



War & Peace—Chapter 11—Empire of Liberty

'In America, as in most of Europe, it was assumed that the conflict will be over in a matter of months, but the short war became the great war-one in which the United States new wealth and power eventually became central to the outcome.'

Wilson spent the first half of the war avoiding a role for the United States other than as a supplier of munitions to the Allies and the benefactor of stealing the British and French foreign markets. When America did enter the war in 1917 it was in his words:

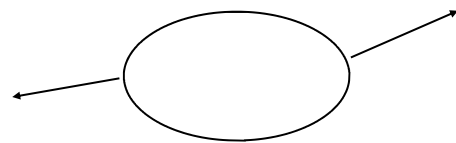
'To make the world safe for democracy.'

The War would have profound economic, military and social impacts on the United States.

Task—Please complete the table in the centre of the sheet when you have completed this sheet

Too Proud to Fight

Q. What were the reasons for America to keep out of the War? Please rank these in order of importance



Q. Why was Wilson's neutrality not 'timid neutrality'?

'So prudence and principle dictated US neutrality but that did not mean curbing America's right as a neutral nation, to trade freely with the belligerents'

Q. Why did the Americans end up supporting the Allies over the Central Powers?

Consequence	Concluding Statement
Liberty and Democracy	
Votes for Women	
Immigration	
Prohibition	
Anti—Darwinism	

Task—Why were each of the following, contributing factors to Americas entry in to WWI?

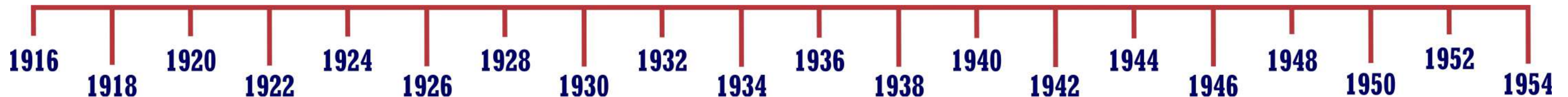
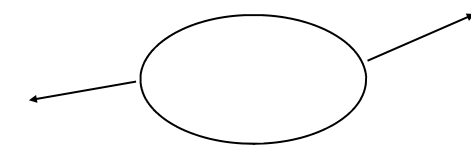
Factor	Significance	Rank
The Sinking of the Lusitania		
The Zimmerman Telegram		
German unrestricted submarine warfare		
American banks exposure to British defeat		

'A World safe for Democracy'

America did not join the war as an ally of Britain and France but, as an *Associate Power.*

The ultimate role of any government is to protect its citizens and wage war. In order to do this however, governments need to massively scale up both their size and power. Traditionally, The United States had only had a limited role for its Federal Government in the lives of its people. Therefore, any war was going to impact significantly on the relationship between the government and its people.

Q. How did entry into WWI change the role of the government and affect civil liberties?





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Americas entry into the war would not mean an immediate impact. The US had to train and transport its troops to France and then make them battle ready. The US Generals were unwilling either to integrate their forces nor, in many cases listen to hard earned advice from the Allies. Yet, their arrival, coinciding with the failure of the last major German offensive tipped the balance in favour of the Allies.

Women

Task—Please complete the table below

Reasons for Women having equality	Reasons for Women not having equality

'At the start of the protests the president had been studiously polite—but after a few months their endless vigil got under his skin'

Q. How did the governments punishment of the protestors help the women's cause for suffrage?

The Lost peace

The War ended far sooner than anyone expected and Germany capitulated in November 1918, seeking an Armistice under the terms set out by President Wilson. These were known as his 'F _____ P _____'

Wilson became the first president in US history to travel abroad but, did so to represent his country at the Versailles conference. During his absence however, 'he lost touch with 'domestic political realities'. In other words, he failed to gauge the feelings in America that were leading a majority of Americans to fa-

avour a return to their traditional, default values of isolationism and conservatism. In losing the pulse of American public sentiments, he would also lose their votes. A introspective and reflective America was far more seduced by Wilsons Republican rival, Harding, when he offered not international entanglements but, 'Normalcy'.

In his attempts to persuade the US people to accept American entry into the League of Nations, Wilson suffered a stroke that rendered him paralysed and ended his career and dreams of a global role for the United States.

'So the United States failed to join the League of Nations that its president had designed. More than that, the countries mood had changed. After the crusade came the backlash'

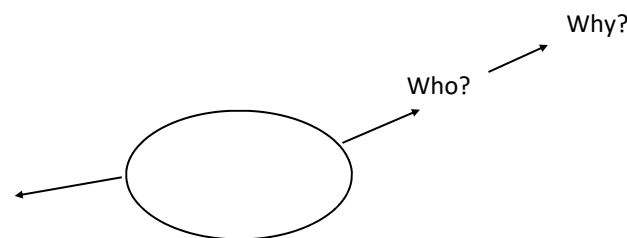
100% Americanism

'The mans only mistake was not to stand up for the national anthem, but that was enough. Such apparent lack of patriotism enraged a sailor at a victory pageant in Washington in May 1919. When the band finish playing the Star-Spangled Banner The sailor fired three revolver shots into the back of the seated spectator. As the man crumpled, the audience clapped and cheered.'

Q. Why was America 'ultra-patriotic'?

After the war, reflection and introspection led many Americans to contemplate the direction their white Anglo-Saxon Protestant country was going. These wasps collectively voted for a Republican administration that promised normalcy and as a consequence would react to the perceived rebellion of the forces of change brought about in modern times through unchecked immigration and toleration of cosmopolitanism, new scientific ideas and liberalism. All of these things will seem to have been contributing factors into America's descent into joining The Great War. This is the recurring theme of reaction and rebellion which will provide an overview of the 1920s.

Q. Who were the targets and why?



Task—What were the consequences of this ultra-nationalism? You will need to complete the large grid attached on page 4 of this worksheet

The Jazz Age hits Main Street

The 1920s in America are often referred to as the jazz age. Reflecting the more affluent times of post war America and given greater public city through the new medias of radio and cinema, the title came to summarise and entire decade. Yet, the it girl, and flapper, as much as they define the era, also represent it's contradictions; the forces of change versus conservatism or, rebellion and reaction:

'They symbolise the collision between new social freedoms of the jazz age and the traditional values of small-town Protestant America'

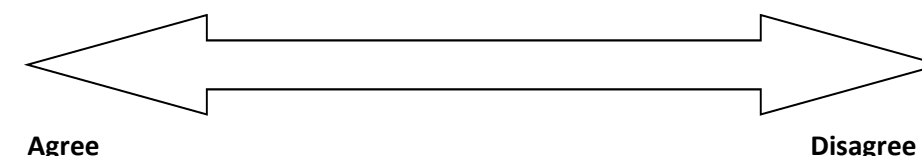
Q. Why was the cinema so significant in the 1920's?

'Movies brief the spirit in which the country was founded, freedom and equality. In the motion pictures there are no separations of classes. Everyone enters the same way. There is no sight of rust on those who sit in the lesson expensive seats'

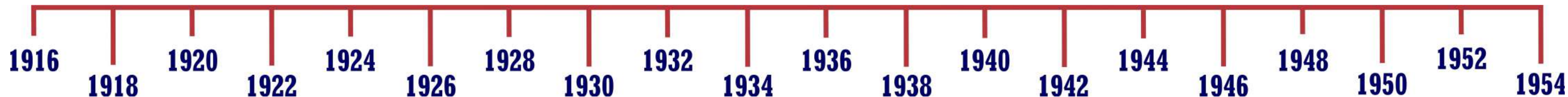
Q. How far do you agree with William Fox's statement? Was the cinema a part of the reaction or rebellion in America?

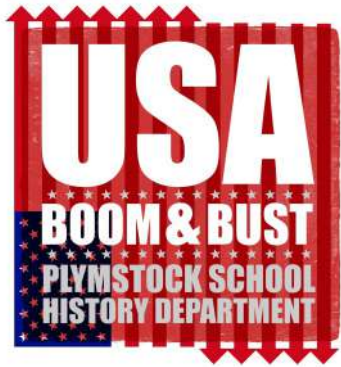
Reaction	Rebellion

Q. Overall, do you agree or disagree?



'Because.....'





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Prohibition

Q. How does prohibition fit the Reaction and Rebellion model?

Q. Why was it called 'the noble experiment'?

Q. Who benefitted the most from Prohibition?

Jazz

'As the gangsters replaced the Brewers, so the saloon gave way to clubs and speakeasies, well you could buy alcohol if you spoke softly and paid the right price.'

Q. How was jazz part of 'a larger social trend'?

Q. How significant was the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920's?

The KKK

Q. Why did the KKK gain popularity and power in a time of economic boom?

Q. How does the KKK fit the Reaction and Rebellion model?

Urbanisation

Q. What was significant about the 1920 census?

Ultimately, the Urban, Rural fault line in America is a 'best fit' model to understand the schisms in American society. Rural America, is old, original WASP America. Urban America, most notably on the east and west coasts represents the forces of progress, liberalism and change. It also, was the entry point for the millions of immigrants that flooded into America in the latter part of the 19th century and first part of the 20th bringing these changes

Science, Darwinism and the Scopes Monkey Trial

'Prohibition -the battle between wet some dries-was part of this urban-rule cultural war, but it's mostly dramatic clash occurred over religion'

Q. 'The menace of Darwinism' was a slogan by the forces of Reaction of Rebellion?

'Because

Q. What was the Scopes Monkey Trial about?

Case for the Prosecution	Case for the Defence

The Republican Ascendancy

The rejection of President Wilson and his ideas for a post-war America led America to enter the age of the Republican Ascendancy, a period of uninterrupted laissez-faire, small government, low taxation rule. The forces of Reaction had their presidents to check those of Rebellion.

Q. How did Presidents Harding and Coolidge represent these ideas? Please complete the mind maps around the portraits. Page 333-4

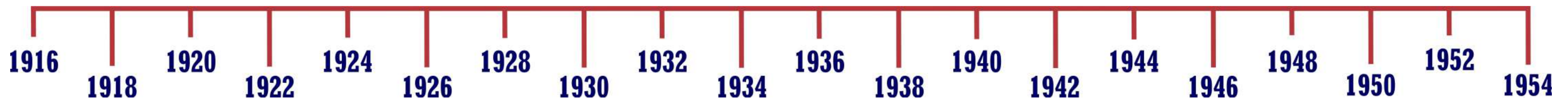
Warren Harding



Calvin Coolidge



Herbert Hoover



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Reaction	Date (s)	Perceived Rebellion	Evidence
The Sedition Act			
Closing the open door Immigration Policy			
Prohibition			
The rise of the KKK			
Anti Communist			
he Red Scare			
Xenophobia			

