



# History Revision Booklet

## AD America, 1920–1973: Opportunity and Inequality

### Answers



# AMERICA, 1920-1973: OPPORTUNITY AND INEQUALITY

## TIMELINE (1)

1920s

1920 - Women were given the right to vote

January 1920 - Prohibition began



May 1921 - Sacco and Vanzetti Case

1921 - Emergency Quota Act



1924 - National Origins Act

1922 - Fordney-McCumber Tariff

1927 - First 'talkie' movie was released



1929 - Wall Street Crash

1930s



1930 - Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act

1932 - Bonus March

July 1932 - 23% workforce population was unemployed

March 1933 - Roosevelt became President

1933 - Emergency Banking Act

March 1933 - Frances Perkins became first women appointed to cabinet-level position

1933 - Economy Act

1933 - Beer and Wine Revenue Act

1934 - Indian Reorganisation Act



1935 - Revenue Act

1935 - Federal Writer's Project



March 1941 - Lend-Lease Act

December 1941 - Pearl Harbour Attack

1942 - Double V Campaign launched

1943 - Women made up around 1/3 of workforce



# AMERICA, 1920–1973: OPPORTUNITY AND INEQUALITY

## TIMELINE (2)



1945 - Truman became President

1948 - Executive Order 9981

1940s

1944 - G.I. Bill of Rights

1947 - Truman Doctrine



1950s



1954 - Brown v Board of Education

1955 - Montgomery Bus Boycott

1960 - Greensboro Sit-In

1963 - MLK's 'I Have a Dream' speech

1964 - Johnson became President

1965 - Voting Rights Act

1968 - Civil Rights Act

1950 - McCarthy's Wheeling Speech

1955 - Murder of Emmett Till

1957 - Little Rock Crisis



1960s

1961 - JFK became president

1964 - Civil Rights Act

1965 - Medicare and Medicaid Act

1965 - Housing and Urban Development Act



1970s

1973 - Roe v Wade

1972 - Equal Rights Amendment



## Republican Government

- **1922 Fordney-McCumber Tariff** put high taxes on imports
- **Laissez-faire** attitude - little intervention from government and low taxes



## Stock Market

- Confidence increased which resulted in a boom
- Through 1927 the number of shares traded on Wall Street rose to around **577 million**

## Hire Purchase

- Hire purchase allowed people to pay for goods in **installments**, but use them right away
- This **increased demand** and made goods more affordable to ordinary people



## Advertising

- Advertising increased in 1920s such as on **billboards, cinema and radio**

## Reasons for the Boom

## Mass Production

- **Henry Ford** used mass production to produce more products in a **quicker time**
- Mass production allowed goods prices to drop, as more was being sold



## Ford Model T Cars

- Between 1908 and 1927, 15 million 'Model T' cars were produced by Ford
- The assembly lines cut the time to make a Model T from 12.5 hours to 1.5 hours
- This meant the price of Model Ts more than halved by 1927



## Inequalities of Wealth

- **African Americans** faced economic inequality and sharecroppers struggled
- **Native Americans** - many were forced off their lands onto desolate and unfertile land
- **Farmers** - prices went down after WWI and by 1928 1/2 farmers in US were in poverty

## 1. AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE 'BOOM'

### Immigrants

- Acts such as the 1917 **Immigration Act** and 1921 **Emergency Quota Act** restricted the number of immigrants coming to US
- The **Red Scare** emerged from paranoia of the communist threat of immigrants after the **Russian Revolution of 1917**

### Entertainment

- **Cinema** - First 'talkie' film was released in 1927, and 50 million people went to the cinema per week
- **Jazz** - as more African Americans migrated north jazz music became more popular



### Women

- **Flappers** were women who broke stereotypes and wore short hair, lipstick and went to jazz clubs
- The **19th Amendment** in 1920 gave women the right to vote
- **Birth control** was being used more
- More women were being **employed**



**Sacco and Vanzetti** were Italian immigrants and were arrested for armed robbery in **May 1920**

Although **61 witnesses** said they had seen them, they were convicted

They had **anti-government leaflets** which caused the judge to be prejudiced against them

### Divided Society

- **Prohibition** - became federal law in Jan 1920 and was very unpopular
- **Bootleggers** smuggled alcohol into US and in 1929 there were twice as many bars in NYC than before prohibition began
- **Crime** - alcohol trade led to gangsters such as Al Capone
- **KKK** - over 400 black Americans were lynched by the KKK in 20s and members were often unpunished

# American People and the 'Boom'

## Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. When did women get the right to vote?

1920

2. Which model of car did Ford produce 15 million of by 1927?

Model T

3. What attitude did the Republican government have that meant they did not intervene?

Laissez-faire

4. Which two Italian immigrants were accused of armed robbery in 1920?

Sacco and Vanzetti

5. What were people who illegally smuggled alcohol into the US called?

Bootleggers

6. Name one group of people who did not gain wealth from the boom.

Farmers, African Americans, Native Americans

7. What scheme allowed people to pay for goods in installments?

Hire purchase

8. Which tariff put high taxes on imports in 1922?

Fordney-McCumber

9. How many people went to the cinema per week?

50 million

10. What scare emerged from paranoia of communist threat?

Red Scare

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### Unemployment

By July 1932 23% of working population were unemployed, many becoming homeless

### America During Depression

#### Farmers

Many farmers were evicted, and severe drought and soil erosion made farming difficult



### Businessmen

Approx. 9,000 banks closed between 1930-1933 and many businesses shut down

### The Effects of the New Deal

#### Farmers:

FCA gave money to farmers in debt  
AAA paid farmers to produce less to increase profits

#### Unemployed:

CCC gave 3 million men 18-25 jobs  
PWA gave unemployed jobs to build schools, dams & bridges  
WPA created millions of jobs

Businesses & Workers:  
NRA set fair wages, prices and working conditions

Herbert Hoover



Franklin D. Roosevelt



- \* Rugged individualism
- \* Private charity
- \* Balanced budget
- \* 1930 Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act
- \* Reconstruction Finance Corporation
- \* 1932 Bonus March

- \* Charismatic
- \* New Deal - Relief, Recovery & Reform
- \* Won 1932 election

### Impact of WWII

- **Economic Recovery:** economy grew with production of war materials
- **Lend Lease:** USA could lend or lease war supplies to countries
- **African Americans:** NAACP campaigned Double V Campaign & over 1 million African Americans fought in war
- **Women:** by 1943 women made up 1/3 of workforce and employed in untraditional jobs



## 2.BUST - AMERICANS' EXPERIENCES OF THE DEPRESSION & NEW DEAL

### Opposition to New Deal

#### Too Much

- **Republicans:** criticised the budget deficits and high level of intervention
- The **wealthy** did not like the increased taxation
- **Businesses** did not like how much the New Deal intervened in business
- The **Supreme Court** deemed some agencies unconstitutional

#### Not Enough

- **Huey Long** argued for a plan 'Share Our Wealth' for minimum wage and limits on fortunes
- **Dr Francis Townsend** wanted pensions for everyone over 60



### Limitations of New Deal:

- **Women** - NRA set women's wages lower than men's
- **Farmers** - small farmers did not see much benefit
- **African Americans** - CCC had segregated camps and lower wages
- **Native Americans** - still faced high levels of poverty

### Popular Culture

- By 1930, 40% of Americans owned a **radio**, and over 80% by 1939
- Escapism meant **movies** were very popular
- **Comic books** became popular such as Superman and Batman
- **Books** such as The Grapes of Wrath were inspired by The Depression



# Bust - Americans' Experiences of the Depression & New Deal Quiz Questions

Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!



1. Which alphabet agency gave 3 million men aged 18-25 jobs?

CCC

2. Give one limitation of the New Deal for African Americans.

CCC had segregated camps etc.

3. Who's 'Share Our Wealth' plan criticised the New Deal?

Huey Long

4. Around how many banks closed between 1930 and 1933 in US?

9,000

5. Which president campaigned for rugged individualism?

Hoover

6. By 1930, what percentage of Americans owned a radio?

40%

7. What was the NAACP's campaign during WWII?

Double V Campaign

8. Which alphabet agency paid farmers to produce less to increase profits?

AAA

9. What did the Supreme Court deem some of the alphabet agencies?

Unconstitutional

10. Who won the 1932 presidential election?

Roosevelt

/10

**The American Dream** - the belief that there was equality of opportunity in America - however 25% of people were still living in poverty



**Consumerism**

- \* Advertising - 'keep up with the Joneses' mentality
- \* Consumer goods were mass produced - luxuries
- \* Mail - order companies grew & chain stores increased across US
- \* Hire purchase & credit made goods affordable

**Popular Culture**

- Music** - Rock'n'Roll became popular in 1950s such as Elvis Presley
- TV** - By 1960 87% of homes in US owned TV and sitcoms such as I Love Lucy became popular
- Youth** - young people had more free time than previous generations and became more rebellious with influence of rock'n'roll

**Black Power**

- **Malcolm X** disagreed with MLK's non-violent approach and inspired the principles of Black Power
- Aims: **separatism** & solve **social** and **economic** problems of African Americans
- The **Black Panther Party for Self-Defence** was founded in 1966



**G.I. Bill of Rights 1944**

Federal government spent around \$13 billion on WWII veterans for housing, training, education and loans

**Post WWII Prosperity**

**Levittowns**

Homes were mass created in suburbs called 'Levittowns' with picket fences and modern appliances

**The Cold War**  
The US invested in new industries during the Cold War such as nuclear technology and space exploration, creating new jobs



**McCarthyism**

- **HUAC** set up in 1938 to identify communist threats in US
- **Ethel and Julius Rosenberg** were accused of spying and executed in 1953
- McCarthy claimed to have a list of over **200 known communists** in the US State Department during his **Wheeling Speech** in 1950
- McCarthy used intimidation on his accusers and people who spoke against him were blacklisted
- However, McCarthy's actions were seen as reckless and his influence declined

**3. POST-WAR AMERICA (1)**

**Martin Luther King**

- MLK led the 1955 **Montgomery Bus Boycott** (inspired by Rosa Parks), which led to the Supreme Court ruling segregated buses were illegal in 1956
- Became leader of **Southern Christian Leadership Conference** in 1957
- Famous '**I Have a Dream**' speech in 1963

**Segregation Laws**

- 1896 **Plessy V Ferguson** case ruled African Americans were 'separate but equal'
- NAACP won the 1954 **Brown v Board of Education** case against segregation of schools
- **Little Rock 1957** - 9 African American students attempted to attend a newly desegregated school and faced backlash, so President Eisenhower intervened so they could attend

1964 Civil Rights Act



Outlawed discrimination in public and employment

1968 Civil Rights Act



Guaranteed civil rights for Native American tribes and banned discrimination in sale or rental of housing



## Poverty

## Education

## Health

### President Kennedy



- Increased **minimum wage** from \$1 to \$1.25/hour
- Increased **social security**
- Established **Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity**

- Established **Peace Corps** to work as teachers in less economically developed countries
- Protected African American university student **James Meredith**

- Proposed **medical insurance** called Medicare but was blocked in congress
- Set up **task force** to recommend mental healthcare improvement

### President Johnson



- **1965 Economic Opportunity Act** - training and educational opportunities for unemployed
- **1965 Housing and Urban Development Act** - to combat poor housing standards in cities

- **Operation Head Start** - helping low-income pre-school children
- **1965 Higher Education Act** - increased funding for universities and colleges
- **1965 Elementary and Secondary Education Act** - provided funding for schools for low-income children

- **1965 Medicare and Medicaid Act**
- **Medicare** - covered cost of healthcare for elderly if qualified
- **Medicaid** - covered cost of healthcare for unemployed and low-income



### Equal Rights Amendment

- Congress passed Equal Rights Amendment in **1972** to give women a constitutional right to equality
- **Phyllis Schlafly** believed the amendment would damage families set up the organisation '**Stop ERA**' to campaign against states agreeing to it
- **38/50** states had to agree, but by 1982 only **35 states** supported ERA so amendment was not added to Constitution

## 3. POST-WAR AMERICA (2)

### Roe v Wade 1973

- Before, each individual state could decide its own policy on abortion
- Then the Roe v Wade case led to the Supreme Court ruling that all women had a **constitutional right** to get an **abortion**

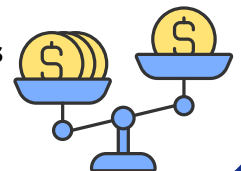
**National Organization for Women** was set up in **1966** with a goal of achieving equal pay as the 1963 Equal Pay Act had not solved problem



NOW also campaigned for right of women to choose when they had children  
By the end of 1960s, NOW had **40,000 members**



**Unequal Pay**  
Presidential Commission on the Status of Women in 1962 found women earned around **60% less** than men for the same job, and majority of well-paid professions were done by men



# Post-War America

## Quiz Questions



Take 5 minutes to study the Cheat Sheet on this topic, then see how many questions you can get right without looking!

1. When was the National Organisation for Women set up?

1966

2. Which 1944 bill spent \$13 billion on WWII veterans?

G.I. Bill of Rights

3. What did Supreme Court rule as a result of Brown v Topeka 1954?

Segregated education was unconstitutional

4. Which president passed the 1965 Medicare and Medicare Act?

President Johnson

5. How many communists did McCarthy claim were in the US State Department during his Wheeling Speech?

200

6. Who inspired the Montgomery Bus Boycott?

Rosa Parks

7. What did the Supreme Court rule after the Roe v Wade case in 1973?

All women had a constitutional right to abortion

8. What act outlawed discrimination in public and employment?

Civil Rights Act 1964

9. Give one example of a new industry the US invested in during the Cold War.

Space exploration, nuclear technology etc.

10. Who founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957?

Martin Luther King Jr

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