

**“Roaring ‘20s”/Prohibition Article**

**Let the good times roll! At least, that’s how Americans felt during the 1920s. After a quick, yet successful victory in WWI (1914-18), the U.S. boomed through the “Roaring ‘20s.” Please read the following article, courtesy of [encyclopedia.com](http://encyclopedia.com), and answer the following questions to the right.**

<p><b><u>Roaring Twenties: 1919–29</u></b> The ten years between 1919 and 1929 took Europeans and Americans on a social and economic roller-coaster ride. With the end of World War I in 1918, people abandoned their cautious attitudes caused by the uncertainty of war and embraced the freedom and joyousness of peace. Soldiers returned home to open arms, and businesses shifted gears from supplying military needs to making commercial products. At the end of the war the United States was the strongest economy in the world.</p>	<p><b>What is the main idea of this paragraph? Please summarize in one sentence.</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>After a brief recession following the war, the U.S. economy began to prosper as never before. The economic boom gave more people money and created a strong demand for consumer products such as automobiles, radios, and household items. Cities swelled with skyscrapers housing new businesses, high-rise apartment buildings filled cities with prosperous people, and suburbs, or residential areas outside of cities, popped up around urban areas. These changes marked the 1920s as a time of optimism for most people. The decade came to be referred to as the “Roaring Twenties” to describe the newfound freedoms and sense of rebellion that people, who were often dressing in flashy and extravagant fashions, were experiencing.</p>	<p><b>Summarize reasons why the 1920s was called the “Roaring Twenties,” in at least one sentence.</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p><b>What is a suburb?</b></p> <hr/>
<p><b><u>Women want more</u></b> As the world shifted from focusing on the war to recreating normal domestic habits, however, the changes the war brought became very noticeable. When men had gone off to war in the 1910s, women had taken their places in factories and businesses. Over the four years of the war, women had become adept at earning a living outside the home. And with the death of so many men during the war, some women were forced to continue supporting their families without the help of a man. The struggle to decide whether women would return to their old ways of life or to keep on with their newfound independence was another battle in the long campaign for women's rights. In the United States it led directly to women earning the right to vote in 1920.</p>	<p><b>Besides voting, what were women accomplishing during the 1920s? Summarize in at least one sentence.</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

**Affordable luxury**

Other changes altered everyday life in Europe and the United States. With a prospering economy and high employment, more people than ever had money to spend on entertainment. Automobiles were the most attractive luxury item, and anyone who could afford one had one. The Ford Motor Company had around ten thousand dealerships across the United States by 1924. Radios gave people the opportunity to hear news about the world and became increasingly popular for entertainment. By 1925 music dominated 70 percent of the radio airwaves and reached more than 2.5 million American radio listeners. Other entertainment included films and music. People rushed to movie theaters to see the latest films; their popularity made movie actors and actresses into stars. A new type of music called jazz developed in the United States, inspiring new wild dance moves. And people could spend their money at newly constructed retail stores. By 1927 there were 70,000 different retail locations throughout the United States, including J.C. Penney department stores and Walgreen drugstores.

**Summarize some of the “luxuries” Americans enjoyed during the 1920s in at least one sentence.**

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The beginning of Prohibition, an amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1919 that made the manufacture, sale, or transportation of alcohol illegal, but it did not stop people from drinking. Although some Americans were happy to have a "dry," or alcohol-free, nation, many others supported the creation of speakeasies, or illegal places selling alcohol and usually offering live music, dancing, and gambling, for late-night entertainment. So many speakeasies popped up around the country that the police could not effectively enforce Prohibition. By 1926 the sale of alcohol in the United States was estimated to be worth \$3.6 billion, making many bootleggers, or people involved in the illegal manufacture and trade of alcohol, millionaires.

**Side note: The 18th amendment started Prohibition, while the 21st amendment ended it.**

**Summarize Prohibition, using examples, in at least one sentence.**

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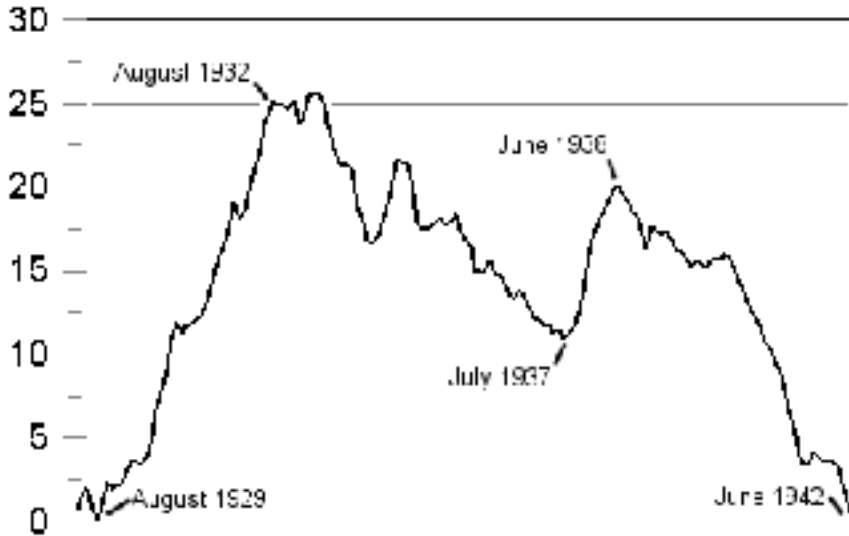
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### What led to the Great Depression?

Please examine the following charts, and cartoons. Answer the following questions.

### **U.S. Unemployment Rate**



1. In your own words, what is 'unemployment'? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What was the unemployment rate in 1929? \_\_\_\_\_
3. By 1932, what was the unemployment rate? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Herbert Hoover (1929-33) was U.S. president when the Great Depression began in 1929. Hoover tried to use 'trickle-down' economics (money from big companies down to the workers) to help businesses rebound. However, unemployment worsened.  
Based on the political cartoon below, where did most unemployed people live and who did they blame for their problems?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Based on the second cartoon, what kind of problems did new Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-45) inherit? \_\_\_\_\_



**Other causes of the Great Depression**

Examine the following reasons why Americans ultimately suffered from this depression, or long-term economic downturn.



**Recession**, or a short-term economic downturn, took place in 1929.

In other words, people started to spend less money and companies were not making any. Companies started laying off employees.



Farms were overproducing their crop and starting to see drought issues. Crops were not selling.



Banks failed, and people were buying too many things on credit, meaning they could “buy now and pay later.” Yet, by 1930 many could not “pay later.”

People also invested in the Stock Market. However, stocks lost value on “Black Tuesday” in Oct. 1929. Thousands of people lost tons of money on their shares of stock. (Stock Market Crash of 1929)



Examine the following photo. What were some jobs these men likely had before the Depression?

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To avoid being in this situation in the future, what are some choices Americans can make regarding money?

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### **New Deal-U.S. and North Carolina**

**Please refer to p. 409-419 of the North Carolina textbook (Ch. 12) to answer the following questions in OWN words! Use the back of this sheet if necessary to answer these.**

1. Who was the president of the U.S. during most of the Great Depression?

2. What was the 'New Deal'?

**Questions 3-9 will talk about programs in the New Deal. See p. 410-411 for answers:**

3. What was the Tennessee Valley Authority (1933)?

4. What was the Public Works Administration (1933)?

5. What was the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), in 1933?

6. What was the Federal Housing Administration (1934)?

7. What was the Social Security Administration (1935)?

8. The National Recovery Administration tried doing this in 1933, but it was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. Another attempt was made. What was the Fair Labor Standards Act (1938)?

9. During the New Deal, what major highway was created in North Carolina?

10. As a part of the Tennessee Valley Authority, what major dam was constructed in North Carolina?

11. Which three of the 'New Deal' programs likely still exist today?

**Important fact:** Julius Rosenwald, a philanthropist, created a fund to build more than 5,000 schools throughout the Southern U.S. This included the building of 787 schools in North Carolina, notably what is now E.B. Frink Middle School!

### Dust Bowl Activity

Using the information from your article reading, please answer the following questions. At least one sentence for each answer.

1. Where did most of the Dust Bowl take place? What were some U.S. states involved?
2. Who came up with the phrase “Dust Bowl”? How did he know how bad it was?
3. Why did a lot of people move to that area in the first place?
4. What were some other nicknames given for the conditions during the Dust Bowl?
5. What did settlers do to make the land dry enough for something like this? What did the government have to do to help fix it?
6. When did the rains return to this area to end the Dust Bowl?
7. What are farmers doing today in order to prevent future droughts? What types of water systems exist that help with this?

### **Roaring Twenties-Great Depression Study Guide**

**Please answer the following questions. These will likely be on the test. Use the back of this sheet if necessary.**

Which amendment started Prohibition, and which one ended it?

Which amendment allowed women the right to vote?

Who was the most instrumental in achieving women's voting rights?

When the U.S. fell into the Great Depression, which president used the "trickle-down" economic policy to fix it?

When the U.S. fell into the Great Depression, which president used government programs to fix it?

What is a recession?

\_\_\_\_\_ is when people are out of work and are looking for more work.

What is a depression?

How high did the unemployment rate rise during the Great Depression?

What was a series of programs called that put people back to work?

A major drought in the Southern Plains was nicknamed what?

Name three major programs that came out of the New Deal:

What is the Gross Domestic Product, or GDP?

In the "Roaring 20s," people could buy things using what?

What was the nickname of the Stock Market Crash in 1929?

What is interest?

What event launched us out of the Great Depression?

What North Carolina city saw the most Ford Model T cars being produced between 1919 and 1932?

Compare/Contrast Pres. Herbert Hoover's and Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt's ideas to get the U.S. out of the Great Depression.

Explain how the New Deal affected the U.S. economy.