20s-30s and the New Deal

Multiple Choice
Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

1. Which major industry was transformed by use of the assembly line in the early 20th century?
   a. Steel
   b. Electronics
   c. Ship building
   d. Automobile

2. By the end of the 1920s, where did a majority of the American population reside?
   a. In rural areas
   b. In the northeastern part of the country
   c. In towns and cities
   d. In the western states

3. Which of the following agencies was created during the Great Depression to regulate the banking industry out of the Glass-Steagul banking act?
   a. The Securities and Exchange Commission
   b. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
   c. The Federal Reserve System
   d. The Bank of the United States

4. In 1920, which group had their right to vote expanded?
   a. Immigrants
   b. African Americans
   c. Young people ages 18–20
   d. Women

5. Which of the following New Deal programs had the most impact long term on U.S. life?
   a. The Agricultural Adjustment Agency
   b. The Works Progress Administration
   c. The Social Security Administration
   d. The Civilian Conservation Corps

6. Who promoted the Share Our Wealth concept and was considered a threat to President Franklin Roosevelt’s reelection until he was assassinated in 1935?
   a. Huey Long
   b. Father Charles Coughlin
   c. Dr. Francis Townsend
   d. Harry Hopkins
7. Since the New Deal, aside from African Americans, the Democratic Party has had widespread support from
   a. Southerners and women.
   b. union members and Jewish Americans.
   c. Catholics and the middle class.
   d. Hispanics and Midwesterners.

8. The Tennessee Valley Authority led to an expansion of
   a. African American voting rights.
   b. wheat production during World War II.
   c. the recall movement in the South.
   d. electrical power in rural areas.

9. Which region of the world accounted for the most substantial number of international migrants to the United States between 1890 and 1920?
   a. Western Europe
   b. Southeastern Europe
   c. Latin America
   d. Asia

10. Which organization experienced dramatic growth in the early 1920s as many conservative Americans resisted cultural and social changes?
    a. American Nazi Party
    b. The Ku Klux Klan
    c. The Know-Nothing Party
    d. The Grange

11. The movie *The Jazz Singer* was most notable because it was
    a. written by Langston Hughes.
    b. the first movie to include African Americans in its cast.
    c. transformed into a nationally broadcast radio program.
    d. the first movie to include speaking roles.

12. Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer is best known for his association with the
    a. Lindbergh kidnapping case.
    b. Scopes “Monkey Trial.”
    c. Teapot Dome Scandal.
    d. Red Scare.
13. The Immigration Quota Act of 1921 and the Immigration Act of 1924 were designed to restrict migrants from
   a. southeastern Europe.
   b. Mexico.
   c. Japan.
   d. China.

14. Which labor union’s leaders were a primary target of prosecution and deportation during the Red Scare?
   a. The American Federation of Labor
   b. The Industrial Workers of the World
   c. The United Mine Workers
   d. The Congress of Industrial Organizations

This question refers to the following quotation.

“In our efforts for recovery we have avoided, on the one hand, the theory that business should and must be taken over into an all-embracing Government. We have avoided, on the other hand, the equally untenable theory that it is an interference with liberty to offer reasonable help when private enterprise is in need of help. The course we have followed fits the American practice of Government, a practice of taking action step by step, of regulating only to meet concrete needs, a practice of courageous recognition of change.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt, “Greater Security for the Average Man”, 1934


15. The approach Franklin Roosevelt outlines in the speech above is most consistent with the previous efforts of
   a. Radical Republicans during Reconstruction.
   b. Populist farmer organizations during the late 19th century.
   c. the women’s rights movement in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.
   d. the Progressives in the early 20th century.

16. At the time of this speech in 1934, which of the following groups most opposed Roosevelt’s New Deal reforms?
   a. The Supreme Court
   b. Labor unions
   c. African Americans
   d. Populist movements
17. The principles championed by President Roosevelt in the speech above directly challenged the
   a. view that the United States should remain a nation based largely on agriculture.
   b. laissez-faire economic policies of the Gilded Age.
   c. the efforts by Progressives to institute social reforms at all levels of society.
   d. idea that large corporations had come to dominate the American economy.

   **This question refers to the following quotation.**

   “We younger Negro artists who create now intend to express our dark-skinned selves without fear
   or shame. If white people are pleased, we are glad. If they are not, it doesn’t matter. We know we
   are beautiful. And ugly too. The tom-tom cries and the tom-tom laughs. If colored people are
   pleased we are glad. If they are not, their displeasure doesn't matter either. We build our temples
   for tomorrow, strong as we know how, and we stand on top of the mountain, free within
   ourselves.”

   Langston Hughes, “The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain,” 1926

18. The sentiments expressed in the quotation above are best understood in the context of the
   a. existence of segregation laws in the South.
   b. Harlem Renaissance movement.
   c. restrictions on free speech coming out of World War I.
   d. rise of cinema in the 1920s.

19. The “Great Migration” out of the South by many African Americans during World War I was most
   immediately the result of
   a. the first Red Scare.
   b. their economic displacement due to the rising number of migrants from Mexico
      moving into the South.
   c. the influence of the mass media.
   d. economic opportunities created by the demands of World War I.

20. In 1917, President Wilson brought the United States into World War I based on his stated intention to
   a. spread American culture and norms to others.
   b. expand America’s military and economic presence in Europe.
   c. defend humanitarian and democratic principles.
   d. pursue a unilateral foreign policy.
This question refers to the following quotation.

“In the field of national policy, the fundamental trouble with America has been, and is, that whereas their nation became in the twentieth century the most powerful and most vital nation in the world, nevertheless Americans were unable to accommodate themselves spiritually and practically to that fact. Hence they have failed to play their part as a world power—a failure which has had disastrous consequences for themselves and for all mankind. And the cure is this: to accept wholeheartedly our duty and our opportunity as the most powerful and vital nation in the world and in consequence to exert upon the world the full impact of our influence, for such purposes as we see fit and by such means as we see fit.”


21. Luce’s remarks were most clearly an attack on America’s
   a. initial neutrality in World War I.
   b. highly restrictive immigration quotas in the early 20th century.
   c. isolationism in the 1930s.
   d. policies dealing with race and segregation during World War II.

22. Which of the following American actions prior to Luce’s comments most closely aligns with his position?
   a. Wilson’s support of the League of Nations
   b. Attacks on radicals and immigrants during the first Red Scare
   c. The severe restrictions on Mexican immigration in the early 20th century
   d. America’s initial neutrality in World War I

23. Which of the following factors most strongly contributed to the realization of the goals outlined in the excerpt above?
   a. Improved socioeconomic positions for American women and minorities
   b. The dominant American role in the Allied victory and postwar peace settlements following World War II
   c. The end of the Great Depression
   d. America’s popular commitment to advancing democratic ideals
This question refers the following photograph.

Highland Park Ford Assembly Plant, c. 1908
Courtesy: CSU Archives / Everett Collection

24. The scene depicted in the photograph above was made possible by
   a. new technologies and manufacturing techniques.
   b. new economic opportunities for women.
   c. greater market and credit stability.
   d. a decline in the domination of the United States economy by large corporations.

25. While industries such as the one in the photograph above led to increasing conflicts between management and labor from 1890 to 1930, they also contributed to
   a. a decrease in tensions between native-born and new immigrants.
   b. better relations between the races.
   c. improved standards of living.
   d. an economy much less prone to economic distress.

26. How did Progressive reformers attempt to better the lives of workers such as those in the photograph above?
   a. Progressives pushed for a transition from a rural, agricultural society to an urban, industrial one.
   b. Progressives called for less government intervention in the economy.
   c. Progressives focused their reform efforts exclusively at the local level in order to assist workers more directly.
   d. Progressives urged the creation of new organizations aimed at addressing social problems associated with an industrial society.
This question refers to the 1919 political cartoon below by James P. Alley.

Anarchist Political Cartoon

27. The concern illustrated in the cartoon above was most consistent with support for
   a. restrictive immigration quotas.
   b. Progressive reforms.
   c. U.S. entry into World War I.
   d. labor unions.

28. Which of the following events most directly contributed to the attitudes expressed in the cartoon above?
   a. The debate over the League of Nations in the United States following World War I
   b. The expansion of freedom of speech during World War I
   c. Labor strikes which disrupted society following World War I
   d. The shortage of an inexpensive supply of labor
29. The cartoon above is best understood in the context of
   a. the Great Migration.
   b. the Red Scare.
   c. American imperialism.
   d. the Treaty of Versailles.

   This question refers to the following 1932 photograph.

   ![Hooverville Photograph](image)

   Hooverville Photograph
   Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum

30. Which of the following factors was most responsible for creating the conditions depicted in the photograph above?
   a. The transition from a rural society to an urban one
   b. Episodes of credit and market instability
   c. Political corruption
   d. The failure of Progressive reforms

31. In response to the conditions depicted in the photograph above, many American families
   a. advocated for overseas expansion.
   b. disrupted society with racial strife.
   c. migrated within the United States.
   d. resented President Roosevelt’s unwillingness to use government power to provide
      them with relief.
This question refers to the following 1929 magazine advertisement.

32. The advertisement pictured above best demonstrates which of the following changes in the early decades of the 20th century?
   a. The increasing focus on producing consumer goods
   b. The development of new technologies
   c. Improved manufacturing techniques
   d. The transition to an urban, industrial society
33. Which of the following historical developments was most likely responsible for increasing the effectiveness of the advertisement above?
   a. Greater personal mobility
   b. The continued development of the mass media
   c. The cultural conflict of urban versus rural
   d. Progressive attempts to regulate the abuses of the economy

This question refers to the following quotation.

“[Franklin] Roosevelt locked one group out of his honeymoon suite. The bankers and financiers, the rhetorical devils of his presidential campaign, were now resented or hated by millions of Americans. Even Hoover placed much of the blame for the stock market crash on speculation and poor banking ethics….The Emergency Banking Act…provided for the inspection of banks and certification of soundness before reopening. It may have saved the private banking system. The subsequent Glass-Steagall Act of 1933 provided for Federal Reserve regulation of bank investments…and created a Federal Depositors Insurance Corporation to insure small depositors, all of which strengthened banks and gave protection to the most innocent depositors.”


34. The reforms described in the excerpt above were most directly a response to
   a. the decline of America’s rural, agricultural society.
   b. internal U.S. migration during first two decades of the 20th century.
   c. episodes of market and credit instability.
   d. the decline of large corporations during the 1920s.

35. The primary goal of the legislation described in the excerpt above was to
   a. foster a long-term political realignment.
   b. make society and individuals more secure.
   c. provide relief to the poor.
   d. limit the scope of the New Deal.

36. The policies illustrated in excerpt above were most clearly contrary to
   a. laissez-faire capitalism.
   b. Progressive reforms to regulate abuses of the economy.
   c. transforming the U.S. into a limited welfare state.
   d. the goals of the Populist movement.
37. The most immediate emergency facing Franklin Roosevelt when he became president in March 1933 was
   a. the collapse of nearly the entire banking system.
   b. runaway inflation.
   c. the growing power of demagogues such as Huey Long and Father Coughlin.
   d. riots by unemployed workers and farmers unable to sell their goods.

38. All of the following are true statements about the men who joined the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) except.
   a. there were about three million men in the program.
   b. the men were mostly young, hired to work in fresh-air camps.
   c. many of the men had had criminal records.
   d. they worked on reforestation, flood control and swamp drainage projects.
   e. CCC workers helped families by sending most of their paychecks home.

39. Republican economic policies under Warren G. Harding
   a. sought to continue the same laissez-faire doctrine as had been the practice under William McKinley.
   b. hoped to encourage the government actively to assist business along the path to profits.
   c. sought to regulate the policies of large corporations.
   d. aimed at supporting increased competition in business.

40. was/were adversely affected by the demobilization policies adopted by the federal government at the end of World War I.
   a. The shipping industry
   b. veterans
   c. The railroad industry
   d. Organized labor
41. The 1928 Kellogg-Briand Pact
   a. formally ended World War I for the United States, which had refused to sign the Treaty of Versailles.
   b. officially outlawed war as a solution to international rivalry and conflict.
   c. set a schedule for German payment of war reparations.
   d. condemned Japan for its unprovoked attack on Manchuria.

42. The Fordney-McCumber and Hawley-Smoot Tariff laws had the long-term effect of
   a. bringing American farmers out of the agricultural depression of the early 1920s.
   b. pressuring the Europeans to lower their own tariff rates in order to retain American trade.
   c. encouraging the United States to turn more to Asia than to Europe for imports.
   d. shrinking international trade and making it impossible for Europe to repay American war loans.

43. During Coolidge's presidency, government policy was set largely by the interests and values of
   a. farmers and wage earners.
   b. racial and ethnic minorities.
   c. the business community.
   d. progressive reformers.
   e. conservative New Englanders.

44. America's major foreign-policy problem in the 1920s was addressed by the Dawes Plan, which
   a. established a ratio of allowable naval strength between the United States, Britain, and Japan.
   b. ended the big-stick policy of armed intervention in Central America and the Caribbean.
   c. aimed to prevent German re-armament.
   d. provided a solution to the tangle of war-debt and war-reparations payments.
45. The mood in the United States just before the stock market crashed in 1929 could best be described as
   a. confident
   b. anxious
   c. pessimistic
   d. fearful
   e. none of these

46. President Herbert Hoover believed that the Great Depression could be ended by doing all of the following except
   a. providing direct aid to the people
   b. keeping faith in the efficiency of the industrial system.
   c. directly assisting businesses and banks.
   d. continuing to rely on the American tradition of rugged individualism.

47. Which pair of events illustrates an accurate cause-and-effect relationship?
   a. Sacco and Vanzetti trial --> ratification of the woman suffrage amendment
   b. rebirth of the KKK --> formation of the Populist Party
   c. Red Scare --> demand for limits on immigration
   d. high food prices --> start of the Great Depression

48. “Public Ignores Prohibition Restrictions”
   “Evolution and Creation Debated in Scopes Trial”
   “Women Bring Change to the Industrial Workforce”

   What do headlines such as these from the 1920s illustrate?
   a. conflict between traditional and modern values
   b. trend toward mass consumption of consumer goods
   c. hostility of certain groups toward ethnic minorities
   d. debate over the role of government in the economy
Short Answer

This question is based on the following two passages.

“The liberal reforms of the New Deal did not transform the American system; they conserved and protected American corporate capitalism, occasionally by absorbing parts of threatening programs. There was no significant redistribution of power in American society, only limited recognition of other organized groups…. The New Deal failed to solve the problem of depression, it failed to raise the impoverished, it failed to redistribute income, it failed to extend equality and generally countenanced racial discrimination and segregation.”


“But it is not the variety of change which stamps the New Deal as the creator of a new America; its significance lies in the expansion and permanence of its programs. There is another measure of the New Deal’s significance in American social and political history. No Republican administration since then has repudiated the New Deal’s essentials…. The New Deal Revolution has become so much a part of the American Way that no political party that aspires to office even dreams of repudiating it. The conclusion seems inescapable that, traditional as the words may have been in which the New Deal expressed itself, in actuality it was truly a revolution in ideas, institutions and practices, when one compares it with the political and social world that preceded it.”


1. Based on the two interpretations above relating to the legacy of the New Deal, complete the following three tasks:
   a. Briefly explain the main point made in Passage 1.
   b. Briefly explain the main point made in Passage 2.
   c. Provide ONE piece of evidence from the era of the New Deal that is not included in the passages and explain how it supports the interpretation in either passage.

2. There is much debate about the overall success rate of the New Deal measures adopted by FDR.
   a. Briefly explain why their is a debate?
   b. Briefly explain a criticism of the New Deal.
   c. Briefly explain a counter argument to your answer in letter b.