

Name: _____

The New Deal

OBJECTIVES: Students will be able to

- **2.13.12.8** analyze the principal explanations of the causes of the Great Depression and **steps taken by the Federal Reserve, Congress, and the President to combat the economic crisis** (US 1.1.8, US 1.2.2, US 1.1.6)
- **2.13.12.9** explain **the effects of the Great Depression** on workers, farmers, gender roles, and various social and ethnic groups (US 1.2.2, US 1.1.6)
- **2.13.12.10** explain the **arguments for and against the New Deal** (US 1.1.6)
- **2.13.12.11** evaluate the **successes and failures of the relief, recovery, and reform measures of the New Deal** and the **expanded role of the federal government** in society and the economy (US 1.1.6)

by:

- ✓ Answering questions about political cartoons
- ✓ Reading primary documents and answering questions about them
- ✓ Comparing student answers and answering questions
- ✓ Participating in a brief classroom discussion
- ✓ Re-visiting the political cartoons

STEP 1 - DO NOW: Analyze the cartoons on the overhead and answer the questions in the “pre-lesson answer” blanks on your sheet.

STEP 2 - DOCUMENT ANALYSIS: You will be assigned a letter A or B. You will then receive 3 documents to read and answer questions to. Once you have completed your reading and answered the questions you will complete the following questions with a partner (one A and one B together).

- (1) What is the title of document 1 A?
- (2) What is the title of document 1 B?
- (3) What is the title of document 2 A?
- (4) What is the title of document 2 B?
- (5) What is the title of document 3 A?
- (6) What is the title of document 3 B?

(7) What pattern do you notice? Why are the readings different?

(8) Compare your answers with a partner. What documents stress that a market economy be preserved? What documents stress that the government get more involved? Explain.

(9) Overall, what message is FDR conveying in his speeches?

(10) What does this activity reveal about primary documents?

STEP 3: Brief classroom discussion

EXIT: Using the information gathered today, complete the political cartoon question handout.

CARTOON 1:

“This Roof is Too Low” by J.N. “Ding” Darling



http://cdm.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ding&CISOPTR=5496&REC=14

CARTOON 2



<http://www.newdeal75.org/images/fdr.jpg>

POLITICAL CARTOON QUESTIONS	PRE-LESSON ANSWERS-CARTOON 1	END OF LESSON ANSWERS-CARTOON 1	PRE-LESSON ANSWERS-CARTOON 2	END OF LESSON ANSWERS-CARTOON 2
What are the events or issues that inspired the cartoon?				
Describe the action taking place in the cartoon.				
List any people found in the cartoon.				
What writing is found?				
Did the artist exaggerate any physical features of a person? If so, how?				
Does this cartoon require a lot of background information of the issue, event or person?				
What is the artist's message? Why was it written?				
Who would agree with the artist?				
Who would disagree with the artist?				
Do you agree? Why?				
Where does bias come in?				

(1A) MESSAGE TO CONGRESS REVIEWING THE BROAD OBJECTIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION. JUNE 8, 1934.

It is childish to speak of recovery first and reconstruction afterward. In the very nature of the processes of recovery we must avoid the destructive influences of the past. We have shown the world that democracy has within it the elements necessary to its own salvation...

Less hopeful countries where the ways of democracy are very new may revert to the autocracy of yesterday. The American people can be trusted to decide wisely upon the measures taken by the Government to eliminate the abuses of the past and to proceed in the direction of the greater good for the greater number....

...Ample scope is left for the exercise of private initiative. In fact, in the process of recovery, I am greatly hoping that repeated promises of private investment and private initiative to relieve the Government in the immediate future of much of the burden it has assumed, will be fulfilled. We have not imposed undue restrictions upon business. We have not opposed the incentive of reasonable and legitimate private profit. We have sought rather to enable certain aspects of business to regain the confidence of the public. We have sought to put forward the rule of fair play in finance and industry.

...It is true that there are a few among us who would still go back. These few offer no substitute for the gains already made, nor any hope for making future gains for human happiness. They loudly assert that individual liberty is being restricted by Government, but when they are asked what individual liberties they have lost, they are put to it to answer.

According to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who makes the economic decisions in the United States?

Explain.

How does Roosevelt plan to limit the participation of government in the economy?

What individual liberties are being restricted by the government?

(1B) MESSAGE TO CONGRESS REVIEWING THE BROAD OBJECTIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION. JUNE 8, 1934.

In considering the cost of such a program it must be clear to all of us that for many years to come we shall be engaged in the task of rehabilitating many hundreds of thousands of our American families. In so doing we shall be decreasing future costs for the direct relief of destitution. I hope that it will be possible for the Government to adopt as a clear policy to be carried out over a long period, the appropriation of a large, definite, annual sum so that work may proceed year after year not under the urge of temporary expediency, but in pursuance of the well-considered rounded objective.

...If, as our Constitution tells us, our Federal Government was established among other things, "to promote the general welfare," it is our plain duty to provide for that security upon which welfare depends.

Next winter we may well undertake the great task of furthering the security of the citizen and his family through social insurance.

.... Above all, I am convinced that social insurance should be national in scope, .. These three great objectives the security of the home, the security of livelihood, and the security of social insurance--are, it seems to me, a minimum of the promise that we can offer to the American people. They constitute a right which belongs to every individual and every family willing to work. They are the essential fulfillment of measures already taken toward relief, recovery and reconstruction.

How long does Franklin Delano Roosevelt intend to provide for the general welfare of all?

What does FDR believe Americans should be guaranteed?

(2A) FIRESIDE CHAT -- June 28, 1934

...Also, let me put to you another simple question: Have you as an individual paid too high a price for these gains? Plausible self-seekers and theoretical die-hards will tell you of the loss of individual liberty. Answer this question also out of the facts of your own life. Have you lost any of your rights or liberty or constitutional freedom of action and choice? Turn to the Bill of Rights of the Constitution, which I have solemnly sworn to maintain and under which your freedom rests secure. Read each provision of that Bill of Rights and ask yourself whether you personally have suffered the impairment of a single jot of these great assurances. I have no question in my mind as to what your answer will be. The record is written in the experiences of your own personal lives.

But, in addition to this our immediate task, we must still look to the larger future. I have pointed out to the Congress that we are seeking to find the way once more to well-known, long-established but to some degree forgotten ideals and values. We seek the security of the men, women and children of the Nation.

...All that we do seeks to fulfill the historic traditions of the American people. Other nations may sacrifice democracy for the transitory stimulation of old and discredited autocracies. We are restoring confidence and well-being under the rule of the people themselves....

What is the point of FDR asking the people about their current status in the first paragraph?

FDR leads the listener to believe that the actions of the government serve a purpose above and beyond relief for the people. What is the government attempting to do by enacting the New Deal?

(2B) FIRESIDE CHAT -- June 28, 1934

In other words, it is not the overwhelming majority of the farmers or manufacturers or workers who deny the substantial gains of the past year. The most vociferous of the doubting Thomases may be divided roughly into two groups: First, those who seek special political privilege and, second, those who seek special financial privilege. About a year ago I used as an illustration the 90% of the cotton manufacturers of the United States who wanted to do the right thing by their employees and by the public but were prevented from doing so by the 10% who undercut them by unfair practices and un-American standards. It is well for us to remember that humanity is a long way from being perfect and that a selfish minority in every walk of life -- farming, business, finance and even Government service itself -- will always continue to think of themselves first and their fellow-being second.

In the working out of a great national program which seeks the primary good of the greater number, it is true that the toes of some people are being stepped on and are going to be stepped on. But these toes belong to the comparative few who seek to retain or to gain position or riches or both by some short cut which is harmful to the greater good. In the execution of the powers conferred on it by Congress, the Administration needs and will tirelessly seek the best ability that the country affords.

...

So also, while almost everybody has recognized the tremendous strides in the elimination of child labor, in the payment of not less than fair minimum wages and in the shortening of hours, we are still feeling our way in solving problems which relate to self-government in industry, especially where such self-government tends to eliminate the fair operation of competition.

But, in addition to this our immediate task, we must still look to the larger future. I have pointed out to the Congress that we are seeking to find the way once more to well-known, long-established but to some degree forgotten ideals and values. We seek the security of the men, women and children of the Nation.

Later in the year I hope to talk with you more fully about these plans. A few timid people, who fear progress, will try to give you new and strange names for what we are doing. Sometimes they will call it "Fascism", sometimes "Communism", sometimes "Regimentation", sometimes "Socialism". But, in so doing, they are trying to make very complex and theoretical something that is really very simple and very practical.

How does FDR describe the “doubting Thomases” who oppose the New Deal?

Are the “doubting Thomases” actions illegal?

FDR mentions “fair operation of competition”. What does he mean by that?

What does FDR feel the US should do to help ease the troubles of the Great Depression?

(3A) FIRESIDE CHAT-- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1934

.... we approached our task of reviving private enterprise in March, 1933. Our first problem was, of course, the banking situation because, as you know, the banks had collapsed. Some banks could not be saved but the great majority of them, either through their own resources or with government aid, have been restored to complete public confidence. This has given safety to millions of depositors in these banks. Closely following this great constructive effort we have, through various Federal agencies, saved debtors and creditors alike in many other fields of enterprise, such as loans on farm mortgages and home mortgages; loans to the railroads and insurance companies and, finally, help for home owners and industry itself. In all of these efforts the government has come to the assistance of business and with the full expectation that the money used to assist these enterprises will eventually be repaid. I believe it will be....

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. I believe with Abraham Lincoln, that "The legitimate object of Government is to do for a community of people whatever they need to have done but cannot do at all or cannot do so well for themselves in their separate and individual capacities."

Why is public confidence in banks needed?

According to FDR, is the government simply giving the businesses money? Explain.

FDR claims that the government is "regulating only to meet concrete needs". Explain what he means.

(3B) FIRESIDE CHAT-- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1934

.... I am happy to report that after years of uncertainty, culminating in the collapse of the spring of 1933, we are bringing order out of the old chaos with a greater certainty of the employment of labor at a reasonable wage and of more business at a fair profit. These governmental and industrial developments hold promise of new achievements for the nation.

In meeting the problems of industrial recovery the chief agency of the government has been the National Recovery Administration. Under its guidance, trades and industries covering over ninety percent of all industrial employees have adopted codes of fair competition, which have been approved by the President. Under these codes, in the industries covered, child labor has been eliminated. The work day and the work week have been shortened. Minimum wages have been established and other wages adjusted toward a rising standard of living. The emergency purpose of the N. R. A. was to put men to work and since its creation more than four million persons have been re-employed, in great part through the cooperation of American business brought about under the codes....

....billions of dollars of invested capital have today a greater security of present and future earning power than before. This is because of the establishment of fair, competitive standards and because of relief from unfair competition in wage cutting which depresses markets and destroys purchasing power. But it is an undeniable fact that the restoration of other billions of sound investments to a reasonable earning power could not be brought about in one year. There is no magic formula, no economic panacea, which could simply revive over-night the heavy industries and the trades dependent upon them.

What changes has the government made and enforced?

How do these impact business owners?

How do these changes impact the working class?