

## USA 1919–1941 Contents

### 1 Reaction to World War I part 1

8 slides, 3 Flash activities

- Why did the USA become involved in World War I?
- Why was the sinking of the *Lusitania* an important event?
- How did the USA react to the German submarine campaign?
- What effect did the Zimmermann Telegram have?

**The Zimmermann telegram** 1919

Telegram
Decoded telegram

The telegram was sent in code to the German ambassador in Washington on 16th January 1917.

On 19th January, the message was sent on to the German ambassador in Mexico. Here is the coded telegram.

WESTERN UNION  
TELEGRAM

via Galveston  
JAN 19 1917

GERMAN LEGATION  
MEXICO CITY

130 13040 15401 8501 115 3508 416 17214 6491 11510

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### 1 Reaction to World War I part 2

6 slides, 1 Flash activity, 1 worksheet

- When did the USA become involved in World War I?
- What role did the USA play in World War I?
- What was the importance of the US contribution to World War I?

### 1 Reaction to World War I part 3

7 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What were Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Points?
- Why did the USA refuse to sign the Treaty of Versailles?
- Why did the USA refuse to join the League of Nations?

### 2 American Isolationism part 1

6 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What was the American dream?
- Why did people leave Europe?
- Why did people come to America?

### 2 American Isolationism part 2

9 slides, 1 Flash activity

- What was American isolationism?
- What impact did World War I have on the US economy?
- Why did the USA introduce the Fordney-McCumber Tariff Act of 1922?

**Immigration isolation: racism** 1919

Despite being a 'melting pot', the USA was a deeply racist society. The WASPs looked for legal means by which they could limit the number of non-white, non-Anglo Saxon and non-Protestants immigrating into the USA.

Racist **propaganda** made many false claims about immigrants introducing **anarchy, socialism,** organized crime and diseases into the USA.

THE HIGH TIDE OF IMMIGRATION - A NATIONAL MENACE

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## 2 American Isolationism part 3

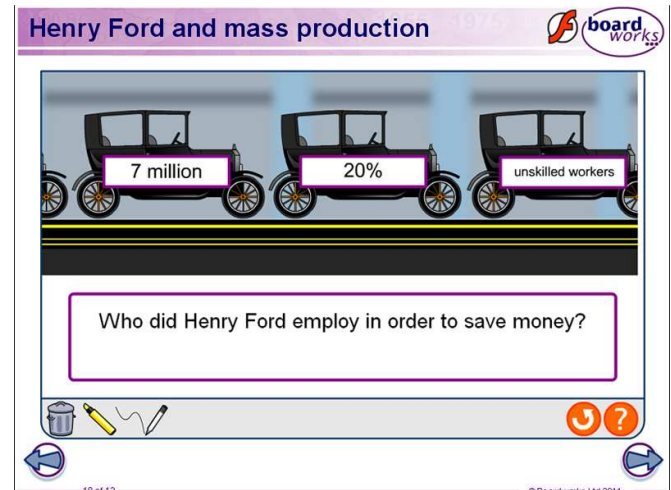
10 slides, 2 Flash activities, 2 worksheets

- Why did the USA introduce immigration control and the Quota Act?
- What were WASPs?
- Which groups were subject to racism and prejudice in the USA?

## 3 The Bright Side of the Boom part 1

7 slides, 1 Flash activity

- What impact did World War I have on the US economy?
- Why did the USA experience an economic boom during the 1920s?
- What role did consumer confidence and spending play in this economic boom?
- What was the cycle of prosperity?



Henry Ford and mass production

7 million      20%      unskilled workers

Who did Henry Ford employ in order to save money?

## 3 The Bright Side of the Boom part 2

9 slides, 3 Flash activities

- What were the reasons for the economic boom of the 1920s?
- How did production and consumption increase in the 1920s?
- Which industries did well during the 1920s?
- Why did people invest in the Stock Market during the 1920s?

## 3 The Bright Side of the Boom part 3

12 slides, 2 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- How did the production line change industry?
- What changes were introduced by Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company?
- What were the effects of mass production?

## 4 The Dark Side of the Boom part 1

10 slides, 1 Flash activity

- What changes happened to farming after World War I?
- What impact did mass production have on farmers?
- Why did farmers not benefit from the boom?

## 4 The Dark Side of the Boom part 2

11 slides, 2 Flash activities

- How intolerant was American society during the 1920s?
- Why did the Ku Klux Klan grow in the 1920s?
- Why was Prohibition introduced in 1919?

## 4 The Dark Side of the Boom part 3

11 slides, 3 Flash activities, 2 worksheets

- How was Prohibition linked to organized crime?
- Why was Prohibition repealed in 1933?
- What were the effects of repealing Prohibition?

**Why was Prohibition introduced?**

The Prohibition movement first began in 1800. By 1850, several US states had banned people from drinking alcohol.

There were several powerful pressure groups such as the Anti-Saloon League and the Women's Christian Temperance Union. They actively campaigned to get alcohol banned.

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## 5 Changes in US Society during the 1920s part 1

7 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What impact did the new technologies have on society and social habits?
- What did people do with their money and new leisure time?
- What impact did radio, cinema and jazz have on entertainment and advertising?

## 5 Changes in US Society during the 1920s part 2

7 slides, 1 Flash activity

- How did people's leisure time and social habits change?
- How did World War I change the lives of women?
- What changes did women experience in the workplace in the 1920s?

## 5 Changes in US Society during the 1920s part 3

8 slides, 3 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What were flappers?
- What did flappers do that shocked people and broke away from previous social norms?
- How far did women's lives change during the 1920s?

**Cinema**

As moving pictures became more popular, nearly every town had a movie theatre.

The greatest output of US films took place in the 1920s and 1930s.

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## 6 Causes of the Depression part 1

9 slides, 1 Flash activity

- How did the availability of easy credit help to cause the Great Depression?
- How did uneven distribution of wealth help to cause the Great Depression?
- Which groups did not benefit from the economic boom?

Causes of the Depression

	Economic	Social	Political
There was overproduction in American industry and agriculture.			
Republican tariffs were imposed on foreign goods.			
72% of Americans lived below the poverty line.			
There were no government credit controls.			

S C ?

## 6 Causes of the Depression part 2

10 slides, 2 Flash activities

- How did government policies help to cause the Great Depression?
- How did overproduction help to cause the Great Depression?
- How did consumer overconfidence help to cause the Great Depression?

## 6 Causes of the Depression part 3

12 slides, 4 Flash activities, 2 worksheets

- What caused the Wall Street Crash in October 1929?
- What were the consequences of the Wall Street Crash?
- What were the social, economic and political causes of the Great Depression?


## 7 Effects of the Depression part 1

8 slides, 2 Flash activities

- How did the Wall Street Crash affect the USA?
- What was the spiral of depression?
- What happened to unemployment during the Great Depression?
- What actions did Herbert Hoover take and what were the consequences of these?

Social effects: homelessness

Over a million unemployed people also became homeless. Without wages, many people could not afford to pay the mortgage or rent. When this happened, they were **evicted**.



Many took to the roads and tried to find work in other areas, whilst others moved onto waste ground and built huts out of wood, scrap metal and sacking that they found on rubbish dumps. Settlements soon grew in size and became known as **Hoovervilles**.

Why do you think the homeless called these settlements Hoovervilles?

## 7 Effects of the Depression part 2

10 slides, 1 Flash activity, 1 worksheet

- What were the social effects of the Great Depression?
- What were the economic effects of the Great Depression?
- How did the Great Depression affect farmers?

## 7 Effects of the Depression part 3

7 slides, 2 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- Why were World War I veterans annoyed by the lack of government action?
- What was the Bonus Army?
- How did Herbert Hoover deal with the Bonus Army?

## 8 The Election of FDR part 1

6 slides, 1 Flash activity

- What happened during the presidency of Herbert Hoover?
- Why did the Republican government not take action to end the Depression?
- What did the two candidates in the 1932 election stand for?

## 8 The Election of FDR part 2

8 slides, 1 Flash activity

- How were the American people affected by Herbert Hoover's policies?
- What were the consequences of Hoover's lack of action in tackling the Depression?
- Why did Franklin D. Roosevelt win the 1932 presidential election?
- What were the aims of Roosevelt's New Deal?

## 8 The Election of FDR part 3

8 slides, 3 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What was the First Hundred Days?
- What actions did Franklin D. Roosevelt take in 1933?
- How did Roosevelt aim to reverse the spiral of depression?

## 9 The AAA and TVA part 1

11 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What problems did farmers face in the 1920s?
- How did the Depression make the problems facing farmers worse?
- How did farmers react to the problems?

## 9 The AAA and TVA part 2


7 slides, 1 Flash activity

**Exam question**

Study Source A.

How useful is this source for explaining why FDR won the presidential election in 1932?

Use the source and your own knowledge to explain your answer. (10 marks)



**Throwing out the trash**

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- What was the Agricultural Adjustment Administration?
- What were the aims of the AAA and did it solve the problems of farmers?
- How successful was the AAA at solving the problems of the Depression?

## 9 The AAA and TVA part 3

9 slides, 3 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What was the Tennessee Valley Authority?
- What were the aims of the TVA and did it solve the environmental and economic problems of Tennessee Valley?
- How successful was the TVA at solving the problems of the Depression?

**Introduction**

In the First Hundred Days, FDR's government managed to get Congress to pass a series of emergency laws to deal with the problems of the Depression. He set up three organizations to help deal with the problems of the farmers and the environment: the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the Civil Conservation Corps and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

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How were the problems of the farmers and the environment linked?

## 10 The CCC, PWA and WPA part 1

9 slides, 2 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What were aims of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal?
- What were the Alphabet Agencies?
- What was the Civilian Conservation Corps?
- How successful was the CCC at solving unemployment?

## 10 The CCC, PWA and WPA part 2

8 slides, 2 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What were the causes of the division in the Democratic Party between Harold Ickes and Harry Hopkins?
- What was the Public Works Administration?
- What was the Civil Works Administration?
- How successful were the PWA and the CWA at solving unemployment?

## 10 The CCC, PWA and WPA part 3

6 slides, 1 Flash activity, 1 worksheet

- What was the Works Progress Administration?
- What did the WPA achieve?
- How successful was the WPA at solving unemployment?

**WPA jobs**

The WPA created many different jobs and worked on many different projects, such as:

- built 11,000 schools
- employed artists and painters to create displays for schools and public buildings
- built 650,000 miles of roads
- employed 12,000 actors to put on plays to cheer people up.
- built La Guardia airport in New York
- employed photographers to document the Depression

Which of these jobs do you think were criticized for wasting taxpayers' money?

## 11 The Second New Deal part 1

9 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What methods did the New Deal use to put the USA back to work?
- What problems were facing American industry?
- Why did some employers oppose trade unions?
- Why did some employers use sweatshops?



## 11 The Second New Deal part 2

10 slides, 2 Flash activities

- What was the National Recovery Administration?
- What were the positive and negative effects of the NRA?
- How successful was the NRA in helping to regulate business?
- Why was the New Deal declared illegal by the Supreme Court in the Sick Chickens case?

## 11 The Second New Deal part 3

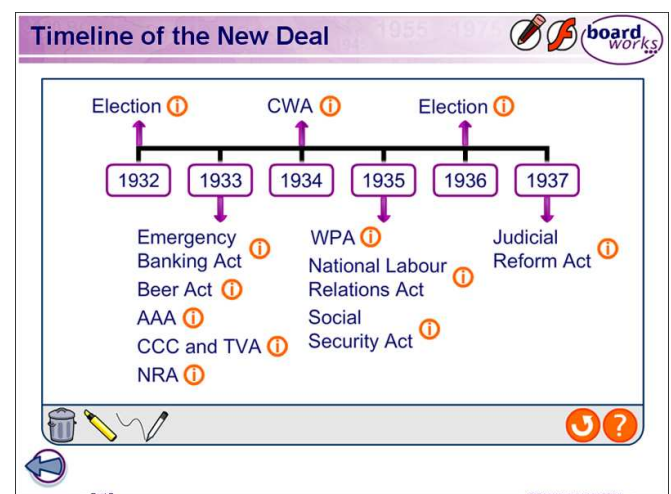
12 slides, 3 Flash activities, 1 worksheet

- What was the Second New Deal?
- What was the Social Security Act of 1935?
- Why did Franklin D. Roosevelt win a landslide victory in the 1936 election?
- What challenges to the New Deal were posed by the Supreme Court and how did Roosevelt overcome them?
- How far did the character of the New Deal change after 1933?

## 12 How Successful was the New Deal? part 1

7 slides, 1 Flash activity, 1 worksheet

- What were the causes of the Great Depression?
- What were the consequences of Herbert Hoover's policies?
- What were the aims of the New Deal?
- What New Deal programs were introduced and what did they achieve?



## 12 How Successful was the New Deal? part 2

7 slides, 1 Flash activity

- To what extent did the New Deal achieve its aims through relief, recovery and reform?
- Who opposed the New Deal?
- What impact did World War II have on the US economy and unemployment?

## 12 How Successful was the New Deal? part 3

*8 slides, 3 Flash activities, 1 worksheet*

- What did the New Deal achieve?
  - To what extent did the New Deal meet its aims?
  - What were the shortcomings of the New Deal?
  - How successful was the New Deal?
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