

Study Guide Ch.31

AP US HISTORY

American Life in the “Roaring Twenties” 1919-1929

Theme: A disillusioned America turned away from idealism after World War I and toward social conservatism, a new mass-consumption economy, and exciting new forms of popular culture that undermined many traditional values.

Summary: After the crusading idealism of World War I, America turned inward and became hostile to anything foreign or different. Radicals were targeted in the red scare and the Sacco-Vanzetti case, while the resurgent Ku Klux Klan joined other forces in bringing about pronounced restriction on further immigration. Sharp cultural conflicts occurred over the prohibition experiments and evolution.

A new mass-consumption economy fueled the spectacular prosperity of the 1920s. The automobile industry, led by Henry Ford, transformed the economy and altered American life-styles.

The pervasive media of radio and film altered popular culture and values. Birth control and Freudian psychology overturned tradition sexual standard, especially for women. Young literary rebels, many originally from the Midwest, scorned genteel New England and small-town culture and searched for new values as far away as Europe. The stock-market boom symbolized the free wheeling spirit of the decade.

Identify and state the historical significance of each of the following:

Red Scare 1919-1920

Charles Lindbergh

A. Mitchell Palmer

KDKA

Sacco and Vanzetti

The Great Train Robbery

Ku Klux Klan

The Jazz Singer

Emergency Quota Act of 1921

Margaret Sanger

Immigration Act of 1924

flappers

Volstead Act

Sigmund Freud

“speakeasies”

Jazz

Al Capone

Marcus Garvey

John Dewey

H.L. Mencken

Fundamentalists

F. Scott Fitzgerald

Scopes Monkey Trial

Ernest Hemingway

advertising

Sinclair Lewis

Babe Ruth

William Faulkner

Jack Dempsey

Harlem Renaissance

Buying on credit

buying stock “on margin”

Henry Ford

Andrew Mellon

the Wright Brothers

Thought Provokers:

1. How and why did America turn toward **domestic isolation and social conservatism** in the 1920's?
2. How did some of the events of the 1920's reflect national conflicts over social, cultural, and religious values? What role did new films, literature, and music have in these conflicts?
3. What were the realities of **prohibition**? Why was it so difficult to enforce the “dry” law?
4. Discuss the impact of the **automobile and other new products** on various aspects of American life.

Identification:

- _____ 1. The movement of 1919-1920, spawned by fear of Bolshevik revolution, that resulted in the arrest and deportation of many political radicals
- _____ 2. Hooded defenders of Anglo-Saxon and “Protestant” values against immigrants, Catholics and Jews
- _____ 3. Restrictive legislation of 1924 that reduced the number of newcomers to the United States and discriminated against immigrants from southern and eastern Europe
- _____ 4. New constitutional provision, popular in the Midwest and South, that encouraged lawbreaking and gangsterism in big cities of the East and North
- _____ 5. Term for area of the South where traditional evangelical and Fundamentalist religion remained strong
- _____ 6. Legal battle over teaching evolution that pitted modern science against Fundamentalist religion
- _____ 7. New industry spawned by the mass-consumption economy that encouraged still more consumption
- _____ 8. Henry Ford’s cheap, mass-produced automobile
- _____ 9. Invented in 1903 and first used primarily for stunts and carrying mail
- _____ 10. One of the few new consumer products of the 1920s that encouraged people to stay at home rather than pulling them away from home
- _____ 11. The cause, promoted by feminist Margaret Sanger, that contributed to changing sexual standards, especially for women
- _____ 12. The syncopated style of music, originally created by blacks, that attained national popularity in the 1920s
- _____ 13. Marcus Garvey’s self-help organization that proposed leading blacks to Africa
- _____ 14. H.L. Mencken’s monthly magazine that led the literary attack on traditional moral values, the middle class, and “Puritanism”
- _____ 15. The New York institution in which continually rising prices and profits were fueled by speculation in the 1920s

Putting Things in Order:

____ The trial of a Tennessee high-school biology teacher symbolizes a national conflict over values of religion and science.

____ Fear of the Bolshevik revolution sparks a crusade against radicals and Communists in America.

____ A modest young man becomes a national hero by accomplishing a bold feat of aviation.

____ Two Italian immigrants are convicted of murder and robbery, provoking charges of prejudice against the judge and jury.

____ A new immigration law tightens up earlier emergency restrictions and imposes discriminatory quotas against the “New Immigrants.”

Matching People, Places and Events:

___ 1. A. Mitchell Palmer

___ 2. Sacco and Vanzetti

___ 3. Al Capone

___ 4. John Dewey

___ 5. William Jennings Bryan

___ 6. Henry Ford

___ 7. Bruce Barton

___ 8. Langston Hughes

___ 9. Charles A. Lindbergh

___ 10. Marcus Garvey

___ 11. Sigmund Freud

___ 12. H.L. Mencken

___ 13. F. Scott Fitzgerald

___ 14. Ernest Hemingway

___ 15. Andrew Melon

A. The “Poet Laureate” of Harlem and the author of *The Weary Blues*

B. Writer whose novels reflected the disillusionment of many Americans with propaganda and patriotic idealism

C. Italian-American anarchists whose trial and execution aroused widespread protest

D. Mechanical genius and organizer of the mass-produced automobile industry

E. Federal official who rounded up thousands of alleged Bolsheviks in the red scare of 1919-1920

F. Baltimore writer who criticized the supposedly narrow and hypocritical values of American society

G. Top Chicago gangster of the 1920s

H. Former presidential candidate who led the fight against evolution at the 1925 Scopes trial

I. Federal official who attempted to promote business investment by reducing taxes on the rich

J. Founder of the advertising industry and author of a new interpretation on Christ in *The Man Nobody Knows*

K. Viennese psychologist whose writings were interpreted by Americans as a call for sexual liberation and gratification

L. Leading American philosopher and proponent of “progressive education”

M. Humble aviation pioneer who became a cultural hero of the 1920s

N. Minnesota-born writer whose novels were especially popular with young people in the 1920s

O. Jamaican-born leader who enhanced African-American pride despite his failed migration plans

Matching Cause and Effect:

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|---|--|
| <p>___ 1. American fear of Bolshevism</p> <p>___ 2. Nativist American fear of immigrants and Catholics</p> <p>___ 3. Prohibition</p> <p>___ 4. The automobile industry</p> <p>___ 5. The radio</p> <p>___ 6. Rising prosperity and changing sexual attitudes</p> <p>___ 7. Resentment against conventional small-town morality</p> <p>___ 8. The economic boom of the 1920s</p> <p>___ 9. The ability to buy stocks with only a small down payment</p> <p>___ 10. Andrew Melon's tax policies</p> | <p>A. Caused the rise of the Ku Klux Klan and the imposition of immigration restrictions</p> <p>B. Caused many disillusioned writers of the 1920s to criticize traditional values and search for new moral standards</p> <p>C. Caused the red scare and the deportation of foreign radicals</p> <p>D. Enabled many ordinary citizens to joins in the speculative Wall Street boom</p> <p>E. Stimulated highway construction, petroleum production, and other related industries</p> <p>F. Created an intense mass involvement with sports, advertising, and politics</p> <p>G. Reduced the tax burden on the wealthy and perhaps strengthened the stock-market boom</p> <p>H. Greatly raised the incomes and living standards of many Americans</p> <p>I. Created a new atmosphere of sexual frankness and liberation, especially among the young</p> <p>J. Helped spawn "bootlegging" and the large-scale organized crime</p> |
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Answers

Identification

1. big red scare
2. Ku Klux Klan
3. Immigration Act of 1924
4. Eighteenth Amendment
5. Bible Blet
6. Scopes trial "Monkey trial"
7. Advertising
8. Model T
9. Airplane
10. Radio
11. Birth Control
12. Jazz
13. Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA)
14. *American Mercury*
15. Stock Market

Putting Things in Order

- 4, 1, 5, 2, 3

Matching People, Places,

Events

1. E
2. C
3. G
4. L
5. H
6. D
7. J
8. O
9. M
10. A
11. K
12. F
13. N
14. B
15. I

Cause and Effect

1. C
2. A
3. J
4. E
5. F
6. I
7. B
8. H
9. D
10. G