Chapters 14 and 15: The Great Depression and the New Deal

Reading and Study Guide

Directions: Identify the key terms that appear in parentheses, as you answer each of the following questions. Highlight or underline each term as it appears in your response. Record your answers on a separate sheet of loose leaf paper. You may answer the questions in note form, paragraph form or as a graphic organizer.

Chapter 14 section 1: The Nation’s Sick Economy

1. How did the economic trends of the 1920s help cause the Great Depression? (price supports, credit)
2. How did popular perceptions of prosperity influence the election of 1928? (Alfred E. Smith, Herbert Hoover, Dow Jones Industrial Average, stock exchange)
3. What caused the stock market crash on October 29, 1929? (Speculation, Buying on Margin, Black Tuesday)
4. What were the immediate effects of the Great Depression on the economy in the United States and around the world? (Great Depression, Hawley-Smoot Tariff Act)

Chapter 14 Section 2 and 3: Hardship and Suffering, Hoover Struggles with the Depression

1. How did life change for millions of Americans in both urban and rural areas? (shantytowns, Hoovervilles, dustbowl)
2. How did the great depression affect families? (hoboes, direct relief, “wild boys”)
3. Why was Hoover reluctant to help people during the Great Depression? (voluntary cooperation, “rugged individualism”)
4. What actions did Hoover take to remedy the effects of the Depression? (Boulder Dam, cooperatives, Federal Home Loan Bank Act, Reconstruction Finance Corporation)
5. Why did Hoover use force against World War I veterans? (Bonus Army)

Chapter 15 Section 1: A New Deal Fights the Depression

1. What were Roosevelt’s first actions as president? (Franklin Delano Roosevelt, New Deal, Emergency Banking Relief Act, fireside chats, Glass-Steagall Act, FDIC, Federal Securities Act, SEC)
2. How were New Deal programs intended help farmers and workers and stimulate the economy? (Agricultural Adjustment Act, Civilian Conservation Corp, National Industrial Recover Act)
3. Why was Roosevelt willing to use deficit spending? (John Maynard Keynes, deficit spending)
4. What opposition to the New Deal did Franklin D. Roosevelt face? (“Court-packing bill, American Liberty League, Dr. Francis Townsend, Huey Long)
Chapter 15 Section 2: The Second New Deal Takes Hold

1. What role did Eleanor Roosevelt play in the Second Hundred Days? (Eleanor Roosevelt)
2. How did the WPA and the NYA help extend relief to many Americans during the Second Hundred Days? (Works Progress Administration, National Youth Administration)
3. How did the New Deal Help labor unions? (Wagner Act)
4. What benefits did the Social Security system provide? (Social Security Act)

Chapter 15 Section 3: The New Deal Affects Many Groups

1. How did the New Deal represent an important opportunity for Women and minorities? (Francis Perkins, Mary McLeod Bethune, “Black Cabinet”)
2. What changes occurred for Mexican-Americans and Native Americans during the New Deal? (John Collier, Indian Reorganization Act of 1934)
3. How did New Deal policies affect organized labor? (New Deal coalition, Congress of Industrial Organizations)

Chapter 15 Section 4 and 5: Culture in the 1930s and the Impact of the New Deal

1. What purpose did movies and radio serve during the Great Depression? (Gone With the Wind, Orson Welles, Bob Hope)
2. How did the art, music, and literature of the time reflect the issues of the Great Depression? (Goody Guthrie, Richard Wright, Native Son, John Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath)
3. What are the enduring effects of the New Deal? (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Securities and Exchange Commission, National Labor Relations Board)
4. What were the social and environmental effects of the New Deal? (Social Security, parity, Tennessee Valley Authority)

Critical Thinking Questions: One or more of the following questions will appear on the essay portion of the test. Use your textbook as well as primary source documents to create an outline to serve as a response for each question. We will construct practice essay responses to several of the critical thinking questions during class.

1. What underlying issues and conditions led to the Great Depression?
   Think about: credit, unequal distribution of income, stock market, speculation, buying on margin
2. What were the economic, social, and psychological effects of the Great Depression on ordinary Americans?
   Think about: shantytowns, soup kitchens, bread lines, foreclosure, Dust Bowl, Hoboes, “wild boys”, suicide
3. Why did the New Deal seek to solve the problems of the Great Depression through public works, rather than “the dole”?
   Think About: Civilian Conservation Corp, National Industrial Recovery Act, Works Progress Administration, National Youth Administration
4. Why did women and minorities support the New Deal despite FDR’s reluctance to pass civil rights laws?
   Think about: Eleanor Roosevelt, Francis Perkins, Mary McLeod Bethune, “Black Cabinet,” Indian Reorganization Act
5. How did the New Deal change the role of government in people’s lives and in the economy?
   Think about: deficit spending, Social Security, FDIC, SEC, TVA