



Unit Three

Growth and Decline Between the Wars

U.S. History

Unit Length and Description:

7 weeks

This unit focuses on post WWI life in the United States politically, socially and economically. Fear and uncertainty characterized American society as the lost generation returned home from war. Arising from the stress of WWI, American society's response was an exercise in contrasts: on the one hand Americans craved some sense normalcy desiring to return to a romanticized simpler past. On the other hand, many Americans indulged in more modern excesses brought on by industrialism, technology and advancements. Politically, American citizens were tired of decades of idealism and interventionism of the Progressive Era which most recently had been led by the democrats under Woodrow Wilson. In the election of 1920, the American people sent back to Washington a relic of the past, a return to the laissez faire under the republican presidencies of the Harding, Coolidge and Hoover. Economically, the roaring twenties saw a large expansion of the American economy as American industrialism matured by the 1920s. Unfortunately, the roaring twenties were only roaring for the rich and upper class, leaving the vast majority of Americans struggling and wondering what happened to the American Dream.

Standards:

US. 4.1	Use examples to show how population shifts, artistic movements, Prohibition, and the women's movement of the Roaring Twenties were a reflection of and a reaction to changes in American society
US.4.2	Examine the economic policies, attacks on civil liberties, and the presidential administrations of the 1920s and explain how each reflected a return to isolationism
US. 4.3	Describe the impact of major technological innovations and scientific theories of the 1920s on American society
US. 4.4	Examine the causes of the Great Depression and its effects on the American people, and evaluate how the Hoover administration responded to this crisis
US. 4.5	Classify the key New Deal programs according to Relief, Recovery, and Reform programs and describe their impact on the social, economic, and political structure of the United States
US.1.1	Produce clear and coherent writing for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences by: conducting short and sustained research evaluating conclusions from evidence (broad variety, primary and secondary sources) evaluating varied explanations for actions/events determining the meaning of words and phrases from historical texts

	analyzing historians' points of view
US.1.2	Compare and/or contrast historical periods in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • differing political, social, religious, or economic contexts • similar issues, actions, and trends • both change and continuity
US. 1.3	Propose and defend a specific point of view on a contemporary or historical issue and provide supporting evidence to justify that position
US. 1.4	Discriminate between types of propaganda and draw conclusions concerning their intent
US. 1.5	Analyze historical periods using timelines, political cartoons, maps, graphs, debates, and other historical sources

Enduring Understandings- Compelling Question:	Essential Questions- Supporting Question:
What is the legacy of war and recovery on a nation's identity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the 1920s, did American society identify more with change (modernism) or continuity (traditionalism)? • What were the social, political and economic factors that caused the desire for traditionalism following WWI and what were their effects on American society? • What were the social, political and economic factors that caused the desire for modernism following WWI and what were their effects on American society? • What are the causes and effects of the Great Depression? • Is it the responsibility of the government to provide for the welfare of the people? New Deal? • What are the differences between FDR's and Hoover's vision of the role of government and what role the government should play in the economy?