash of the stock market, thousands of businesses going bankrupt, and high unemployment
24.	Immigrants	People who leave their country to settle in another one
25.	Isolationism	Staying out of world affairs
26.	Mass-market	Market in which large numbers of people buy huge quantities of mass-produced goods
27.	Prohibition	The 18 th Amendment to the Constitution, which made the sale of alcohol illegal in the USA
28.	Republicans	The other main party in the USA – they have believed that the powers of the federal government should be limited and taxes kept down
29.	Speculation	Buying and selling stocks and shares in the hope of making a profit
30.	Wet	Against the introduction of prohibition

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To what extent did America recover from the turbulent 1920s?

Wider Reading List

- Detroit: From Boom to Bust and Back Again by in60learning
- My Life and Work - An Autobiography of Henry Ford BY Henry Ford
- The 1920s: The Rise of Modern America by David B McCoy
- The Second Coming of the KKK: The Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s and the American Political Tradition by Linda Gordon
- Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition by Daniel Okrent
- Prohibition: The 13 Years That Changed America by Edward Behr
- The Prohibition Era in the United States: The History and Legacy of America's Ban on Alcohol and Its Repeal by Charles River Editors
- Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal by William E. Leuchtenburg
- The New Deal: Depression Years, 1933-40 (American History in Depth) by A.J.Badger
- The Great Crash 1929 by Kenneth Galbraith
- Black Tuesday: The History and Legacy of the Wall Street Crash of 1929 by Charles Rivers Editors
- The Day the Bubble Burst: A Social History of the Wall Street Crash of 1929 by Gordon Thomas

