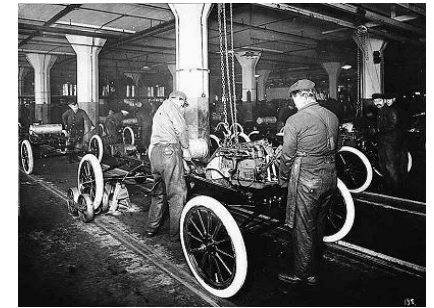




GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (1 of 9): Did everyone in America benefit from the 'Roaring Twenties'?

America emerged from WWI as a powerful and prosperous society. The American economy boomed as businesses grew, more and more people got work, wages increased and ordinary workers had more to spend in the shops. Culture flourished and society changed considerably. The decade became known as the 'Roaring Twenties'. This first enquiry considers the conditions through which the USA was able to prosper.



Why was there an economic boom in the 1920s?

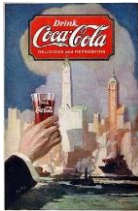
- ⇒ **WWI:** US banks **loaned** money to Britain and France, and it was repaid with interest. America's **chemical and arms industries** flourished, and since America joined the war late, there were **no high debts**.
- ⇒ **Republican Party policies:** Federal Government was led by Republicans, who wanted to **interfere with businesses as little as possible** to **help them grow**. This is a **laissez-faire approach**. Taxes were cut, and the **Fordney McCumber Tariff** placed taxes on foreign goods, making US goods cheaper.
- ⇒ **Consumer and electrical goods:** by 1927, 70% of US homes had electricity. This fuelled demand for **household gadgets** like vacuum cleaners, gramophones, toasters, washing machines, radios and telephones.
- ⇒ **Mass production:** factories used **assembly lines**, where goods would be made by moving along a production line. Workers would stick to just one part of the process, and this produced goods more **quickly and cheaply**. This drove down prices, making them easier to afford.

Why was Henry Ford so important?

- ⇒ Henry Ford pioneered the assembly-line system to make his cars quickly and cheaply.
- ⇒ The car would move along a conveyor belt past workers who repeatedly did small jobs.
- ⇒ Ford made just one type of car: the **Model-T**. Using the same colour, size and engine kept costs down! They were also called '**Tin Lizzies**'.
- ⇒ Prices fell from \$800 in 1911 to \$295 in 1928. 15 million cars were sold, fuelling huge demand for car ownership across America. At its height, Ford's factory rolled out **six cars every minute!**

Creating a Consumer Society

- ⇒ **Advertising** helped to fuel demand for the latest goods. As workers had more money to spend, more goods were brought.
- ⇒ Colourful billboards might be used, and companies paid for newspapers, radios and cinemas to advertise for them.
- ⇒ **Credit** was important in the 1920s. Many '**buy now, pay later**' schemes were set up so that people could borrow money easily. **Hire-purchase schemes** allowed consumers to pay a deposit and then instalments to own, say, a car.



How did the Stock Market work?

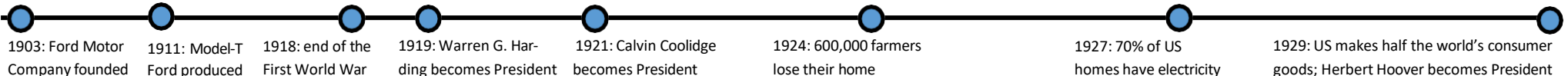
- ⇒ Buying and shelling **shares** on the stock market enabled many Americans to get rich.
- ⇒ '**Playing the market**' led to a stock-market boom; millions of ordinary Americans owned shares in companies. They would buy shares, and hope to make money by selling them at a higher price.
- ⇒ Shareholders would also receive **dividends** as companies made profits.
- ⇒ Some **speculated**, borrowing money in the hope prices would rise enough to pay back the debt.

Who didn't benefit from the boom?

- ⇒ Lower demand abroad and high-tech machinery led to **farmers overproducing crops**. This led to falling prices. Farmers had to resort to borrowing money; many could not pay back and lost land.
- ⇒ **Traditional industries** like coal mining, cotton and wool declined. Some workers lost their jobs.
- ⇒ Many **African Americans** lived in poverty since most were employed as 'sharecroppers' on farms; most **Native Americans** couldn't earn a living since their reservation lands were of poor quality, so they couldn't grow crops or sell them.

GLOSSARY

- ◆ **Boom:** a period of high economic growth, high sales and low unemployment..
- ◆ **Isolationism:** idea that America should concentrate on its own affairs, not other countries.
- ◆ **Tariff:** a tax on foreign goods imported into a country.
- ◆ **Mass production:** using machinery to produce high quantities of goods.
- ◆ **Shares:** buying parts of a company meant you got a share of the profits.
- ◆ **Stock exchange:** where shares are bought and sold.
- ◆ **Speculation:** gambling on the stock market, often with borrowed money.
- ◆ **Dividends:** a share of a company's profits that is paid out to shareholders.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (2 of 9): Did everyone in America benefit from the 'Roaring Twenties'?

The Roaring Twenties was not only a time of economic growth. Culture flourished in the United States. Jazz music and the cinema became hugely popular, and it led to a new evaluation of the role women played in society, as 'flappers' contrasted heavily with the traditional views on women. It was also an era of a great experiment: Prohibition. This saw the banning of alcohol nationwide, but it also led to corruption, bribery and organised crime.



Culture during the Roaring Twenties

- ⇒ **'Wonderful Nonsense'**: it was an era of crazes; Mahjong, crosswords and flagpole-sitting!
- ⇒ **Sport**: baseballer **Babe Ruth** became a superstar; radio, magazines and newspapers brought sporting events to a mass audience.
- ⇒ **Jazz**: became incredibly popular and saw the emergence of stars like Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington.
- ⇒ **Cinema**: Hollywood flourished in the silent era; millions would flock to see their favourite movie stars; the first '**talkies**' were produced in 1927.

What was Prohibition?

- ⇒ The **temperance movement** gained popularity in the 19th and early 20th century: they argued alcohol destroyed families and led to immorality. They also argued it promoted crime and violence.
- ⇒ Pressure groups like the **Anti-Saloon League** campaigned for a nationwide ban on alcohol; many states already had restrictions.
- ⇒ In 1919, the Constitution was amended to prohibit the sale, manufacture or transport of alcohol.



How did life change for American women during the Roaring Twenties?

- ⇒ Before the First World War, most women led restricted lives. They were expected to **dress modestly**, with long skirts, corsets, gloves and long sleeves. Women usually had to settle for **poorly-paid jobs** like cleaning or secretarial work.
- ⇒ During the war, many American women took over their husband's jobs, and worked in munitions factories. Soon, the **Constitution was amended to give women the vote**.
- ⇒ By 1929, 10.5 million women had jobs, and being paid allowed women to make decisions on their own. Some women started to wear revealing clothing, went on dates without chaperones or smoked.
- ⇒ These independent and fashionable women became known as **flappers** and became a common sight. They went to nightclubs, rode motorcycles and danced new dances like the Charleston. They shocked conservative Americans, who felt that family life, religion and traditional values were under threat. However, most working-class women couldn't afford to go partying; **women were still paid less than men**.

Why did Prohibition fail?

- ⇒ **UNDER-RESOURCED LAW ENFORCEMENT**: by 1930, there were 3,000 Prohibition Agents in America, but they struggled to police 18,600 miles of coast and land borders
- ⇒ **ATTITUDES**: many Americans still wanted to drink and were willing to break a law they never wanted or supported. Some made their own **moonshine** with homemade stills and many attended illegal **speakeasies**: bars often ran by criminal gangs.
- ⇒ **CORRUPTION**: many police officers, judges and officials accepted bribes and did not enforce the law.
- ⇒ **ORGANISED CRIME**: gangs made millions from bootlegging and speakeasies. They increased their money by fixing horse races, running brothels and racketeering. The most notorious gangster was **Al Capone** in Chicago. He made around \$10 million a year. He became a celebrity and often showed off his money. He **used bribes and threats** to mean no one would testify against him. His gang murdered rivals in the 1929 **St. Valentine's Day massacre**. He was eventually arrested for tax evasion in 1930.



GLOSSARY

- ♦ **Jazz**: a popular music style with its origins in African-American culture. Famous in the 1920s.
- ♦ **Star system**: where film companies promoted the celebrity life-styles of their movie stars.
- ♦ **Talkies**: the first films produced to feature recorded sound.
- ♦ **Flapper**: young women who shocked older Americans with their independent behaviour.
- ♦ **Speakeasy**: an illegal bar.
- ♦ **Bootlegging**: illegally bringing alcohol into America from abroad.
- ♦ **Moonshine**: homemade alcohol.
- ♦ **Gangster**: a member of a criminal gang.
- ♦ **Racketeering**: when gangsters demand payment from someone in return for 'protection'.

1919: 18th Amendment and Volstead Act passed

1923: first Louis Armstrong record

1925: Al Capone becomes leader of his Chicago gang

1927: Babe Ruth scores 60 home runs; *The Jazz Singer* 'talkie' aired

1929: St. Valentine's Day Massacre

1933: 21st Amendment passed ending Prohibition



GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (3 of 9): *Did everyone in America benefit from the 'Roaring Twenties'?*

Certain sections of American society prospered in the Roaring Twenties: business owners, shareholders, middle and upper-class women and many white working men. However, for black Americans, supporters of communism and immigrants, the Roaring Twenties was a time of bitterness, division and hatred. It was a decade which saw the height of the Ku Klux Klan, discrimination and hardship.



Why was America attractive to immigrants?

- ⇒ America was a **land of opportunity**: about 40 million people migrated between 1850 and 1914.
- ⇒ Some immigrants were fleeing poverty, famine or persecution.
- ⇒ America was a vast country with **natural resources** like coal and oil; many wanted **jobs** in the new chemical and electrical industries.
- ⇒ The idea that anyone has the right to achieve success and prosperity is the '**American Dream**' and attracted many migrants.

Who were the Ku Klux Klan?

- ⇒ The KKK was a **white-supremacy** group. It was anti-immigrant and carried out acts of violence against black Americans. They might be raped, assaulted, tarred and feathered or even lynched.
- ⇒ By 1925, there were **five million** members. They were led by the *Imperial Wizard* and local *Grand Wizards*.
- ⇒ They wore white cloaks and hoods, burnt crosses and even spoke in secret codes, amongst other rituals. Their main aim was to **spread fear** and **promote hostility**.

How were immigrants treated?

- ⇒ America was a **melting pot**: there were British, German, Irish, Italian, Hungarian, Greek, Polish and Russian communities.
- ⇒ However, many Americans were suspicious of 'new' immigrants from Eastern Europe, especially Catholics, Jews and Russians.
- ⇒ Some earned a good living with well-paid jobs; others were poorly educated with **low wages**.
- ⇒ **Restrictions** were brought in, including literacy tests in 1917, and a **quota** of 350,000 migrants per year in 1921; reduced to 150,000 in 1924.

What was the Red Scare?

- ⇒ Russia went through a **communist revolution** in 1917: many Americans grew suspicious of Russian migrants.
- ⇒ Communism gained *some* support in the trade union movement. They were committed to improving workers' rights and organised **strikes**.
- ⇒ This alarmed many pro-business lawmakers. Attorney-General **Mitchell Palmer** then survived a bomb attack: communists were blamed.
- ⇒ Around 6,000 suspected communists were arrested and jailed in subsequent '**Palmer Raids**'.

How were African-Americans treated?

- ⇒ Racial tensions were long standing in America, especially in the 'Deep South', where **lynching** was an entrenched and grisly spectacle.
- ⇒ **Segregation** was widespread across America: '**Jim Crow**' laws denied fair access to justice or even mixed-race marriages. 2 million African-Americans migrated to Northern states.
- ⇒ Tension led to violence: the **Red Summer** in 1919 and 1921 **Tulsa Massacre** were notorious.
- ⇒ However, a '**black Renaissance**' saw poets, artists, writers and musicians flourish in New York. The **NAACP** campaigned for change.

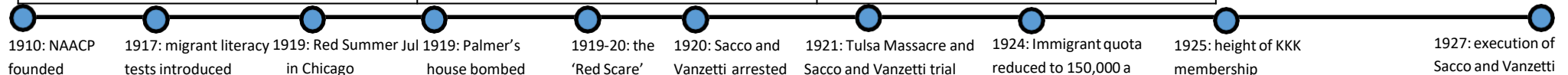
Who were Sacco and Vanzetti?

- ⇒ This case highlights **tensions** between Americans and migrants.
- ⇒ In 1920, robbers stole \$15,000 from a Massachusetts shoe factory and shot two staff dead.
- ⇒ Two Italian migrants, **Nicola Sacco** and **Bar-tolomeo Vanzetti** were arrested and charged. They were anarchist sympathisers. They were convicted and executed by electric chair in 1927, despite 107 witnesses pointing out they were not present and that others came forward to confess.



GLOSSARY

- ◆ **Quota**: the maximum number of immigrants permitted to enter America.
- ◆ **Lynching**: when people were rounded up by a mob and killed without a trial.
- ◆ **Segregation**: forcing black Americans to use separate services and facilities.
- ◆ '**Jim Crow**' laws: segregation laws passed by many Southern states against African-Americans.
- ◆ **Supremacy**: believing that you are better than all others in society.
- ◆ **Anarchism**: belief that society should not have laws or governments but people should just co-operate freely.
- ◆ **Trade union**: an organisation of workers that fights for better pay and conditions for its members.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (4 of 9): How important was Roosevelt's New Deal in dealing with the Great Depression?

Boom turned to bust. In 1929, the US stock exchange collapsed, triggering a long period of economic decline: the Great Depression, and this second enquiry of the course covers the impacts of the Depression and how successfully President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 'New Deal' policies helped the economy to recover.



Why did Wall Street crash in 1929?

- ⇒ By the end of the 20s, factories were **overproducing goods** and demand was falling. They struggled to sell abroad because of **tariffs**.
- ⇒ Investors saw share prices holding steady; they wondered if they were ever going to make a profit. **Shareholders began selling**.
- ⇒ This led to share prices **falling**. More people rushed to sell. This led to panic selling. On 24th October, **Black Thursday**, 13 million shares were sold. The market began to collapse.
- ⇒ By 29th October, **\$8 billion had been lost**.

The problems of unemployment

- ⇒ Nearly a quarter of the entire USA's work force was **unemployed** by 1932: 13 million. 12,000 people lost their jobs **every day**; 250,000 people stopped paying mortgages and were evicted.
- ⇒ **Hobos** travelled the country by road or by train looking for work; other homeless people moved to waste land in towns and built **shanty towns** from cardboard boxes, scrap metal and wood. They were known as '**Hoovervilles**'.
- ⇒ Many turned to charity **soup kitchens** and formed **breadlines** as they queued for support.

How did the Great Depression affect people's lives?

- ⇒ **BANKING COLLAPSE**: banks used people's savings to lend to investors. When they couldn't pay back loans, banks could not give savings back. This led to a **bank run** when people rushed to withdraw money: 659 banks collapsed in 1929 alone. People could **lose their life savings overnight**. This in turn led to more job losses as bank managers and staff became unemployed.
- ⇒ **SHAREHOLDERS**: many could not afford to pay back loans or rent payments and became homeless.
- ⇒ **WORKERS**: Factories faced reduced demand due to **underconsumption**: people were spending less on goods. Factories then cut working hours, then wages and had to dismiss workers. In turn, **this affected other businesses like restaurants and newsagents**, who might close due to reduced demand.
- ⇒ **FARMERS**: many had struggled during the Roaring 20s due to overproduction and falling prices. They too struggled to pay back loans for farming equipment or make mortgage payments. Farm workers lost jobs and 5% of all farmers were **evicted** by 1932. Problems were made worse by the **Dust Bowl**: drought and over-farming rendered the topsoil useless for farming, so many more had to **move**, often to the **West Coast**.

What was Hoover's response?

- ⇒ President Hoover believed in '**rugged individualism**' and *laissez-faire*: he was a classic Republican who wanted to interfere as little as possible. As a self-made man, he believed Americans would be able to help themselves.
- ⇒ However, he did begin to offer support: \$130m of **tax cuts** came in 1930 and he opened the **National Credit Corporation** in 1931 to stop banks closing.
- ⇒ The 1930 **Smoot-Hawley Tariff** made foreign imports more expensive to try and boost US firms. Infrastructure projects like the **Hoover Dam** were an attempt to boost investment and job opportunities.

What did Franklin Roosevelt propose?

- ⇒ 1932 was election year: the Depression was still hitting millions of Americans hard, and they looked for answers.
- ⇒ The Democratic candidate was **Franklin D. Roosevelt**, the Governor of New York. He spent \$20m of tax money helping the unemployed.
- ⇒ He promised a '**New Deal**' for the American people if elected, focusing on the 3Rs: **RELIEF** to help the old, sick, unemployed and homeless; **RECOVERY** where government schemes would provide jobs and **REFORM** to improve America and ensure another Depression wouldn't happen.

GLOSSARY

- ◆ **Overproduction**: when factories produce goods more quickly than they can be sold.
- ◆ **Bear market**: a prolonged period of share-price falls.
- ◆ **Bank run**: when people rush to banks to withdraw their savings.
- ◆ **Underconsumption**: not buying the amount of food or goods produced by factories.
- ◆ **Hobo**: homeless travelling workers.
- ◆ **Hooverville**: makeshift shanty towns without proper toilet or washing facilities.
- ◆ **Breadlines**: a queue of people lining up for free food from a charity or support organisation.
- ◆ **Dust Bowl**: a huge area of farmland where the soil was too poor to grow crops. Prone to dust storms that led to many moving.

Oct 1929: 'Black Thursday' and the Wall Street Crash

Jun 1930: Smoot-Hawley Tariff

Dec 1930: Bank of New York (400,000 customers) collapses

1931: Hoover Dam started

1932: mass farming evictions during the 'Dust Bowl'

Summer 1932: 'Bonus Army' protests

Nov 1932: Presidential election

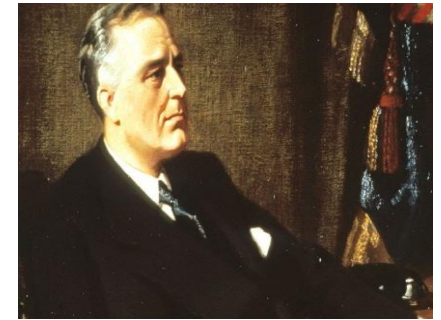
Mar 1933: Franklin D. Roosevelt becomes President



GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (5 of 9): How important was Roosevelt's New Deal in dealing with the Great Depression?

FDR defeated Hoover in a landslide in the 1932 election: it was clear that the American public warmed to his promise of the '3 Rs' to recover the US economy. Roosevelt got to work straight away, using his first 100 days to deal with the banking crisis. He would later set up numerous 'Alphabet Agencies' to help the economy to recover.



What happened during the '100 days'?

- ⇒ Roosevelt got to work straight away from March 1933. He kept the public informed via his radio broadcasts: the '**Fireside Chats**'.
- ⇒ **Emergency Banking Act**: all banks were closed for four days to be inspected. Well-run banks with sufficient funds were allowed to re-open for deposits and business loans.
- ⇒ **Economy Act**: Wages for government workers were slashed by 15%, saving \$1 billion.
- ⇒ **Beer Act**: this law repealed Prohibition: people could drink again! Alcohol taxes were also levied.

Who opposed the New Deal?

- ⇒ **The rich**: hated Roosevelt's **tax rises** and felt some Alphabet Agencies were 'boondoggles'.
- ⇒ **Republicans and Businessmen**: felt uncomfortable at the amount of government spending and felt it was interfering too much in the economy.
- ⇒ **Supreme Court**: declared the AAA **illegal and unconstitutional** in 1935; Roosevelt threatened to 'pack' the Court with Democratic judges, but the Court backed down.
- ⇒ **Radicals**: Senator Huey Long said it didn't go far enough. He wanted excessive wealth confiscated.

What were the 'Alphabet Agencies'?

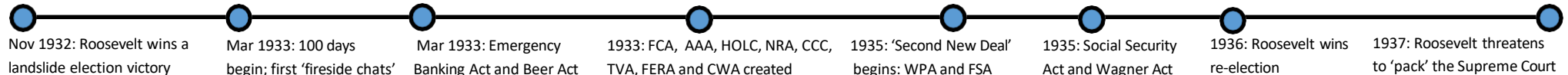
- ⇒ **FCA (Farm Credit Administration)**: lent \$100m to farmers who couldn't meet prior loan payments.
- ⇒ **AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Administration)**: paid farmers to produce less food, which led to price rises. Farmers' incomes doubled by 1939.
- ⇒ **NRA (National Recovery Administration)**: worked with businesses to **reform working practices**, with 'fair competition' codes, minimum wages, maximum working hours. A **voluntary** scheme which signed up 2.5m firms with 22m workers.
- ⇒ **HOLC (Home Owners Loan Corporation)**: gave loans to people struggling with mortgage repayments. Helped 300,000 in its first year.
- ⇒ **TVA (Tennessee Valley Authority)**: provided work building dams and power stations along the impoverished valley of the Tennessee river.
- ⇒ **CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps)**: unemployed 18-25 year olds given jobs to plant trees, dig canals, clear paths and strengthen riverbanks.
- ⇒ **CWA (Civil Works Administration)**: temporary work for 4m men building schools, roads and public toilets; unemployed actors and artists were also given work, allowing them to **spend again**.
- ⇒ **FERA (Federal Emergency Relief Agency)**: \$500m given to help the homeless.

How effective was the New Deal?

- ⇒ The New Deal has always divided opinion. It was meant to solve unemployment, and although it dropped from a high of 25% in 1933, by 1939, it was still **over 15%**.
- ⇒ **Poverty**: the New Deal helped millions, but FDR felt more needed to be done. In 1935, his '**Second New Deal**' included the Social **Security Act (SSA)** which set up national pension and disability payments.
- ⇒ **Women**: no programmes were aimed at women directly, but many found work with the Agencies or helped by the SSA. However, the NRA specified that women's wages were lower than men's.
- ⇒ **Workers**: the Agencies provided work for millions of skilled and unskilled Americans. The **Wagner Act 1935** gave them the right to join a trade union.
- ⇒ **Farmers**: FDR worked hard to support farmers and halt the increase in evictions. But, most small-scale farmers missed out on help, and **rural poverty persisted in the 'Dust Bowl'** areas of the Midwest. Many still had to move elsewhere.
- ⇒ **African-Americans**: the New Deal **did not stop discrimination**: the CCC had **segregated campsites**! Black Americans were not allowed to live in new Tennessee Valley towns, but 200,000 were employed in Agencies like the CCC.
- ⇒ **Native Americans**: received loans to buy land.

GLOSSARY

- ◆ '**Fireside Chats**': popular radio broadcasts by the President to the public about his policies.
- ◆ '**Pump-priming**': nickname given to FDR's New Deal since it involved the government investing and spending lots of money.
- ◆ **Alphabet Agencies**: organisations set up by the Government to help the economy recover.
- ◆ **Supreme Court**: America's highest court: its nine judges could declare a law to have gone against the Constitution.
- ◆ **Radical**: extreme ideas that advocate complete political or social change.
- ◆ '**Boondoggling**': spending time or money on unnecessary or wasteful projects.
- ◆ **Landslide**: when someone wins an election by a very large margin.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (6 of 9): How important was Roosevelt's New Deal in dealing with the Great Depression?

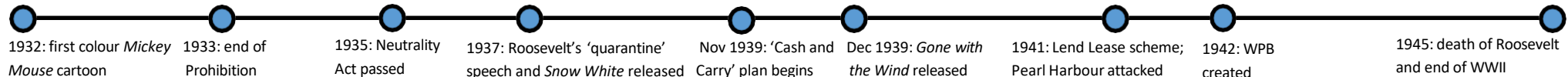
Although the New Deal provided considerable amounts of support to Americans during the Great Depression, by 1939, unemployment was still high and the economy still hadn't fully recovered. World War II, however, played a huge role. It sent arms manufacturing skyrocketing and helped to transform American society.



<p>Popular Culture in the 1930s</p> <p>⇒ Culture and entertainment was incredibly important in the 1930s, since it provided an escape from the harsh realities of the Depression.</p> <p>⇒ Music: <u>jazz musicians</u> like Louis Armstrong and Billie Holiday sold huge numbers of records and artists like Bing Crosby began to emerge. Some artists <u>sang about the Depression</u>: the song 'Brother can you spare a dime?' became popular.</p> <p>⇒ Radios: broadcasts of music, plays, poetry, news, sports and variety shows were <u>very popular</u>.</p> <p>⇒ Cinema: 60 million Americans went to the movies every week. Stars like Shirley Temple, Judy Garland, Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers were especially in demand. Hit films included <i>Gone with the Wind</i>, the <i>Wizard of Oz</i> and <i>Frankenstein</i>.</p> <p>⇒ Cartoons: it was also a <u>Golden Age</u> for cartoons and comic books, Superman first appeared in 1938.</p> <p>⇒ Writers: the Depression inspired authors like John Steinbeck to <u>write about the poverty they witnessed</u> in works like <i>Of Mice and Men</i>.</p>	<p>How did America react to WWII?</p> <p>⇒ <u>Isolationism</u> was still popular, reinforced with the Neutrality Act in 1935. However, in 1937, FDR gave the 'Quarantine' Speech.</p> <p>⇒ In it, he argued that <u>peace-loving nations should stand up to aggression</u>.</p> <p>⇒ He was worried that if Britain and France were defeated by Germany, then America would be next in line.</p> <p>⇒ He persuaded Congress to alter the laws to allow the USA to <u>sell high-quality weapons to the Allies</u>: this was the Cash and Carry plan.</p> <p>How did America become involved?</p> <p>⇒ The Lend-Lease deal was signed in 1941, where America <u>lent \$7bn of weapons to Britain</u>.</p> <p>⇒ The USA was dragged into WWII when Japan attacked the US Navy base at Pearl Harbour in Hawai'i. There <u>had been tension for some years</u>: FDR had <u>refused to sell oil or steel to Japan</u> after it invaded neighbouring Asian countries.</p> <p>⇒ The War Production Board (WPB) helped convert industries to war work. <u>Car factories could turn out tanks and fighter planes in weeks!</u> By 1944, unemployment had dropped to just 670,000; it was 9.5m in 1939.</p>	<p>What role did women play?</p> <p>⇒ Before the war, women worked in traditional 'female' jobs like <u>nursing or teaching</u>.</p> <p>⇒ 'Rosie the Riveter' posters encouraged women into the factories.</p> <p>⇒ As millions of men joined the Armed Forces, women joined the factories and worked in railways and shipyards.</p> <p>⇒ The number of women in work increased from 12m in 1940 to 19m in 1945: women occupied of third of all American jobs. Around 350,000 joined <u>women's sections of the Armed Forces</u>.</p> <p>What role did African-Americans play?</p> <p>⇒ Prominent Civil Rights campaigner Asa Philip Randolph told FDR he would <u>lead a huge demonstration</u> to Washington to <u>protest against the treatment of black workers</u>.</p> <p>⇒ FDR set up the Fair Employment Practice Committee (FEPC) and it discovered widespread discrimination: it recommended that the worst companies would not receive government contracts.</p> <p>⇒ One million African-Americans served, some in the famous Tuskegee Airmen group; <u>nurses and sailors faced segregation and discrimination</u>.</p>
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GLOSSARY

- ♦ **Popular Culture:** the common ideas, customs and behaviour of a group or country.
- ♦ **Neutrality:** not supporting or helping either side in a conflict or dispute.
- ♦ **Cash and Carry:** when Britain and France began buying US weapons, warships and planes.
- ♦ **Lend-Lease:** a policy which saw the USA 'lend', rather than sell, weapons to the UK and USSR..
- ♦ **Executive Order:** decrees which allow the President to carry out some government decisions without Congressional approval.
- ♦ **Tuskegee Airmen:** a group of African-American pilots and airmen that flew on missions during WWII.
- ♦ **Pearl Harbour:** a US Navy base in Hawai'i which was attacked by Japan in 1941.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (7 of 9): Was America really a land of the free by 1973?

The final enquiry of this course considers the extent to which we can truly consider America a 'land of the free'. The 1950s saw a post-WWII consumer boom, and the emergence of the teenager and rock-and-roll culture. However, it was also an era in which fear of communism sparked a new wave of Red Scares and McCarthyism. The 1950s and 1960s also saw great change in the lives of women and African-Americans.



Consumerism in the 1940s and 1950s

- ⇒ After WWII, **consumer goods** began to be made in large quantities. Hire-purchase schemes returned and millions of Americans bought ovens, vacuum cleaners, cars and televisions.
- ⇒ Huge **shopping malls** opened on the outskirts of towns; there were 75 million **cars** in 1956.
- ⇒ In 1952, America produced 65% of the world's **manufactured goods.**
- ⇒ Veterans benefited from **generous loans** from the Government to enable them to buy homes and attend college or trade schools.

Truman and Eisenhower

- ⇒ Truman launched the '**Fair Deal**' in 1949, which included slum clearances and a minimum-wage increase.
- ⇒ **Dwight 'Ike' Eisenhower** took over in 1953. He was a war hero and Republican who brought many businessmen into Government; the economy continued to grow along with living standards.
- ⇒ However, 56% of all **African-Americans** still lived in poverty. **Women** were also expected to return back to 'traditional' roles or become housewives. Working women faced discrimination and pay at only 53% what men could earn.

The Rock and Roll generation!

- ⇒ The word 'teenager' only became common in the 1950s! Before this, many young people were expected to join the workforce and start families: **fewer than two-thirds completed school.**
- ⇒ This changed. The **growing economy** meant that older children no longer had to find work and many parents insisted that their children to **finish High School** and then attend **College.**
- ⇒ Teenagers grew **wealthier** and had **more free time.** Teenagers' spending power grew from \$10bn in 1950 to \$25bn in 1959!
- ⇒ They spent money on music, cars, fashion and alcohol. Some teenage boys became 'thrill-seekers' who raced cars, drank and formed gangs.
- ⇒ Teenagers got a **reputation** for being independent, rebellious, secretive and aggressive. They were inspired by **film characters** played by actors like Marlon Brando and James Dean.
- ⇒ **Rock and Roll music** flourished. It was a mix of Country Western and Rhythm and Blues. Lyrics contained sexual references and promoted gangs and drinking. **Parents were not pleased!**
- ⇒ **Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly and Richie Valens** were early Rock and Roll stars.

Why was there another Red Scare?

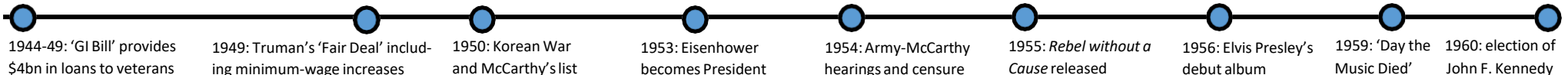
- ⇒ Immediately after WWII, a second Red Scare emerged. The communist USSR emerged as a rival superpower, and the USA and USSR supported opposite sides in the Korean War.
- ⇒ There were many **spy scandals:** government official **Alger Hiss** was accused of spying for Moscow; **Ethel and Julius Rosenberg** were convicted and executed for leaking state secrets.
- ⇒ The **House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC)** and **Loyalty programme** began investigating government employees suspected of having communist sympathies.

What was the impact of McCarthyism?

- ⇒ Senator **Joseph McCarthy** claimed he had a list of over 200 communists working for the government. This created a national media storm.
- ⇒ McCarthy and HUAC led investigations into suspected communists. People who refused to give evidence could lead to prison for 'contempt of court'. Actors and directors from Hollywood could never find work again if '**blacklisted**' by McCarthy. **Some considered his work a witch-hunt.**
- ⇒ Many Americans saw him as a **hero;** his critics were themselves labelled communists! He soon lost popularity by trying to investigate the Army.

GLOSSARY

- ♦ **Consumerism:** the idea that the ever-expanding consumption of goods was good for growth.
- ♦ **Malls:** large, out-of-town shopping centres.
- ♦ **GI:** nickname for a US soldier.
- ♦ **Superpower:** a country with extensive economic and military power and influence.
- ♦ **HUAC:** a body set up by Congress to find communists working in media, Hollywood, the Government and workplaces.
- ♦ **Loyalty programme:** a group set up by President Truman to look for current or former Communist Party members.
- ♦ **McCarthyism:** the campaign against alleged communists.
- ♦ **Blacklist:** a list of people deemed 'unacceptable' and often badly treated or punished.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (8 of 9): Was America really a land of the free by 1973?

In this part of the third USA enquiry, you will be assessing the significance of the campaign for African-American Civil Rights. It begins in the 1950s, when there were major steps forward in terms of desegregating schools and colleges in the Deep South. Rosa Parks' famous refusal to give up her seat helped Martin Luther King rise to prominence with his March on Washington. It was also an era of the more radical Black Power movement.



Brown vs. Board of Education, 1954

- ⇒ Many schools and colleges in the Deep South remained **segregated** into the 1950s.
- ⇒ In 1951, Linda Brown walked two miles to go to an all-black school when there was an all-white school less than half a mile away in Topeka, Kansas. **Her father challenged this.**
- ⇒ His case made it all the way to the Supreme Court, where, in 1954, Chief Justice Earl Warren ruled that **all schools in America had to desegregate**. Within weeks, schools began to allow black students to attend, although some states, like Mississippi, resisted this ruling.

Who were the Little Rock Nine?

- ⇒ In September 1957, nine black students tried to enrol at a High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- ⇒ The Governor, **Orval Faubus**, refused to allow the nine students (who were all chosen by the NAACP with top grades) to attend and **sent in the Arkansas National Guard to stop them**.
- ⇒ Eisenhower sent in the **Federal** National Guard to personally escort the students to school. A court ruling found in favour of the students and Arkansas schools were ordered to desegregate, **but just 2,500 black students** went to schools with white children by 1960.

Martin Luther King and Non-Violence

- ⇒ In 1955, **Rosa Parks** was famously arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.
- ⇒ This led to the **Montgomery Bus Boycott**, led by young Christian minister Martin Luther King Jr.
- ⇒ King was committed to the principle of non-violent **direct action**, and the boycott was incredibly successful: bus-company profits plummeted. Campaigners persisted, even though they were threatened; King's home was bombed.
- ⇒ Eventually, the company was forced to desegregate its buses. It inspired other campaigns:
- ⇒ **SIT-INS**: protesters would sit in and refuse to move until they were served in segregated restaurants. Led by student **Diane Nash** and the **Greensboro 4**.
- ⇒ **FREEDOM RIDES**: people would ride buses into the South to test if desegregation had taken place; many buses were fire-bombed and attacked.
- ⇒ **BIRMINGHAM**: King organised a protest in Birmingham Alabama. 30,000 demonstrators were targeted with **water cannon and police dogs** under the supervision of police chief Eugene 'Bull' Connor.
- ⇒ **MARCH ON WASHINGTON**: King led a mass demonstration and gave his **'I have a dream' speech**. Over 250,000 marched and it inspired a nation.

What happened after the March on Washington?

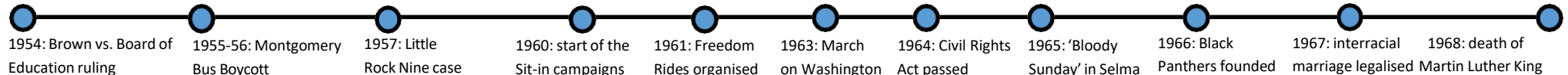
- ⇒ President Lyndon B. Johnson passed the Civil **Rights Act** in 1964. The law outlawed racial discrimination in employment and ended segregation in public places.
- ⇒ **Selma**: King led a peaceful march in Alabama in 1965 to campaign for **equal voting rights** but demonstrators were violently attacked by police on **'Bloody Sunday'**. Soon after the KKK murdered a civil rights campaigner.
- ⇒ A furious Johnson introduced the Voting Rights Bill later that year.

What was the Black Power movement?

- ⇒ Blacks still faced poor housing, low pay and inadequate education. **Patience wore thin** and riots and looting occurred across America.
- ⇒ The **Black Power movement** felt that much more needed doing and criticised King's tactics.
- ⇒ Malcolm X and the **Nation of Islam** called for blacks to rise up, calling white Americans corrupt and unjust. He was against the idea of peaceful protests.
- ⇒ The **Black Panthers** were an extreme militant group who argued that African-Americans needed to arm themselves and use violence if necessary.

GLOSSARY

- ♦ **Civil Rights movement**: the campaign for equal opportunity and access to education, jobs, housing, voting rights and an end to racial discrimination.
- ♦ **Chief Justice**: the most senior judge on the Supreme Court.
- ♦ **Boycott**: avoiding or refusing to use a particular good or service.
- ♦ **Direct action**: using strikes, demonstrations or other forms of protest instead of violence.
- ♦ **Freedom Rides**: campaigners travelled to the South sitting in 'whites-only' areas of buses.
- ♦ **Sit-ins**: when campaigners sat in 'whites-only' parts of restaurants and refuse to leave.
- ♦ **Separatism**: the idea of keeping races apart.
- ♦ **Militant**: extreme, radical and prepared to use force.





GCSE History Paper 1: Opportunity and Inequality in America, 1920-1973

Knowledge Organiser (9 of 9): Was America really a land of the free by 1973?

The 1960s and 1970s saw great cultural and political change in America. Both Presidents Kennedy and Johnson were ambitious in trying to improve the quality of life for ordinary American citizens; meanwhile, thousands of GIs were losing their lives in the Vietnam War, which imperilled Johnson's Presidency. American women, spurred on by the success of the Civil Rights campaign, fought for change for themselves in the Feminist campaign.



What was Kennedy's 'New Frontier'?

- ⇒ When elected, Kennedy promised a '**New Frontier**' to improve living standards, reduce poverty and make America a fairer and more equal society.
- ⇒ **Civil Rights:** JFK gave jobs to many prominent African-Americans and set up the **Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity (CEEEO)** to monitor opportunities for Federal employees. He stood up for campaigners like **James Meredith**, a black student who was persecuted by racists.
- ⇒ **Economy:** JFK cut taxes and gave out \$900m to businesses to **create jobs**. He increased defence spending to create more armed-forces jobs... BUT... investment in new equipment in factories led to job losses, and unemployment reached 4.5 million in 1963.
- ⇒ **Healthcare and Poverty:** the minimum wage was increased to \$1.25 an hour. \$4.9bn in loans were issued to improve housing, clear slums and build more roads. The **Social Security Act** provided benefits to the elderly and jobless.
- ⇒ **Education:** Congress **defeated** JFK's plans to increase school funding, but the **Peace Corps** were founded to send volunteer teachers, nurses, doctors and technical advisers to **work in poorer countries**.



What was Johnson's 'Great Society'?

- ⇒ Lyndon B. Johnson took over as President after JFK was assassinated.
- ⇒ Johnson called for a 'Great Society' to eradicate poverty and racial injustice.
- ⇒ Johnson was a **skilled politician**: he was able to pass Civil Rights laws despite his position as a **Southern Democrat**, most of whom were in favour of continuing segregation.
- ⇒ The **Voting Rights Act 1965** ended the final 'Jim Crow' restrictions on African-Americans' ability to vote and the **Fair Housing Act 1968** made it illegal to refuse to sell or rent housing to someone based on their skin colour.
- ⇒ '**Operation Headstart**' increased funding to inner-city schools to provide better education; the **Elementary and Secondary Education Act 1965** gave over \$1bn of schools funding.
- ⇒ The **Social Security Act 1965** introduced **Medicare** health insurance for the elderly.
- ⇒ The **Immigration Act 1965** eliminated racial quotas for people entering the USA.



What was the Feminist movement?

- ⇒ 6 million women worked in factories during WWII and many did not want to give this up. **By 1960, women made up half of America's workforce.**
- ⇒ **Eleanor Roosevelt** asked JFK to launch the **Status Commission** to investigate women's rights. In 1963 it found women earned 60% less than men; over 95% of managers were men and some jobs could legally dismiss women if they got married (like cabin crew).
- ⇒ **Betty Friedan's Feminine Mystique (1963)** said women should have **equal rights with men and the rights to a fulfilling career**.
- ⇒ The feminist movement grew more influential with the founding of the **National Organisation for Women (NOW)** in 1966. They organised large demonstrations and took companies to court that violated the Equal Pay Act.
- ⇒ **Women's Liberation** campaigners resorted to bra-burning and disrupting beauty pageants.
- ⇒ Congress passed an **Equal Rights Amendment** in 1972, but it failed to become law. The **landmark Roe vs. Wade** ruling in 1973 provided a national right for women to access abortions.



GLOSSARY

- ◆ **New Frontier:** Kennedy's plans to introduce economic and social reforms to improve the quality of American lives.
- ◆ **Great Society:** Johnson's programme of reforms that aimed to make America a fairer, more equal society.
- ◆ **Peace Corps:** a volunteer organisation founded by Kennedy.
- ◆ **Medicare:** government-funded health insurance for the elderly and disabled.
- ◆ **Feminist movement:** organisations that campaign for improvements to women's rights.
- ◆ **Amendment:** an attempt to change the US constitution.
- ◆ **'Women's Liberation':** a more radical and extreme feminist campaign which used tactics like bra-burning and disrupting beauty pageants.

