Miss Cowap's Amazing Technicolour Revision Guide!

Paper One:
America 1920-1973: Opportunity and Inequality

AQA exam board
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Paper One

1D – America 1920-1973: Opportunity and Inequality

American People and the Boom (1920s)

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Mass Production and the Model T

Mass Production

- Mass production = making lots of the same product.
- Assembly lines = goods are moved along the line, with each worker doing the same job over and over.
- For example, you might fit the steering wheel on every car.
- It was like a conveyor belt.
- This was really quick and lots more goods could be made.

The Ford Model T

- The car industry was one of the first to use mass production.
- 1911, the first Model T was made, cost $1200.
- By the 1920s, a Model T was made every 10 seconds.
- 1920, a Model T cost $295.
- Half of all cars sold were Model T.
- They were the same colour, and size, with the same engines.
- Ford employed half a million people.
- Paid same wages to black people and white people.

Other Industries

- The car industry helped others to grow – steel, rubber, glass, leather and oil.
- Construction industry was needed to build new roads for these cars.
- Cars enabled people to live on the outskirts of town and commute to work, so suburbs grew.
- Other consumer goods made with mass production were – radios, telephones, fridges, vacuum cleaners, washing machines and ovens.
- The more that were made, the cheaper they became.
- Real wages for industrial workers grew by 26% during the 1920s.
- America started in new industries – artificial silk, Bakelite, electricity and cellophane.
- Unemployment fell from 11.9% in 1921 to 3.2% in 1929.

How did the Government Help?

- Republican governments had a policy of non interference (laissez-faire).
- They didn't put controls on industries.
- Lowered taxes on incomes so people could afford to buy the new goods.

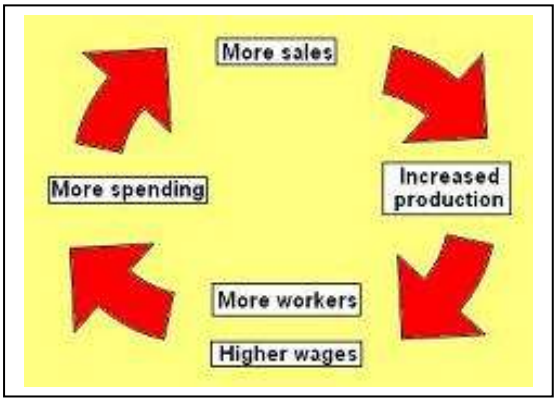
Economic Prosperity – Credit and Shares

Buying on Credit

- Hire purchase = buying on credit.
- People who couldn't pay the full amount straight away, could pay in instalments.
- 8 out of 10 radios were bought on credit.

Advertising

- Mass advertising was used for the first time during WW1.
- It was now used to advertise cigarettes, clothes and cars.
- Poster and radio adverts, and travelling salesmen encouraged people to buy the new goods available.
- Mail order increased demand for goods into the country areas.



Cycle of Prosperity

- Factories make lots of goods.
- They need more workers.
- These workers have good wages.
- They can afford to buy the goods that factories are making.
- More demand for goods leads to increased production and more profit.
- People started moving to the cities for work.
- This increased demand even more.

Buying on the Margin

- Shares = a 'share' of a company, you own a small part of it. If the price of shares goes up, you can sell them for a profit.
- A booming economy made people more confident, many invested in shares.
- If you didn't have all the money you needed to buy shares, you could buy on the margin.
- For example, put down 10% deposit on the shares, borrow the rest.
- Sell the shares when they go up in value, pay off your debt, and make a profit.
- But, if their value fell, you lost money, and still owed the debt to the stockbroker or bank.

Fordney-McCumber Tariff 1922

- Taxed foreign goods coming into America, made those goods very expensive.
- Encouraged Americans to buy American goods.
- But foreign governments did the same to American goods being exported abroad.
- This made it difficult to export American goods.

The Roaring Twenties

Dancing

Dance marathons were popular.
New dances included the Charleston, the Tango and the Bunny Hug.

New Adventures

1927, Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly non stop from America to Paris.

Jazz Music

- New style of music.
- Developed from early types of black music.
- Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong were famous jazz musicians.
- It was often played in speakeasies.

The Roaring Twenties – a period of adventure and prosperity

New Buildings

- 1929, there were 400 skyscrapers in America.
- 1931, Empire State Building was finished, at 102 stories it was the tallest building in the world.

Radio

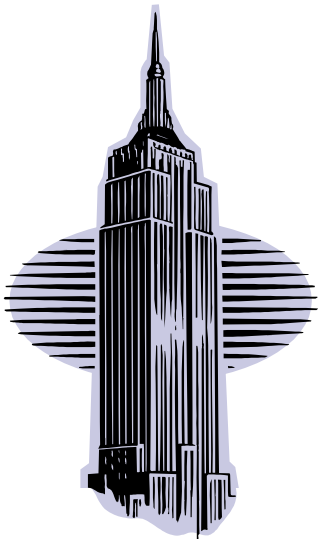
- In 1926, NBC set up the first national radio network.
- 40% of households had a radio.
- Made money by advertising new goods.

Films

- 1927, 'The Jazz Singer' was the first full length talking film.
- Nearly every town had a cinema.
- 110m Americans went to the cinema every week.
- Mid 1930s, Walt Disney made Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck.
- Hollywood became the film capital of the world.
- Charlie Chaplin was a famous star.

Sport

- Sports events started to attract hundreds of thousands of spectators.
- Sports starts began to be paid huge wages.
- Babe Ruth was the star of the New York Yankees baseball team.
- Jack Dempsey was a boxing legend. In 1926, 120,000 people watched his championship fight.
- Top American football star was Red Grange.



Women

Flappers

- Many young women were called flappers.
- They had short, bobbed hair and wore knee length dresses (very short!).
- They wore make up, smoked cigarettes and drove.

Anti Flirt Association

- Set up to try and control the 'wild' young people.
- Handed out badges and made speeches.
- They thought flappers were acting immorally.
- Indecent bathing costumes were banned.
- Petting was made illegal.

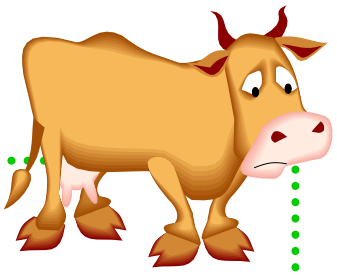
Voting

- After the First World War, women were given the vote.
- They had done men's jobs during the war and proved they deserved the vote.
- 1918, Congress passed the 19th amendment, allowing women to vote from 1920.
- But still very few women entered into politics.

Working

- Most women still only had menial jobs – cleaners, maids and waitresses.
- They were paid much less than men, even for doing a similar job.
- There was an increase in women nurses and teachers, but very few lawyers or doctors.
- Introduction of birth control meant they could have fewer children.
- But they were still expected to clean the house, and look after their husbands and children.
- This was made a bit easier with the new technology of vacuum cleaners and washing machines.
- The divorce rate doubled, which suggests women had more choices.
- 10m women had jobs by 1929, an increase of 24%.

Who Didn't Prosper?



Farmers

- Half of Americans were involved in farming.
- Farmers grew more crops because of better technology like combine harvesters.
- The government had urged them to grow as much cotton and wheat, and raise livestock as possible during the First World War.
- This continued after the war.
- They grew so much that the price of their goods fell – remember that things are only worth lots of money if they are rare.
- So farmers made less money and couldn't pay their mortgages.
- 600,000 farmers lost their farms in 1924 because of debts.
- They often lived on $89 a year.
- Most lived in shacks, with no electricity, no running water or toilets.
- Diseases were common because of the poor conditions.
- Many farm labourers lost their jobs.
- Lots moved to California to work on the fruit farms.

Older Industries

- Coal industry suffered as new power was used – oil, gas, electricity.
- Too much coal was produced, which meant the price fell and mines closed.
- The same thing happened in the cotton and textiles industries.
- In the 1920s, 60% of people lived below the poverty line.

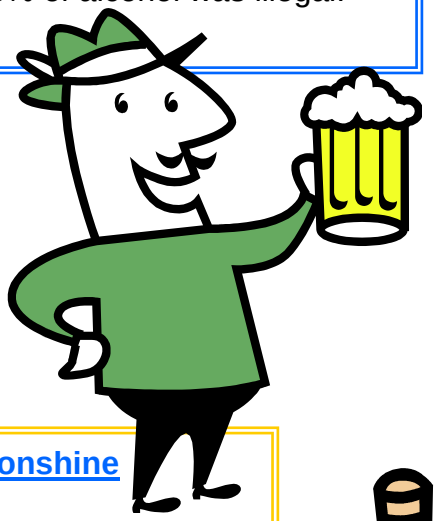
Black People

- Black people made up 10% of the population.
- 1m black people lost their jobs in 1920s.
- Many moved to northern, industrial cities.
- They were lowest paid.
- Slavery had only ended 50 years before this, so black people were still suffering the impact.
- They were uneducated and untrained.
- Many were farm labourers.
- Most black people still suffered from racism.
- White people feared they would take their jobs.
- Chicago June 1919, race riots – 23 black people killed, 15 white people killed.
- Jim Crow Laws – in the southern states, black and white people were separated by law.
- Black people had separate schools, restaurants, water fountains – and they were always worse than facilities for white people.
- In 1919, there were 70 lynchings (hanging black people without trial).

Prohibition

What Was It?

- January 1920 – USA introduced prohibition.
- Making, selling or transporting alcohol was illegal.
- It was part of the American constitution, in the 18th Amendment.
- The **Volstead Act** said drink with over 0.5% of alcohol was illegal.



Why?

- **Women's Christian Temperance Union** and **Anti Saloon League** had been campaigning to have alcohol banned.
- They said alcohol caused poverty, broke up marriages, caused crime and insanity.
- They claimed 3000 children were smothered every year in bed because of drunk parents.
- Said people didn't go to work because they were drunk or hung over – the industrialist Rockefeller supported the ban.
- During WW1, half the states banned alcohol – they said it was immoral to get drunk while young men were risking their lives in Europe.

Moonshine

- This was illegal alcohol, made in people's homes.
- It often caused illness or even death.

Speakeasies

- Secret illegal drinking clubs.
- 1930, there were 30,000 speakeasies in New York.
- They sold alcohol smuggled into America by **bootleggers** from abroad – rum from the West Indies and whisky from Canada.

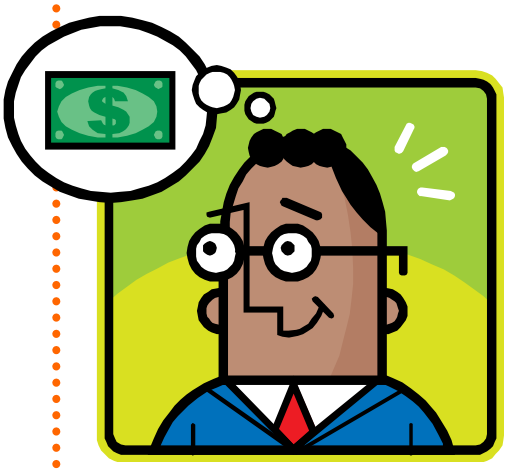
Why Did it Fail?

- Drinking alcohol was too popular and too profitable.
- Prohibition Bureau employed 4,000 agents to stop bootlegging and close speakeasies.
- Not many to cover the whole of America!
- Eliot Ness was a famous agent who made lots of arrests.
- But most weren't so successful and many were bribed.
- 10% of agents were sacked for taking bribes.
- Prohibition ended in December 1933.
- President Roosevelt repealed the 18th Amendment.
- He said "let's all go out and have a drink."
- The government needed the income from taxing alcohol during the Depression.

Gangsters

Organised Crime

- Rival gangs in cities fought to take over each others 'territory.'
- In Chicago, 227 gangsters were murdered in 4 years.
- Nobody was arrested.
- Gangsters ran protection rackets – asking businesses to pay money to be 'protected' from other gangsters.
- They controlled prostitutes and sold and transported drugs.
- Many police and judges were bribed.
- One gang regularly bribed 400 police men.



Al Capone

- His nickname was Scarface – because of a razor cut on his face.
- Controlled 700 men in Chicago.
- Armed with shot guns and sub machine guns.
- Capone became a celebrity – had his photo on the front of Time Magazine.
- He mixed with movie stars, politicians and business men.
- 1927, his annual income was $60m.
- 1931, he was imprisoned for 11 years for tax evasion.
- This was the only thing the authorities could find proof for.
- 1939, released from prison but died of syphilis in 1947.

Saint Valentines Day Massacre

- 14th February 1929.
- Al Capone's men killed 7 of the Bugs Moran gang.

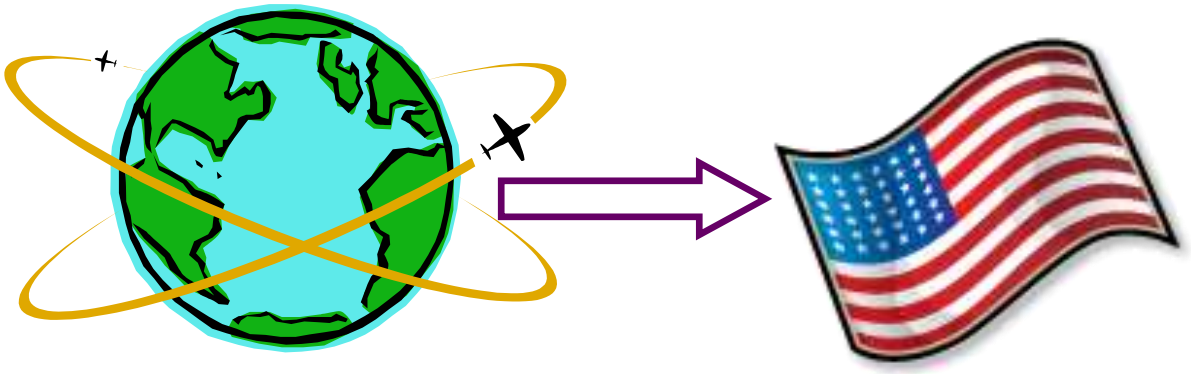
Gangsters and Prohibition

- Gangsters used prohibition to make money.
- They were bootleggers, transporting illegal alcohol and making vast profits.
- Rival gangs fought to supply the speakeasies with alcohol.

Immigration

Increased Immigration

- In the 1800s, America was known as the 'land of opportunity.'
- 1850-1914 over 40m Europeans moved to America.
- By 1914, there were over 100 different nationalities in America.
- The policy of isolationism led the government to try and limit immigrants.
- People were worried immigrants would work for less money and take their jobs.
- They worried immigrants would bring new political ideas with them, like communism.
- Immigrants were only allowed to do the worst paid jobs, so lived in poor conditions.
- Immigrant ghettos grew, violence and crime were high which increased distrust of them.



Immigration Laws

1917 Literacy Test –

- Immigrants had to read a passage in English so they could get into the country.
- Meant poorer people from Europe and Asia weren't allowed in, because they couldn't afford to learn English.

1921 Immigration Quota Act –

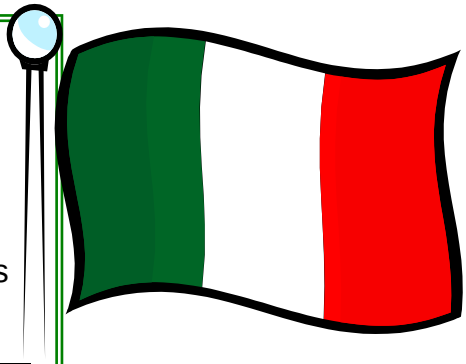
- No more than 357,000 immigrants allowed each year.
- And, wouldn't accept more than 3% of the number from that country living in America in 1910.
- For example, if there were 100,000 French living in America in 1910, they would allow in another 3,000 French people each year (3% of 100,000).
- It favoured western and northern European people, because there were already lots of them in America before 1910.

1924 – quota was reduced to 2% of the population in 1890.

1929 – no more than 150,000 immigrants allowed in each year.

Sacco and Vanzetti, and the Red Scare

Sacco-Vanzetti Case



- Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were immigrants from Italy.
- They were anarchists and hated the American government.
- 1920, they were arrested for murdering two guards in a robbery.

Evidence For	Evidence Against
They were carrying guns when they were arrested.	Eyewitnesses couldn't agree on the details of the robbery or description of the killers
Had been seen by 60 eye witnesses	107 witnesses said Sacco and Vanzetti had been somewhere else at the time (but most of these were also Italian immigrants
Vanzetti had been convicted for armed robbery in 1919	

- A jury found both men guilty and they were executed in 1927.
- In 1977 the verdict was declared unjust because the judge had been biased.

Communism – the system of government in Russia after 1917. Communists believed everyone should be equal which sounds like a lovely idea – unless you are rich because it meant giving up your money!

Lenin – leader of the Russian Communists

The Red Scare

- The Reds were the Communists.
- Communists had just taken over Russia in 1917.
- Americans were scared they would try and turn America communist.
- There were 150,000 communists in America.
- They were blamed for strikes in 1919 and for a bomb in Attorney General Mitchell-Palmer's house.
- Many Americans thought this was part of a communist plot.
- 10,000 people were arrested and held without trial.

The Ku Klux Klan

What Did They Believe?

- That WASPs were superior – White Anglo Saxon Protestants.
- These were the only 'true' Americans.
- They were from northern Europe, and had lived in America for several generations.
- Hated Jews, Catholics, immigrants from southern Europe (Italy), from eastern Europe (Russia), from Asia, and black people.

Why Did Membership Grow?

- 100,000 members in 1920.
- 5m members in 1925.
- Poor white people thought their jobs were threatened by immigrants and black people who worked for lower wages.
- Strongest in southern states where slavery had been, and there were lots of black people.

What Did They Do?

- They held ceremonies and spoke in codes called 'Klonversations.'
- They tortured people who weren't 'true' Americans.
- Victims were whipped, beaten, tarred and feathered, or lynched (killed without trial), and set fire to their homes.

Punishment?

- The KKK were usually not punished for their actions because policemen and judges were often members.
- Juries made up of white people often found them not guilty.
- After 1925 membership fell after a series of high profile cases and trials.

Decline

- Membership declined after a scandal.
- The 'Grand Dragon' of the Indiana Klan, David Stephenson, kidnapped and raped a woman.
- She committed suicide.
- The scandal destroyed Stephenson's reputation.
- Membership of the Klan fell to a few hundred thousand by 1928.

Causes of the Depression

Tariffs

- If a country had surplus goods they often tried to sell them abroad.
- America couldn't do this because after the Fordney-McCumber act, other countries put high taxes on American goods.
- This made them too expensive for people in other countries to buy.

Property

- The price of houses had risen dramatically.
- Especially in Florida.
- 1926, housing market collapsed.
- Left people with huge mortgages for houses which weren't worth anywhere near that amount.
- They couldn't sell their houses to pay their debts, because they would still have a huge mortgage.

Lending

- In 1920s, America lent lots of money to Britain and Germany.
- When America fell into economic problems, they asked for their money back.
- This turned the Depression into a world crisis.

Collapse of Kreditanstalt

- Austrian bank collapsed.
- Led to world financial crisis.
- People lost confidence in banks.

Stock Market

- Investing in shares became a hobby for middle class people.
- When the stock market collapsed, they lost lots of their money.

Industrial Over-Production

- Factories were making too many goods.
- Workers wages were too low to enable them to pay for more goods.
- Supply outstripped demand.
- There were too many cars made, and nobody to buy them.
- Factories had to make workers redundant.
- That meant fewer people could afford consumer goods.

Small Banks

- There were too many small banks.
- When people wanted to withdraw their money, they didn't have it.
- The banks had invested their savings in the stock market.

Agricultural Over-Production

- Farmers had produced too much.
- Prices fell and often were not enough to cover their costs.

Impact of the Depression

The Depression started in 1929, triggered by the Wall Street Crash. It lasted until 1939. The hardest years were 1929-32.

Unemployment

- 1932, 13m people unemployed.
- 1-2m travelled around looking for work.
- They became hobos.
- In Alabama, a third of white people and half of black people were unemployed.
- It was worse in the industrial northern states, as companies laid off workers.
- Those who had jobs, had their wages cut 25%.

Businesses and Industry

- Ford had employed 120,000 workers in Detroit, fell to 37,000 by 1931.
- Industrial production fell by 45%.
- House building fell by 82%.
- By 1933, all the United States Steel Corporation's workers were working part time.
- 100,000 companies closed.

Homelessness

- 1932, a quarter of a million people lost their homes.
- Some deliberately got themselves arrested so they could spend the night in prison.
- Some slept on park benches or bus shelters.
- You could pay to 'sleep on the line' – sitting upright in a hall full of people, resting on a washing line to sleep.
- Many moved to the edge of town and built shelters out of scrap metal and wood.
- They were called Hoovervilles – an insult to President Hoover.

Hunger and Charities

- 110 people died of starvation, although it was a contributing factor in many more deaths.
- Some towns ran their own public relief programmes, providing jobs, temporary homes and food.
- Salvation Army set up soup kitchens.
- People queued round the block for free food – these were known as bread lines.
- Individual rich people sometimes offered help.
- For example, Al Capone provided food in Chicago.

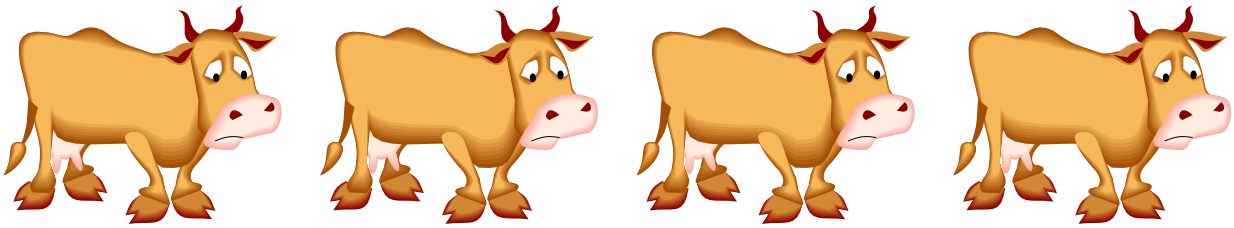
Impact of the Depression – Farmers

Selling Produce

- Unemployment in towns meant farmers sold less.
- Prices fell so much that it cost more to harvest the crop than it was worth.
- They left wheat to rot in the field.
- Farmers had already suffered through the 1920s, and things were getting even worse.

Mortgages

- 1932, one farmer in every 20 was evicted for failure to make mortgage repayments.
- Some farmers organised themselves to resist banks taking their homes.
- They barricaded highways and threatened sheriffs with pitchforks and hangman's nooses.



The Dust Bowl 1930

- In the south and Midwest like Oklahoma and Kansas, farmers had changed from cattle farming to growing crops.
- The land was being farmed too much and became infertile.
- After 1930 there was severe drought.
- Strong winds and no rainfall turned soil to dust.
- It was America's main farming region.
- Many farmers had to abandon their farms and try and find work.

President Hoover

The government, at the start of the Depression, was Republican. It was led by President Hoover.

Republican Beliefs

- They believed in 'rugged individualism.'
- Meant everyone should help themselves.
- The government should not interfere with peoples problems.
- They thought the Depression wouldn't last long.
- Hoover promised people – a chicken in every pot and a car in every garage.

How did Hoover's Government Help?

- 1930, cut taxes so people could buy more goods.
- Government provided $4000m for big building projects, to create jobs.
- 1931, work began on the Hoover Dam on the Colorado River.
- 1932, Emergency Relief Act gave $300m to individual states to help the unemployed.
- 1932, Reconstruction Finance Corporation provided loans of $1500m to businesses, to help them recover.

Hating Hoover

- People blamed the government for the Depression, and felt they hadn't done enough to help.
- In cities, the unemployed held marches and demonstrations against the government.
- A popular chant was – "in Hoover we trusted, now we are busted."
- They made fun of their president by renaming things.
- Hoover leather – cardboard soles for shoes.
- Hoover blankets – newspaper that people slept in.

The Bonus Army

- At the end of WW1, soldiers were promised a pension, to be paid in 1945.
- By 1932, many veterans had been hit by the Depression and wanted their pension early.
- Summer 1932 – 20,000 veterans marched to Washington to protest.
- They set up a Hooverville.
- Congress refused to pay them.
- President Hoover called in the army to get rid of the veterans.
- They burned the tents, killed 2 veterans and injured 1000.
- It made Hoover even more unpopular.

Roosevelt

Roosevelt Becomes President

- 1932 election, Roosevelt (a Democrat) won.
- He promised a 'new deal' for the American people.
- He said he would provide jobs for the unemployed and help industry.
- Roosevelt won 42 of the 48 state votes.
- It was the biggest presidential election win ever.

Fireside Chats

- Roosevelt knew it was important to explain to the people what he was doing.
- They needed to trust him and have confidence in the economy again.
- He used the radio to reach the public.
- In his 'fireside chats' he explained to them why the USA was in depression and how he was going to help.
- 60m people tuned in regularly.

The Hundred Days

- Congress granted Roosevelt emergency powers to deal with the Depression.
- In his first 100 days in office, he acted quickly.
- He set up a number of alphabet agencies – called this because people used the agency initials rather than the full name.
- Roosevelt was helped by a 'brains trust.'
- They were university professors and economists, to advise him on future policy.

Banking Crisis

- March 1933, Emergency Banking Act.
- All banks were closed for 4 days.
- Government officials inspected all the bank accounts in this time.
- Banks which were properly managed were reopened.
- They were supported by government loans.
- People left their savings in the banks and those who had withdrawn their money started to put it back in.
- Securities Exchange Commission was set up to regulate the stock market

Lame Duck months = November 1932 – March 1933. The period between Roosevelt winning the election and taking office.

The First New Deal

PWA
Public Works Administration

- Built schools, hospitals, dams, aircraft carriers and airports.
- Only for skilled workers.
- Not useful for the millions of workers who were unskilled.

CCC
Civilian Conservation Corps

- For unemployed 18-25 year old men.
- Men stayed in camps while they planted trees, cleared land and made reservoirs.
- They got food, clothing, shelter and pocket money of $1 a day.
- Had to send home $25 a month to help their parents.
- Each project only lasted 6 months.
- By 1938, over 2m young men had served in the CCC.
- They learned skills that they could use to get other jobs.

NRA
National Recovery Administration

- To help employers and workers.
- Set out a code of conduct for businesses – minimum wage, maximum working hours, child labour outlawed.
- Businesses who signed up could advertise with the Blue Eagle and the slogan “we do our part.”
- Americans were encouraged to buy blue eagle products.
- 2m employers signed up.
- Declared illegal by Supreme Court after Sick Chickens Case.

HOLC
Home Owners Loan Corporation

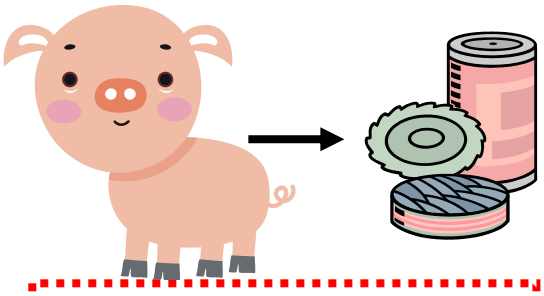
- Lent homeowners money at low interest rates.
- Helped them pay their mortgages.

The First New Deal

- The **New Deal** was a package of measures to deal with the Depression – to provide work for people, so they could earn money and keep their homes. There was no system of social services like there is in England now.
- **Alphabet agencies** were set up to help people. They were called this because they are often shortened to their initials.
- The **First New Deal** was 1932-33, and these were the first agencies to be set up.

AAA
Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

- Set up May 1933.
- Paid farmers to produce less food.
- To plough less land or reduce livestock by killing their animals.
- 6m piglets were destroyed – the meat was canned and given to the unemployed.
- Food prices went up.
- Any loss of profit was made up by government subsidies.
- Government helped farmers pay their mortgages.
- Farmers income doubled.
- Didn't help farm workers – there was less work for them to do.
- Supreme Court declared AAA illegal.

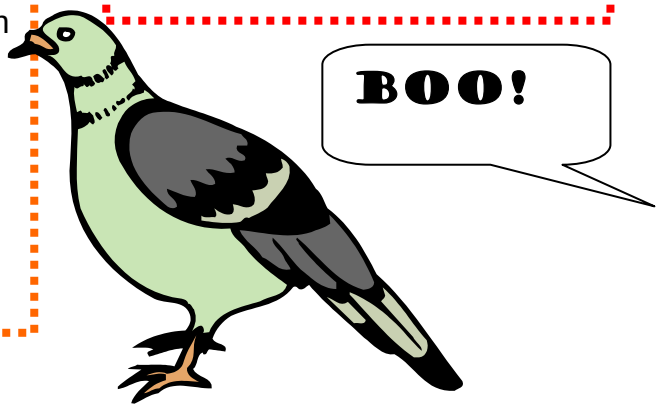


TVA
Tennessee Valley Authority

- This valley area suffered from droughts and floods.
- The soil was poor.
- People there lived in poverty.
- The area covered 7 different states and it was difficult to get them to work together.
- TVA provided work in flood control, building dams and reservoirs, preventing soil erosion, building new towns.
- Provided electricity for the area.
- 21 dams were built.
- Created lakes which attracted businesses to the area.
- Black people weren't allowed on the TVA model farm.

CWA
Civil Works Administration

- Provided work for 4m people.
- Built dams, roads, schools, public buildings and toilets.
- Unemployed actors were hired to give free shows.
- Paid out of work researchers to research the history of the safety pin.
- Hired 100 people in Washington to scare pigeons away with balloons.
- These pointless jobs were called boondoggles.
- Only lasted 1 winter then those 4m people were out of work again.



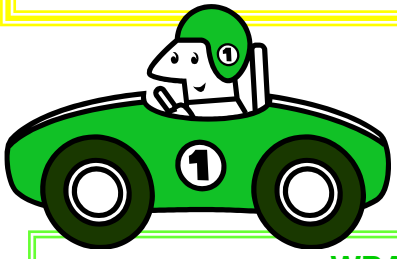
The Second New Deal

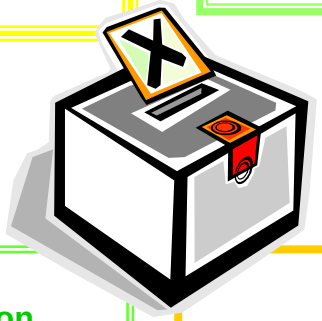
Why did the New Deal Change?

- Roosevelt's critics were gaining support.
- There was to be an election in 1936 and Roosevelt wanted to be re-elected.
- 11m people were still unemployed by 1935.
- There had been lots of strikes, which damaged coal, steel and car industries.
- Supreme Court had ruled the AAA and NRA unconstitutional because Roosevelt had overstepped his powers.

What Changed?

- The First New Deal tried to rescue the economy.
- The Second New Deal set up a huge welfare programme.
- Roosevelt planned to spend $4,800b on poor relief.
- This second new deal started in the summer of 1935.



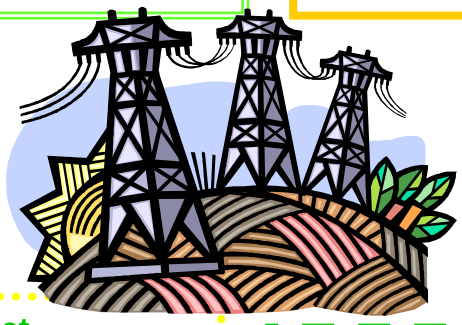


WPA
Works Progress Administration

- To help unskilled workers.
- Provided work for 2m people each year.
- Built schools, roads and airports.
- Writers were paid to write books.
- Painters made pictures for schools.
- Work was only temporary.

Wagner Act

- Gave workers the right to join trade unions.
- Some employers refused to let their workers join unions.
- Led to strikes in 1937.
- Replaced the NRA which had been declared unconstitutional.



Social Security Act

- Set up a national system of pensions for old people and widows.
- Pension payments were low - $85 a month.
- Helped disabled people.
- Set up dole money.
- The most important and lasting measure of the New Deal.

REA
Rural Electrification Administration

- Groups of farmers were able to borrow money from the government.
- Used it to build electricity pylons.
- By 1941, four out of 10 farms had electricity.

Impact of the New Deal

Black People

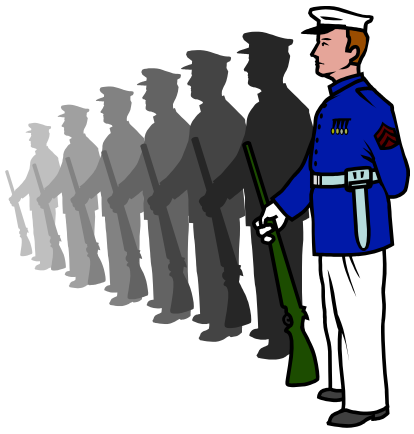
- Most black people had always been poor.
- They still had the worst paid jobs like cleaners, farm hands or porters.
- In the Deep South, 63 black men were killed by lynch mobs.
- Many people wanted an anti-lynching law.
- Roosevelt wouldn't support that in case he lost votes from the southern whites.
- Many New Deal projects discriminated against black people.
- But black people began to support Roosevelt after 1935.
- They benefited from the relief cheques paid by the government – a third of black people became reliant on these.

Farmers

- Farmers suffered from the dust bowl.
- The government sent out agents to investigate but not much was done.
- Those who stayed on their land were helped by the TVA and the supply of electricity.

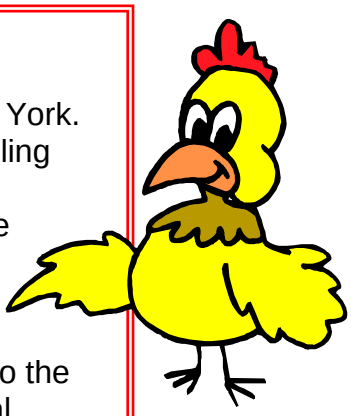
The Second World War

- This was the reason America recovered from the depression.
- America joined the war in 1941 but felt the benefits of it from 1939.
- By 1944, unemployment was 670,000.
- 1942, War Production Board converted peacetime industry to war production.
- Made 88,000 tanks, 7333 ships, 20m guns, 40b bullets
- Millions of men joined the army, and had to be replaced in their jobs (43m enlisted).
- Lots more work available for working class women.
- 2m women worked in munitions factories.
- Average pay was $32 a week.
- Women could spend more, which helped the economy – buying food, clothes, goods for the house.
- During the war, tax revenue went up from $4m a year to $42m a year.



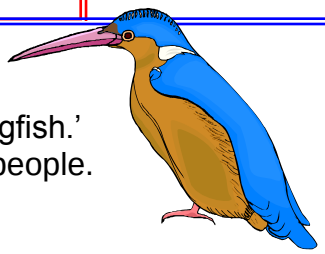
Opposition to the New Deal

The Supreme Court and the Sick Chickens Case



- A poultry business signed up to the NRA in 1933, in New York.
- In 1935, the business broke one of the NRA codes by selling some diseased chickens.
- The NRA took it to court but the company appealed to the Supreme Court.
- It ruled the NRA was illegal so the company couldn't be punished.
- 1936, AAA was declared illegal because it should be up to the state governments to help farmers, rather than the federal government.
- Supreme Court tried 16 cases about the alphabet agencies.
- In each one, they said Roosevelt shouldn't have interfered – it should be up to the individual states to look after their people.

Huey Long



- He was Senator of Louisiana, nicknamed 'The Kingfish.'
- Criticised Roosevelt for not doing enough to help people.
- His idea was a "share our wealth" programme.
- Said all fortunes over $3m would be confiscated.
- It would be shared out to poorer people – sums of $4000 each to buy a car, home and radio.
- He got rid of opponents, rigged elections and bribed police.
- He was Roosevelt's strongest opponent, but was assassinated in 1935.

Father Charles Coughlin

- Set up the National Union for Social Justice in 1935,
- To provide work and fair wages for everyone.
- Wanted to nationalise the banks and have a minimum wage.
- Said Roosevelt was an "anti God."
- Ran against him in the presidential election of 1936.

Frances Townsend

- Wanted federal government to give $200 a month to everyone over 60.
- They would have to spend this money within the month, in America.
- Forcing people to retire at 60 would free up jobs for younger people.
- He had millions of supporters.

1936 Election

Roosevelt won the presidential election, with over 27m votes to the Republican Landon's 16m.

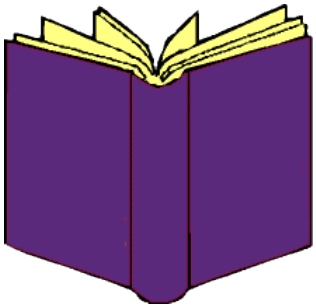
1930s Popular Culture

Cinema

- Golden Age of Hollywood
- 70m went to the cinema each week.
- Most films still black and white.
- 'Talkies' – films with sound and dialogue.
- Escapism from the Depression.
- Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers made musicals, lots of dancing.
- Hollywood studios called themselves 'dream factories.'
- MGM, 20th Century Fox, Paramount and Warner Bros.
- Disney's film Three Little Pigs was the first colour animation, 1933.
- Wizard of Oz made in 1939.

Literature

- Of Mice and Men, 1937.
- George and Lenny move to California looking for work, during the Depression.
- Shows racism, with the black farm hand Crooks being isolated from other workers.



Music

- 80% of people had radios.
- Glenn Miller Orchestra was a swing dance band, they had 70 top ten singles in four years.
- Lots of young people went to ballrooms and dance halls.
- Savoy Dance Hall in Harlem was the first to allow black and white people to mix freely.
- Jazz, blues and swing was all popular.
- Jazz very popular in speakeasies, during prohibition which lasted until 1933.
- Duke Ellington and Louis Armstrong most famous.
- Harlem Renaissance – cultural, social and artistic movement. Emphasised the work of black people.

Sport

- Boxer JJ Braddock became world champion, after losing 24 previous fights (Cinderella Man).
- He repaid the government benefits he had received in the early 1930s.
- Baseball player Babe Ruth earned more than the president.
- New York Yankees were most successful team.
- 1936 Olympics in Berlin – black athlete Jesse Owens won four gold medals.
- First televised American football match in 1939.

Consumerism and the American Dream

More Money

- Plenty of jobs, wages higher.
- Baby boom, as young couples got married and had children.
- By 1952, America was supplying the world with 65% of its manufactured goods.
- Biggest growth in televisions, plastics, jet engines and cars.
- Government told people it was their duty to spend money, to support the economy and returning soldiers.
- TV shows had sponsors and used product placement to encourage people to buy new goods.
- But 25% of people still lived below the poverty line.

The American Dream

- The perfect life was a house in the suburbs, steady job, being married and having children.
- If you worked hard, you could achieve anything.

Veterans

- The G.I Bill in 1944 helped veterans from the war.
- Set up hospitals, provided low interest mortgages and grants for tuition at college and trade schools.
- Helped 9m veterans.
- Some of the new houses built, advertised themselves as victory homes for soldiers returning from the war.

Women

- 1950s adverts showed women as housewives, with domestic gadgets to make their lives easier.
- In reality, many women had to work, to help support their families.
- Many wanted to work, and earn their own money, like they had during the war.
- Husbands still saw themselves as breadwinners.

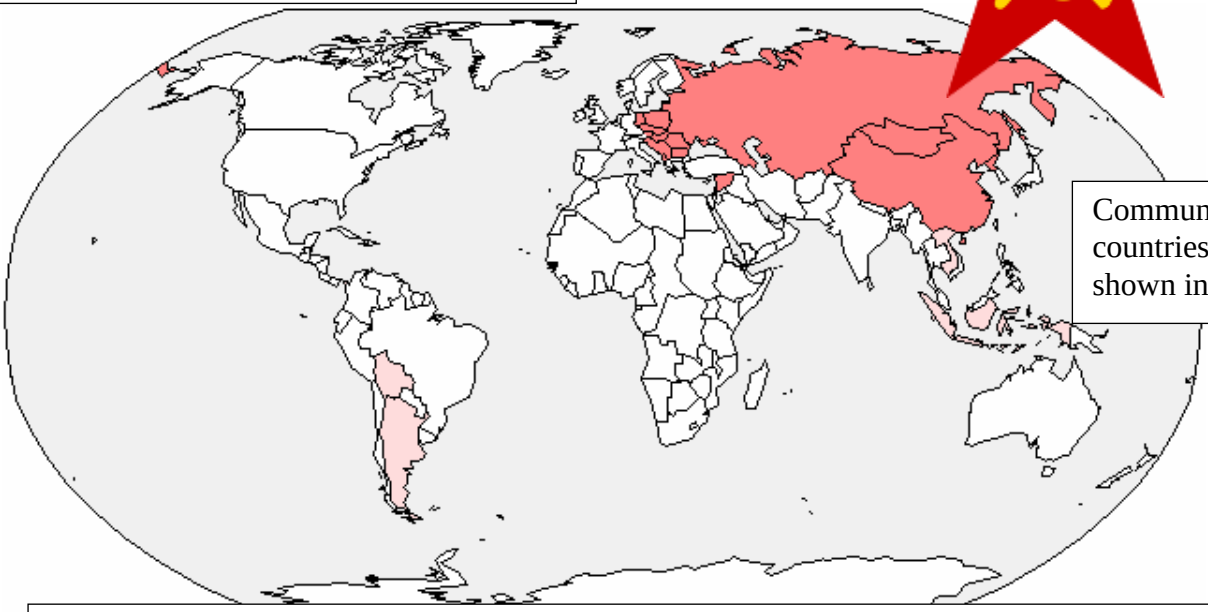
Consumerism = buying/ consuming lots of goods, helps the economy
American Dream = money, success, happy families, opportunities

McCarthyism

McCarthyism = making accusations without proper evidence
Communism = all property owned by the community. Everyone contributes what they can and gets what they need.
Cold War = tension between the eastern bloc (Russia and allies) and countries in the west (America and their allies). Not an actual war.

Who Was McCarthy?

An American Senator who was worried about Communism spreading.

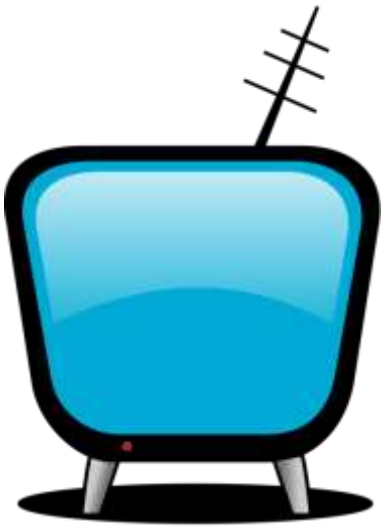


Communist countries are shown in red

A Second Red Scare

- The 1920s fear of communism happened again in the 1950s.
- There were 75,000 members of the Communist Party in America.
- McCarthy said there were 200 Communists in the American government.
- This led to over 100 investigations.
- People working in schools, the army and entertainment industry were also targeted.
- Hundreds were imprisoned and 10,000 lost their jobs.

Television and Rock and Roll



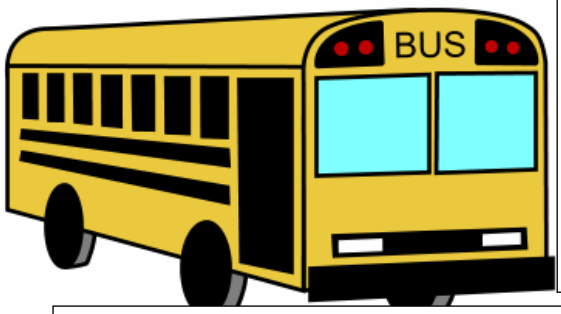
Television

- Cartoons like the Flintstones and Top Cat were aimed at adults as well as children.
- Comedies like the Addams Family and I Love Lucy.
- Most television programs were now in colour.
- Televisions were still a luxury but by the early 1960s most families had one.
- People didn't have to leave their homes to be entertained.

Rock and Roll

- New style of music and dancing.
- Appealed to teenagers – songs about love and being young.
- Lots of older people disapproved – they thought the new bands and singers were a bad influence.
- Elvis Presley, James Brown and the Beatles all became famous.
- Lots of black musicians, including black female groups like the Supremes.
- Drugs were often associated with rock and roll, especially marijuana and LSD.
- Woodstock Festival in 1969 attracted crowds of 400,000 people (like Glastonbury).

MONTGOMERY BUS BOYCOTT

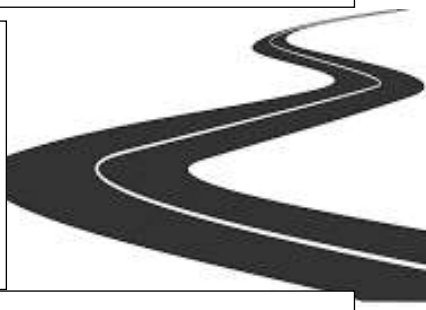


Segregation on Buses

- Buses in the southern states of America were segregated.
- The front rows were reserved for white people while black people had to sit at the back.
- If the bus was full, black people had to give up their seats for white people.
- The NAACP asked Rosa Parks to challenge this segregation.

Rosa Parks

- 1st December 1955 Rosa refused to move from her seat, to allow a white man to sit down.
- She was arrested and fined $14.
- NAACP took the Alabama government to court over segregation laws.
- Black people in Montgomery took direct action against bus companies.



The Boycott

- Martin Luther King set up the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) to coordinate a boycott of local buses until segregation ended.
- It would be non violent action.
- Boycott lasted a year.
- 85% of Montgomery's black people refused to use the buses.
- MIA organised car pools to help people get to work.
- Taxis only charged black people 10 cents a ride, the same as if they used the bus.
- Many people walked everywhere.
- Churches began to provide money for new shoes.
- Some white ladies drove their black domestic servants to and from

Impact

- Bus companies lost 65% of their revenue.
- King was fined $500 and sentenced to a year in prison.
- This drew media attention and King served just two weeks of his sentence.
- 20th December 1956 the Supreme Court made segregation on buses illegal.
- The Montgomery Bus Company desegregated their buses, so black people could sit where they liked.
- Showed the economic power of black people – they had financially crippled the bus companies.
- Television reports had shown the injustice of segregation.
- Martin Luther King had shown his leadership qualities and become famous.
- Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) was set up, to fight for equal rights.

Boycott = to stop using something
Car pool = to share a car with other people – picking them up along the way
Supreme Court = most important court in America

Freedom Rides

The Plan

- To check that transport had been desegregated.
- Organised by Congress of Racial Equal (CORE) and Student Non Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).
- 6 white and 7 black activists took part at first.
- 4th May 1961 – first freedom ride.
- From Washington DC to Birmingham in Alabama.
- Via Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Georgia.
- Second freedom ride from Nashville to Jackson in Mississippi.
- Via Tennessee and Alabama.
- Hundreds more freedom riders joined in.

What Happened?

- In Anniston the KKK and white mob fire bombed the Freedom Riders' bus.
- Police refused to intervene.
- In Birmingham, police chief Eugene 'Bull' Connor gave his police the day off.
- In Montgomery, police and medics refused to help after a white crowd beat the Riders with baseball bats.
- Martin Luther King gave a speech to support the Freedom Riders.
- He had refused to get involved before.

Key Terms

CORE = Congress of Racial Equality
SCLC = Southern Christian Leadership Conference
SNCC = Student Non Violent Coordinating Committee
NAACP = National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People
Civil Rights Movement = attempt to end segregation and end discrimination

Outcome

- Government had to make sure interstate buses were desegregated.
- More cooperation between civil rights groups – SNCC, SCLC, CORE.
- President Kennedy was more sympathetic to civil rights movement.
- Lots of media attention.
- In September 1961, the Interstate Commerce Commission issued regulations to stop segregation in bus and train stations.

Segregation in Schools

Separate but Equal

- Schools were segregated in America, with white and black students going to different schools.
- The Supreme Court used the phrase "separate but equal" which meant it was okay for schools to be segregated as long as they were equally good.

Brown Case 1954

- Linda Brown was forced to attend an all-black school that was 20 blocks away.
- Her father said she would be better off at the local white school.
- Supreme Court agreed and said schools should no longer be segregated.

Reaction

- White Citizens Councils funded their own schools so they could stay separate.
- 250,000 people joined these Councils.
- Revival in Ku Klux Klan activities.
- Emmett Till, a 14 year old black boy was lynched.
- His murderers were found not guilty by an all white jury.

Brown II - 1955

- For a year after the Brown case, there was little change.
- The Supreme Court now said that desegregation of schools should happen "with all deliberate speed."
- But by 1968, 58% of southern black school children were still in segregated schools.

Little Rock 1957

- 9 black students enrolled into Little Rock's all white High School.
- The local governor ordered the National Guard to stop them entering the school.
- President Eisenhower then ordered the National Guard to escort the children into school and protect them.
- The governor closed local schools to avoid desegregation.
- 4000 students (black and white) had to go to other schools.
- Supreme Court said it was illegal to prevent desegregation for any reason.
- June 1959 the schools in Little Rock reopened and had to accept black and white students.
- Consequences:
    - President had intervened to support desegregation.
    - Showed how much white Southerners opposed desegregation.
    - Showed how well peaceful protests worked.

Martin Luther King

MLK's Role

- Joined NAACP.
- Set up Montgomery Improvement Association in 1955 during bus boycott.
- Helped organise Montgomery Bus Boycott.
- Set up and was head of SCLC from 1957.
- NAACP saw this as a rival organisation.
- King organised marches to make people aware of 'black' problems.
- 1959, King admitted SCLC hadn't made much progress.
- He supported sit ins but didn't organise them.
- Didn't go on the freedom rides but encouraged the organisations to work together.
- Led the Birmingham march 1963.
- Organised and spoke at Washington march 1963.
- 1957-68, he travelled 6m miles.
- Made 2500 speeches.
- Wrote 5 books.
- Voted man of the year by Time Magazine in 1963.
- By 1957 he was recognised as one of black America's leading spokesmen.
- Arrested 20 times and assaulted 4 times.

Nobel Peace Prize

- Youngest man to be awarded the prize.
- For his peaceful protests.
- Gave the $54,000 prize money to the civil rights movement – including NAACP and SCLC.

Assassination

- 4th April 1968, King was shot.
- On the balcony of his hotel in Memphis.
- James Earl Ray was convicted of his murder.
- Led to rioting across 130 cities in 29 states.
- Stokely Carmichael said it was the end of peaceful protest.
- Others were determined to continue his work.
- The SCLC carried on his Poor Peoples' Campaign.

Who was Involved?

Event	King and SCLC	NAACP	CORE	SNCC
Montgomery Bus Boycott				
Freedom Rides				
Birmingham March				
Washington March				
Meredith March				
Chicago				

Key

Green = heavily involved

Orange = partly involved

Red = not involved

New Laws

Civil Rights Act 1964:

- Same voting rules to be applied to blacks and whites.
- Desegregation of schools.
- Banned discrimination in public places like hotels, theatres and parks.

1965 Voting Rights Act:

- Got rid of most voting qualifications.
- There were no more tests to pass in order to vote.

Black Power

The Movement

- It emphasised racial pride and tried to advance black values.
- Wanted equality and to improve living conditions for blacks.
- Many black people started to wear 'afro' hair styles and African clothes.
- Showed pride in their culture and where they were from.
- Increased morale.
- Courses on black history and culture began at schools and universities.

Malcolm X

- Joined Nation of Islam.
- Taught him the white man was the devil.
- Said black people should defend themselves by any means necessary.
- Didn't believe in peaceful protest.
- Criticised King's policy.
- Set up Organisation of Afro American Unity (OAAU).
- Aimed to unite people of African descent.
- Wanted political, social and economic independence for black people.
- Alienated ma[illegible]

Stokely Carmichael

- Led SNCC.
- Honorary prime minister of Black Panthers.
- Led All African Peoples Revolutionary Party.
- 1961, freedom rides – arrested 30 times.
- Travelled by train from New Orleans to Jackson to make sure 'white' carriages were desegregated.

Black Panther Party for Self Defence

- Set up in California, 1966.
- Wore black paramilitary uniforms, berets and leather jackets.
- Wanted:
- Compensation for slavery
- No military service for blacks
- Less police brutality
- Improvements to living conditions in ghettos.
- 5000 members.
- Most in northern cities.
- Set up ghetto clinics to advise people on health, welfare and legal rights.
- Free Breakfast Program in California served 1700 meals a week to poor people.
- Armed black panthers followed police into ghettos, to expose police brutality.
- Violent shoot outs.
- Killed lots of white police.
- Many members had criminal records before they joined.
- By 1970, most leaders killed, imprisoned or exiled.
- 1970 poll showed 64% of blacks took pride in the Panthers.
- Violence alienated whites.

Mexico Olympics 1968

- Black Power Salute – sign of protest.
- By African American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos during medal ceremony.
- Wore human rights badges on their jackets.
- Wore black socks, no shoes – sign of black poverty.
- Smith wore black scarf to represent black pride.
- Carlos unzipped his tracksuit top to represent poor workers.
- Wore necklace of beads, to represent people who had been lynched.
- They were banned from the Olympics.

Birmingham Freedom March – 1963

Why Birmingham?

- Birmingham was still segregated.
- It was one of the most racist cities in America.
- KKK strong there.
- No black police officers, bus drivers, fire fighters or bank workers.
- 10% of blacks there were registered to vote.
- Banned NAACP.
- Local police chief Bull Connor would react violently to protests.
- That would bring media attention.

What Happened?

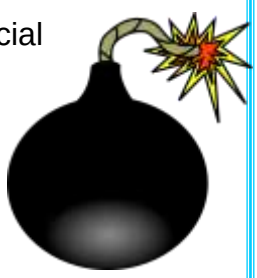
- SCLC and Martin Luther King organised.
- Bull Connor got a court injunction against demonstrations in the area.
- Released high profile campaigners to prevent negative media attention.
- Mainly students in the marches.
- They didn't have jobs to lose if they were arrested.
- Birmingham should be embarrassed to lock up young people.
- 3rd May, police attacked demonstrators with high pressure fire hoses.
- Imprisoned 1300 black children.

Martin Luther King

- Arrested for taking part in an illegal march.
- Wrote 'Letter from Birmingham Jail.'
- Said they could break the law because it was the only way black people could get equality.

Results

- Police attacks caused media frenzy.
- President Kennedy forced to act.
- Announced his support for a law to end segregation – Civil Rights Act 1964.
- 5th May, negotiations between SCLC and Birmingham authorities.
- Released protestors, desegregated department stores and ended racial discrimination in jobs.
- Most schools and public areas still segregated.
- KKK bombed 16th Street Baptist Church.
- Killed 4 girls, sparked demonstrations.
- King and SCLC criticised for using children in their campaign.
- Some as young as 6.
- 1100 students were expelled from school – only reinstated after a court order.



Washington March – 1963

Aims:

- Encourage a civil rights law.
- Increase black employment through government projects.
- Show that non violence worked.
- Keep up morale of black people.
- $2 an hour minimum wage.
- Stop school segregation.

The March

- Called “the march for jobs and freedom.”
- SNCC, SCLC, CORE and NAACP involved.
- 250,000 people turned up – twice as many as expected.
- King organised food and aid for everyone.
- A quarter were white.
- King made his ‘I have a dream’ speech.

Impact

- Civil rights leaders worked together – but only for this one march.
- Media attention – many people watched it on television.
- Over 500 cameramen, technicians and presenters covered the event.
- Straight after the march, leaders met with President Kennedy to discuss the issues.
- Helped to pass civil rights act 1964.
- Sparked the Selma Voting Rights Movement which led to the Voting Rights Act 1965.

Marches in General

- Commonly used by civil rights groups.
- Non violent form of protest.
- Lots of support from whites and lots of media attention.
- Hundreds of marches took place all over America – especially in south.
- To make white people aware of black people’s problems.
- To pressure government into making new laws to protect black people and give them equal rights.

Race Riots 1965-67

The Ghettos

- Lots in the north and west of America.
- 32% of ghetto children finished high school – compared to 56% of whites.
- Fewer factory jobs led to unemployment for blacks.
- Most were unskilled and couldn't find work elsewhere.
- Chicago's ghetto had 60% black youth unemployment.
- Ghettos erupted into violence each summer.

Race Riots

- Violent protest against white control in cities.
- Associated with Black Power movement and Black Panthers.
- An alternative to the peaceful protests of sit ins, boycotts, and marches.
- First was in Watts (Los Angeles) in 1965.
- 34 deaths, 1000 injuries, 3500 arrested, $40m in damages.
- 238 race riots in 200 cities.
- Oakland 1965 and 1966, New Jersey 1967, Detroit 1967, Chicago 1966.
- Police shot many of the rioters.

Chicago Campaign

- Peaceful march, organised by King.
- 30,000 people – June 1966.
- To improve employment and housing.
- Heat wave.
- Mayor Daley ordered water supplies cut off from fire hydrants in the ghettos.
- Started riots.
- This water had been used to cool off in the summer.
- 1000 police officers called in.
- Whites fought back, threw rocks at King.
- Violence forced Daley to negotiate.
- Promised to end discrimination in housing.
- When SCLC left Chicago, Daley broke his promises.

Meredith March

- Non violent march from Memphis to Jackson.
- To encourage blacks to vote.
- Meredith was shot on the second day.
- King joined the protest.
- The march separated King and his peaceful followers from the Black Power movement – they had different methods.
- They were attacked by tear gas and police.
- Over 4000 blacks registered to vote because of the march.

Civil Rights Acts

Civil Rights Act 1964

- Banned discrimination in public accommodation.
- Set up Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
- Ended discrimination in employment.
- Banned unequal voting requirements.
- Federal government to oversee integration of schools and public places.

Voting Rights Act 1965

- Ended literacy tests for voting.
- Federal government to oversee voter registration.

Civil Rights Act 1968

- Banned racial discrimination in sale, rent or finance of housing.
- Harming civil rights workers is a federal crime.

President JFK

- Democrat
- 1961-63
- Started taking an interest in civil rights after the Birmingham riots in Alabama.
- Assassinated in 1963.

President Johnson

- Democrat
- 1963-69
- Promised to continue JFK's work with civil rights.

Johnson's Social Reforms

Great Society

- Johnson's programme of reforms to reduce poverty and racial inequality.
- Targeted education, voting, health care, transport, urban renewal (improving cities) and crime.

War on Poverty

1964 **Revenue Act** and **Economic Opportunity Act** provided $3b for:

- **Job Corps** – to help young people develop their skills.
- **Neighbourhood Youth Corps** – to give young people in cities work experience, and encourage them to stay in school.
- **Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)** – to encourage volunteers to provide free education and training.
- **Model Cities Program** - $900 million to clean up big cities and reduce crime.
- **Food Stamp Act 1964** - food stamps for poorer families, to exchange at shops for food.

Social Security improved in 1965 and 1967 to increase benefits and help more people.
Percentage living below the poverty line went from 23% to 12%.

Health Care

- **Medicare** - over 65s had half their health care costs paid.
- **Medicaid** - federal government would pay towards the health care of poorer families, pregnant women and disabled people.

Race Relations

- **1965 Voting Rights Act** outlawed discrimination in voting.
- 6,000 black people in political jobs by 1989.
- Johnson was the first President to arrest and prosecute members of the Klan in one hundred years.

Education

- **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)** 1965 doubled federal spending on education from $4 billion to $8 billion.
- More money went to poor areas, including all the big cities – but only half got to where it should.
- **Higher Education Act 1965** provided grants, work-study money, and government loans to help students attend university.
- **Teacher Corps** was set up, to encourage good quality teachers to work in poorer areas.
- **Head Start** program offered free pre-school education for poor families.
- 1967 **Public Broadcasting Act** created educational television programs.

Women's Liberation

Civil Rights Act

- The Civil Rights Act, introduced to bring equality for black Americans, also banned gender discrimination.
- Set up the Equality Employment Opportunity Commission to enforce the law.
- The Equal Rights Amendment was passed in 1972.
- Only 5% of politicians were women.

Employment

- Women earned an average of 60% less than men.
- Most women worked in retail sales, as secretaries or in domestic service (housemaids or nannies).
- Better paid work of manufacturing and construction was still seen as "men's work."
- Even if they started a career, many women gave up work when they got married and had children.

NOW

- National Organisation for Women (NOW), led by Betty Friedan, set up in 1966.
- Aimed to end discrimination at work, in schools and in the justice system.
- To end violence against women and make it legal for women to have abortions
- The group lobbied the government (tried to influence them), paid for lawsuits and organised rallies and marches to spread their message.
- They only used non-violent protest methods.
- 1973 case Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court ruled that abortion should be legal in all states.

Exam Technique – How to Get Top Marks

This unit makes up half of paper one. You should spend 60 minutes answering these six questions.

Question 1 – How does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about…? (4 marks)

Example – How does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about the Montgomery Bus Boycott?

- Overall difference between the sources – is one more positive than the other?
- First direct comparison between the sources

Source A says… but B says…

- Second direct comparison between the sources

Source A also says… but B says…

- How much? – 4 or 5 sentences.
- How long? – 6 minutes.

Question 2 – Why does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about…? (4 marks)

Example – Why does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about Al Capone?

- Explain in detail why A is biased – provenance

A is biased because…

This means it will emphasise…

- Explain in detail why B is biased – provenance

B is biased because…

This means it will emphasise…

- How much? – 4 or 5 sentences.
- How long? – 6 minutes.

Question 3 – Which interpretation is more convincing about? (8 marks)

Example – Which interpretation is more convincing about the New Deal?

- Link A to own knowledge – 2 or 3 examples (facts)

A is convincing because it says things that are true. For example…

- Link B to own knowledge – 2 or 3 examples (facts)

B is convincing because it says things that are true. For example…

- Make a decision – which is more convincing/ informative?

The more convincing interpretation is… because…

- How much? – two thirds of a page.
- How long? – 12 minutes.

Question 4 – Describe… (4 marks)

Example – describe the Washington march

- Two factors
- Each described and explained in detail

- How much? – five or six sentences.
- How long? – 6 minutes

Question 5 – How… (8 marks)

Example – How was the New Deal opposed?

- Two points, well described and explained
- Link each to the question

- How much? – two thirds of a page
- How long? – 12 minutes

Question 6 – Which of the following was the more important reason for…? (12 marks)

Example – Which was the more important reason for economic recovery after the depression:

- *New Deal*
- *Second World War?*

- Describe – facts and details for first bullet point (4 facts)
- Explain – why was this significant (3 reasons)
- Assess – link to question for first bullet point
- Describe – facts and details for second bullet point (4 facts)
- Explain – why was this significant (3 reasons)
- Assess – link to question for second bullet point
- Conclusion – link bullet point factors together

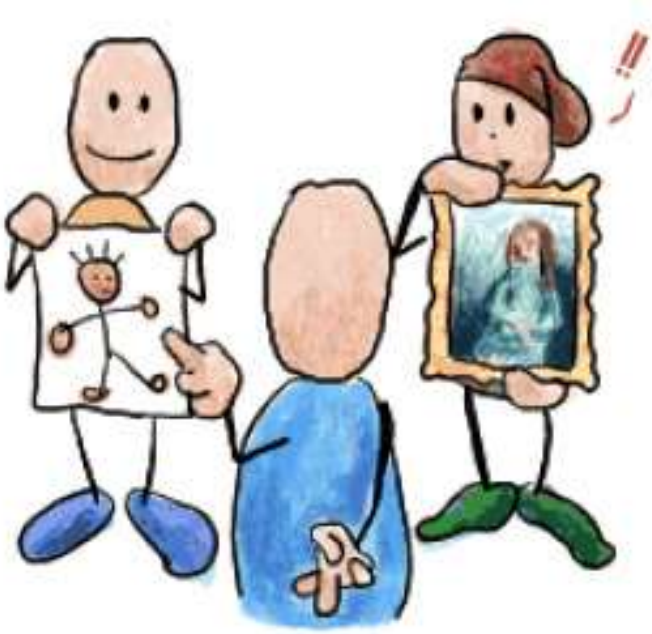
- How much? – page and a half
- How long? – 18 minutes

Hints when dealing with Provenance – for Question 2

When – when was the interpretation made? Was it made at the time of the event, when feelings were heightened? What else was happening at this time which might influence what the person thinks/ is saying?

Who – Who has made the interpretation? Where is the author/ artist from? Does their nationality/ position impact what they say or what they will admit to?

Why – Why has the interpretation been made? Is it made to persuade someone to do something, like join the army or oppose Germany? Is it an election speech to encourage people to vote for someone? This will impact what the person says and what they emphasise.



Sample Answers

These answers are all worth full marks – they are annotated so you can see where the marks were awarded.

Interpretation A

Election speech by President Herbert Hoover, in 1932

> It is true that the Depression has hit our country hard these last years. But, it is also true that things are improving. There are fewer people unemployed now, just 25% of our workforce. Some live in shanty towns rather than pay their rent and others have become hobos, aimlessly wandering around the country, trying to escape their debts. The government provides help for those who cannot help themselves.

Interpretation B

Interview with an unemployed father of four. Published in a local newspaper, 1933

> Unemployment has hit a high this year, with our city of Chicago reaching 50%. Those who are lucky enough to still have jobs, have had their wages cut by a quarter. Some of my friends have taken to the road to find work in other towns. My family and I have become reliant on soup kitchens and the kindness of wealthy citizens such as Al Capone who provides clothes and fuel for the very poorest of families.

Question 1

How does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about the impact of the Depression? (4 marks)

Overall, A is much more positive about the Depression than B. A suggests it is getting better whereas B suggests it is still really bad.
A says that some people live in shanty towns because they don't want to pay their rent whereas B says that people left their homes to find work in other towns. A says the government was providing help for poor people, but B says it was actually individuals like Al Capone who helped people by providing soup kitchens and clothing.

Question 2

Why does interpretation A differ from interpretation B about the impact of the Depression? (4 marks)

A is by the president who emphasises improvements and positive points. He wants to be re-elected in 1932 and so tries to convince people that he has been doing a good job. He was blamed by many for the problems of the Depression, and for not helping people enough, so he suggests people who lived in Hoovervilles were criminals rather than desperately poor citizens. B emphasises the problems because it is by an unemployed father of four. He is struggling to feed his family and wants everyone to know it is the government's fault. It is a newspaper interview so will be exaggerated to make it more entertaining to read, by highlighting the problems experienced. He is trying to persuade people that the government should do more to help people like him.

Question 3

Which interpretation is more convincing about the impact of the Depression? (8 marks)

A is convincing because it tells us that lots of people couldn't afford to pay their rent and had to live in shanty towns, called Hoovervilles. This is true, because a quarter of a million people were evicted from their homes in 1932, and had to build their own shelters on the outskirts of town. It also says people travelled around the country looking for work. That is true as there were half a million hobos in America, many moved to California to find work on the fruit farms there. Finally, it is true that the government provided some help for people suffering in the Depression. The 1932 Emergency Relief Act gave $300m to states to help their unemployed and homeless. The Hoover Dam also provided work and electricity for thousands of people when it was built in 1931.

B is convincing because it is true that wealthy individuals helped poor people by setting up soup kitchens and running bread lines. Al Capone gave out clothing and fuel, particularly to Italian immigrants in the area he had grown up in, in Chicago. It is also true that cities like Chicago suffered higher unemployment rates, up to 50%. This is because they were traditionally big manufacturing centres, making cars and household appliances. Once demand for new goods fell, the workers lost their jobs. Finally, it is convincing because it is true that even people who didn't lose their jobs, still had to take pay cuts of up to 25%. Some 'shared' jobs so that fewer had to be made redundant. Companies couldn't afford to pay full wages because they were in danger of bankruptcy.

Overall, interpretation B is most convincing because it explains in more detail the problems that poor people faced, whereas A has too positive an outlook.

Question 4

Describe the Montgomery Bus Boycott (4 marks)

Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus when a white man boarded. She was arrested and fined $14. The NAACP took the bus company to court and many black people started a boycott of the buses until they ended segregation. The Montgomery Improvement Association, set up by Martin Luther King, helped to organise car pools, cheap taxis and shoes, to encourage people to stop using the buses. In 1956, the Supreme Court declared segregation on transport illegal and the Montgomery Bus Company desegregated their buses.

Question 5

How was economic prosperity achieved in the 1920s? (8 marks)

Economic prosperity was achieved through mass production. The use of assembly lines speeded up production, enabling more goods to be made in a shorter period of time. Each person had their own task which they repeated throughout the day, as the work travelled to them via conveyor belt. Workers not have to be skilled to work in these factories, and that meant lots more jobs were available. Black and white people were paid equally, and $5 a day in the Ford factory was a good wage. The car industry, especially Ford, had a knock on effect to other industries. Steel, rubber, glass, leather and oil were all in greater demand. Other products were mass produced, including fridges, telephones, vacuum cleaners, washing machines, radios and ovens. This mass production led to the cycle of prosperity. The more goods which were made, the more jobs available. Good jobs meant good pay, so workers had spare money with which to buy new goods. This increased demand and so forth.

Economic prosperity was also possible because of advertising which encouraged people to buy the new products. People could buy on credit and using mail order, which meant they didn't have to live in the big towns to be able to buy new goods. The government's laissez faire policy (lack of interference) also helped improve the economy, as they lowered taxes and didn't place controls on industries. This gave companies the freedom they needed to make money, and extra spending power for ordinary people. People could use this 'spare' money to buy goods, and were encouraged to do this through advertising. There were adverts for cars and household appliances like fridges, washing machines and ovens. All of these things helped people to buy more goods, and increased demand, which provided more work for the factories.

Question 6

Which of the following was the more important reason for economic recovery in the 1930s:

- *The New Deal*
- *The Second World War (12 marks)*

The New Deal was a government spending program to help America out of the Depression. The First New Deal tried to rescue the economy while the Second New Deal set up a huge welfare programme. Roosevelt planned to spend $4,800b on poor relief but by 1935 there were still 11m people unemployed. Programs such as the Works Progress Administration were set up to provide jobs and training. The WPO helped unskilled workers, and provided work for 2m people each year. They built schools, roads and airports. Writers were paid to write books and painters made pictures for schools. But the work was only temporary and once the contracts ended, those people were unemployed again. The AAA and TVA helped farmers specifically, but by 1939 there were still problems in agriculture, especially as many farmers and sharecroppers were black. They suffered the most as government aid was only short term and only tended to help white farmers – owners rather than labourers. The Civil Works Administration also provided work but only for the winter of 1933. Once that period was over, so were the jobs and the funding. In addition, many jobs such as scaring pigeons were seen as pointless and damaged the reputation of the New Deal. Roosevelt's alphabet agencies were criticised for costing too much money for no long term impact. Government funding would have to be sustained in order to combat the Depression.

The Second World War was the real reason America recovered from the depression. America joined the war in 1941 but felt the benefits of it from 1939. In 1942, the War Production Board converted peacetime industry to war production and by 1944, unemployment was at a low of 670,000. The American government made 88,000 tanks, 7333 ships, 20m guns and 40b bullets. In addition, millions of men joined the army, and had to be replaced in their jobs (43m enlisted). There was lots more work available for working class women, with 2m women working in munitions factories. The average pay was $32 a week which meant women could spend more, which helped the economy. They were buying food, clothes, and goods for the house. They were also paying taxes, which meant that during the war, tax revenue went up from $4m a year to $42m a year. The huge government investment in the economy was bigger than anything under the New Deal, and was sustained for the six years of the war. There was almost 100% employment and people were able to earn enough money to rent or buy a house, and to become financially stable again. America was also able to sell goods to the other allies and made substantial sums of money from selling weapons and uniforms to Britain in particular.

Overall, the most important reason for economic recovery was the Second World War. It provided the massive spending program required by the government, and for a longer period of time. Everything in the New Deal was short term and relatively small scale, not enough to get the whole country out of economic trouble.