

A Little History of the United States—Chapter 32—The New Deal



The Wall Street Crash

Task—Read Page 237 and complete the gap fill below

The two most frightening days of the Great Crash, October 24 and 29th, 1929, became known as Black T_____ and Black F_____. But the stock market plunge lasted months,

not days.

This is important, because it wasn't just money that people lost, it was c_____. Now and then stocks rose slightly, and hopes would flutter. But the plunge resumed, d_____ and deeper; and hope began to fade.

Q. Why is confidence and optimism in the future so important for a countries economy?

If the 'roaring' economy have been strong, Americans might have ridden out the crash, simply _____ a year or two of hard times. But the economy's weakness was much more serious. True, factories have been turning out cars and appliances by the millions. The same workers who made those products-the new masses -were also the c_____ buying these items. And workers were not being paid high enough wages to be able to afford all the goods being produced.

Q. What would this mean for the US economy?

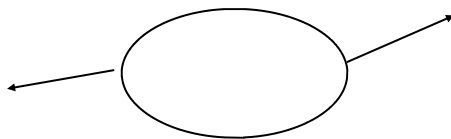
Q. How many Americans were losing their jobs each week?

Q. How many were unemployed by 1932?

The Banks

Even money that people had put into Banks, thinking it would be safe.

Q. What were the problems with American banks?



The Farmers

'Then there were the farmers. Most hadn't prospered during the 1920's and the 1930s brought a new calamity'



Q. What is going on n the two pictures above?

Q. What were the cause and consequences of this 'calamity'?

Causes	Consequences

At first President Hoover thought it best to do nothing and 'let nature take its course'. However, as things got worse and he got nearer the next election, he started to do more:

Task—How were his policies meant to help

Policy	How was it meant to help?
Tax Cuts	
Not lowering wages	
Building projects	

In his defence, nothing like the Wall Street Crash had happened before but, many Americans lost faith in Hoover and accused him of doing 'too little, too late.

Q. How far do you agree with this statement? Please mark on the line

Agree

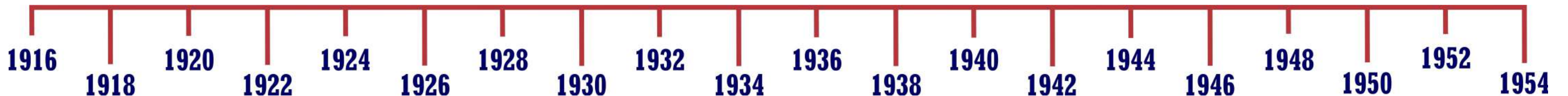
Disagree

'Because

But, his policies did not work and without any instructions on how to move forward he ended up changing his mind and ideas. All the time, the economy got worse and worse. Instead of calling the period an economic 'Panic', Hoover used the term 'D_____'. It stuck. The period became known as the 'G____ D_____'.
 'By the end of 1931 desperate people out in the countryside were eating _____ to survive'
 'Schoolteachers who had gone unpaid for months _____ from _____ in their classrooms'
 'people who had lost their homes began to gather in _____. These were scornfully nicknamed H_____'



What this country needs is a good big laugh. If someone could get off a good joke every ten days, I think our troubles would be over



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Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The man who replaced him with a very different person. While Hoover was the master of facts and figures, a brainy engineer, he had never been elected to any public office before becoming president.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, on the other hand, was a politician to his bones, ready to talk, bargain, and hobnob. While Hoover looked glum and hoped someone would make jokes, Roosevelt beamed with cheerful, sunny energy.

Franklin promised a N__ D__' for the American people

Like Hoover before him, he had no exact plan of what would or, would not work. His approach was experimental

Take a method and try it: If it fails, admit it frankly and try another. But above all, try something

The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself'

Q. How would you feel as an unemployed American, if you heard Roosevelt make these statements?

'Because...

In his first hundred days in office in introduced a whirlwind of reforms and laws.

Q. What was the purpose of closing the banks?

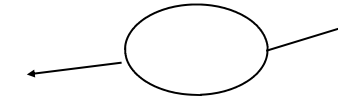
Eventually, he was able to summarise his polices in the Three 'R's. They stood for:

'R'	Aim
R_____	
R_____	
R_____	

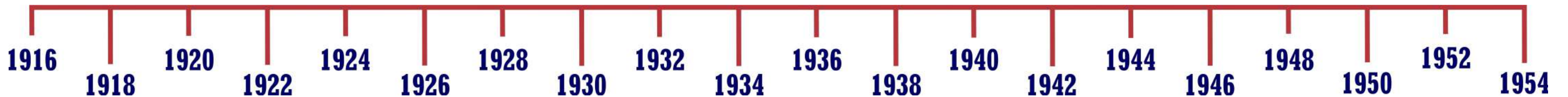
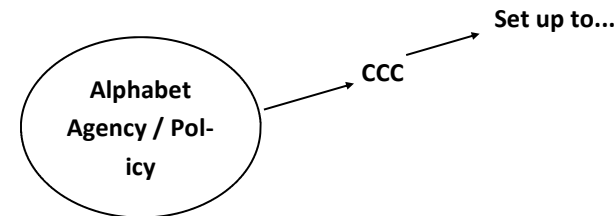
He massively expanded the government by creating lots of departments, nicknamed the 'Alphabet Agencies' to undertake jobs to deal with the Three 'R's'

Task—Complete the mind map identifying the Alphabet Agency and its purpose and other polices of Roosevelt's. Please colour code the 'R's' above in the table as a key and colour code the diagram below to identify which 'R' they were trying to tackle.

Q. Why did some people criticise the New Deal?



Q. What new method of talking to the American people did Roosevelt use to persuade them to support him?





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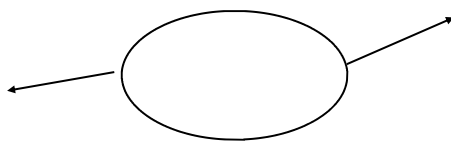
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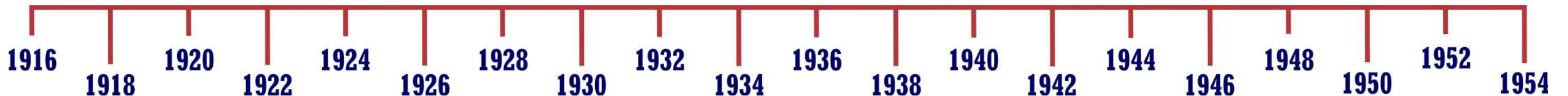
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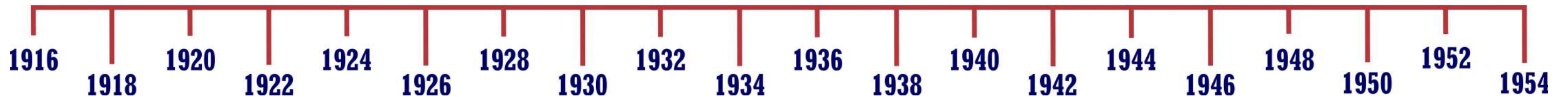
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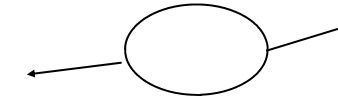
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