

The Roaring 1920s – Study Guide

American History: Chapters 20 & 21

Politics of the 1920s

- Isolationism
- Laissez-Faire government / role in the economy
- Pro-business policies
- Washington Naval Conference, 1921 – goal?
- Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1928 – goal?
- Fordney-McCumber Tariff, 1924
- What happened to tariffs and income taxes in the 1920s?

The Red Scare and a Return to Nativism

- How did the Communist Revolution in Russia influence this “Red Scare”?
- What was the intent of the “Palmer Raids”?
- Rise of the Ku Klux Klan – which groups were targeted?
- Quota Laws: Emergency Quota Act of 1921 and National Origins Act of 1924 – intent?
- Sacco and Vanzetti Case – why was this case controversial?
- What happened to union membership in the 1920s?

Changes in Society

- Growth of the suburbs (distinct shift in this time period)

Media and Advertising

- Mass media – radio, motion pictures and advertising
- What did this mass media create?
- How did movies change in the 1920s?
- What was emphasized in the advertisements of the 1920s?

Popular Culture

- Where did jazz music originate?
- In general, how did writers of the 1920s portray society?
- “The Lost Generation”
- People to Know: Charles Lindberg; Amelia Earhart; Babe Ruth

The Roaring 20s Economy

- How did many consumers pay for new goods?
- How did this affect the economy? Would it cause future problems?
- Know these terms: installment plan; buying on credit; buying on margin; speculation
- What caused the business boom of the 1920s?

The Automobile and Transportation

- What effect did the automobile have on the American economy?
- What effect did it have on society?
- What was Henry Ford's goal regarding the price of his products?
- What was the first commercial use of the airplane?

Prohibition and Organized Crime

- Results of prohibition?
- What were speakeasies?
- Person to Know: Al Capone

Women and Flappers

- How did women challenge traditional norms in the 1920s?
- What is the "double standard"?

Religious Fundamentalism and the Scopes Trial

- Why did many states ban the teaching of evolution?
- What was challenged in the Scopes Trial?
- How can this trial be considered a loss for religious fundamentalists?

African-Americans and the Harlem Renaissance

- What was the Harlem Renaissance? (recognize major authors from 21.4)
- Who was Marcus Garvey? What did he advocate?

Test Format:

- Multiple Choice questions on content above
- Few true/false questions
- Questions based on a chart, a political cartoon and a map