

United States History
Unit Four – Prosperity and Depression
Chapter 12 – The Great Depression
1928-1932
Study Guide

Indiana Standards: Students should be able to

- Describe the Stock Market Crash of 1929 and its economic and political impact on the United States (USH.4.4).
- Identify contributions of political and social reformers during the Great Depression (USH.4.5)
- Explain continuity and change by looking at patterns in historical periods (USH.9.1).
- Analyze primary and secondary sources related to historical issues (USH.9.2).
- Investigate and interpret multiple causation in historical actions and analyze cause-and-effect relationships (USH.9.3).
- Explain issues and problems of the past by analyzing the interests and viewpoint of those involved (USH.9.4).

Chapter Objectives: Students should be able to

- Discuss the weaknesses in the economy in the 1920s.
- Explain how the stock market crash contributed to the coming Great Depression.
- Describe how the great Depression spread overseas.
- Examine the spread of unemployment in American cities.
- Discuss the impact of the Great Depression on rural America.
- Explain the human and geographical factors that created the Dust Bowl
- Describe how Hoover’s initial conservative response to the Great Depression failed.
- Explain the changes in the President’s policies as the crisis continued.
- Describe how Americans reacted to Hoover’s relief programs.

Additional Help

All classroom activities are available online at:
<http://fdbond.com/US-History-Semester-1.htm>

Also, the publisher of the textbook (Prentice Hall) has the textbook and review activities available at their web site at

<http://www.phschool.com/webcodes10/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.gotoWebCode&wcprefix=ndk&wcsuffix=2010>

Terms, places, people, and concepts to know and define

DIRECTIONS: Using a separate sheet of paper, write a sentence using each term, person, or concept as it relates to material in the chapter [sentences must be grammatically correct and complete]. Be sure to number each item, use ink, and skip a line between terms. Your finished sentence can read like a definition, but it cannot begin with the term

Section 1: Causes of the Depression

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|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Herbert Hoover | 5. Business Cycle | 8. Milton Friedman |
| 2. Alfred E. Smith | 6. Great Depression | 9. John Maynard
Keynes |
| 3. Speculation | 7. Hawley-Smoot
Tariff | |
| 4. Black Tuesday | | |

Section 2: American Faces Hard Times

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|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 10. Bread Line | 13. Hoover Flags | 16. Okies |
| 11. Hooverville | 14. Tenant Farmer | 17. Repatriation |
| 12. Hoover Blankets | 15. Dust Bowl | |

Section 3: Hoover's Response Fails

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| 18. Localism | 22. Reconstruction
Finance Corporation | 24. Hoover Dam |
| 19. Hoover wagons | 23. Trickle-down
economics | 25. Bonus Army |
| 20. Hoover Heaters | | 26. Douglas MacArthur |
| 21. Hoover Houses | | |

Questions

Directions: Answer the following questions as completely as you can. Use a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to number each question and double space (between each question), and use ink. Use only one side of the paper. Assignments that fail to follow these directions will be returned ungraded.

Section 1: Causes of the Depression

1. What problems was the economy experiencing while some areas were prospering?
2. What problems was agriculture facing and way?
3. Describe how wealth was unevenly distributed.
4. How did easy credit hide problems in the economy?
5. Describe the stock market crash.
6. What did the stock market crash signal about the economy?
7. Describe the failure of the banking system.
8. Why does unemployment rise in industry?
9. What problems does the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act create?
10. Explain why the depression goes global.
11. Contrast the different ideas that economists have developed to explain the Great Depression's causes.

Section 2: American Faces Hard Times

12. Why are cities struck especially hard?
13. What does the phrase mean *descent into poverty*?
14. Describe how ordinary items became linked to President Hoover and why that occurred.
15. Explain what happened to farm (commodity) prices and farmers as a whole.
16. Describe life on the Plains.
17. Where was the Dust Bowl and how did it get its name?.
18. Why did the *Okies* leave their homes? Where did they migrate to?
19. What were some of the effects caused by the Great Depression on families?
20. Describe hard times for minorities.

Section 3: Hoover's Response Fails

21. How did President Hoover first attempt to deal with the Depression?
22. Why did the call for volunteerism to fight the depression fail?
23. What were some of the more activist policies Hoover adopted?
24. What were some of the radical changes proposed to fight the Depression and its causes?
25. What was the Bonus Army?
26. Why did the Bonus Army descend upon Washington DC?
27. What led Hoover to order the Army to remove the Bonus Army?
28. Why was the way in which the Bonus Army was removed from Washington a bad idea?
29. Explain how John Steinbeck's book *The Grapes of Wrath* epitomized the plight of the Plains farmer.