

Questions: America's Time--Stormy Weather

- 1) What happened in May 1932? OVER 15,000 WORLD WAR ONE VETERANS MARCHED ON WASHINGTON
- 2) Why were they called the Bonus Army? THEY WANTED THEIR WAR BONUS PAID IMMEDIATELY RATHER THAN WAITING UNTIL 1945
- 3) What did the president do? HE RELIED ON ARMY LEADERSHIP (DOUGLAS MACARTHUR) TO CLEAR THE VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES OUT OF WASHINGTON, VIOLENCE RESULTED
- 4) What might happen to the American system of capitalism? IT MIGHT COLLAPSE AND BE REPLACED BY A COMMUNIST SYSTEM, A DICTATORSHIP MIGHT REPLACE THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC
- 5) How did people react to the stock market crash? FEAR AND PANIC, SHOCK
- 6) Where did the economic crisis spread? ALL ACROSS THE PLANET
- 7) What happened every day? MORE LAYOFFS, MORE BUSINESS CLOSINGS, MORE BANKRUPTCIES, MORE FORECLOSURES, MORE CLOSED BANKS, MORE FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY
- 8) What happened to US Steel? IT SHUT DOWN, ALL FULL TIME EMPLOYEES LOST THEIR JOBS
- 9) How did people view it? IT HAD BEEN SYMBOLIC OF AMERICAN CAPITALIST STRENGTH, NOW IT TOO WAS DOWN AND OUT
- 10) What happened to the money in the girl's piggybank? HER DAD TOOK IT, SHE NEVER GOT IT BACK
- 11) What did people do because of fear? ATTEMPTED TO WITHDRAW THEIR SAVINGS FROM THE BANKS, MANY BANKS COLLAPSED, PEOPLE LOST CONFIDENCE IN THE BANKING SYSTEM
- 12) What happened in 1930? 9 MILLION PEOPLE LOST THEIR SAVINGS
- 13) What happened to the janitor? HE KILLED HIMSELF Why? LOST HIS \$10,000 LIFE'S SAVINGS (\$100,000 IN TODAY'S MONEY—TOOK HIM 40 YEARS TO SAVE)
- 14) What were many people forced to do? SELL ALL THEIR VALUABLES
- 15) What were families facing? EVICTIONS DUE TO FORECLOSURES OR INABILITY TO PAY THE RENT
- 16) Who did people blame? THEMSELVES (RATHER THAN THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM)
- 17) What was the situation in 1930? OVER 4 MILLION FAMILIES HAD NO INCOME
- 18) What were the two problems? PEOPLE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO ASK FOR HELP FROM THEIR GOVERNMENT AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DID NOT KNOW HOW TO GIVE IT (PRES. HOOVER WAS UNWILLING TO PROVIDE DIRECT ASSISTANCE)
- 19) How was the federal government seen in 1930? AS THE US MAIL OR THE MILITARY
- 20) What safety net was available? NONE, EXTENDED FAMILIES, CHURCHES AND CHARITIES WERE EXPECTED TO ASSIST THE NEEDY
- 21) Where had the roaring 20s never ended? IN THE MOVIE THEATRES
- 22) What was the one thing people could not live without? A RADIO
- 23) What happened to midwest farmers? MANY LOST THEIR FARMS AND LAND
- 24) What happened to 25,000 square miles of farmland? BECAUSE OF A BAD DROUGHT AND POOR FARMING PRACTICES A HUGE DUST BOWL ENGULFED MUCH OF THE SOUTH AND MIDWEST
- 25) What did many farm families decide to do? START OVER IN CALIFORNIA ("GRAPES OF WRATH")
- 26) What was one way of travelling? RIDING THE RAILS, ON TRAINS, DANGEROUS BUT FREE
- 27) What kinds of people did Mitchum meet? BANKERS, TEACHERS, PROFESSIONALS, MEN THAT HAD ABANDONED THEIR FAMILIES, LOOKING FOR A NEW START
- 28) What was the fear of government officials? THIS LARGE, UNATTACHED GROUP OF HOMELESS MEN MIGHT ATTEMPT AN OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT
- 29) What was spreading? RIOTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS, VIOLENCE
- 30) What did the police do? BUST HEADS, TRY TO KEEP THE DISENFRANCHISED IN LINE
- 31) What was gaining influence? RADICAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTY
- 32) What was Pres. Hoover's response? NOT MUCH, PUSHED FOR LOANS TO BUSINESSES AND SUPPORTED RECONSTRUCTION FINANCE CORP., HOWEVER THE PROBLEM WAS INADEQUATE CONSUMPTION, NOT PRODUCTION, MASSIVE UNEMPLOYMENT WAS SERIOUS
- 33) What did 100,000 Americans do? MOVE TO RUSSIA (USSR) Why? IT CLAIMED TO BE A WORKERS' PARADISE IMMUNE FROM THE CRISIS OF GLOBAL CAPITALISM
- 34) Why was the early 1930s unusual? MORE PEOPLE LEFT THE USA THAN ENTERED IT (ONLY TIME IN OUR HISTORY)
- 35) Where did the Depression spread? TO EUROPE (EXCEPT USSR)
- 36) What happened in Germany? HITLER AND NAZIS SEIZED POWER IN 1933

- 37) What was Hitler's style of speaking? HE WOULD BUILD EXCITEMENT AND ENERGY AS SPEECH WENT ON, CHARISMATIC, OFFERED HOPE
- 38) What was Hitler able to do? CAPTURED IMAGINATION OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE
- 39) What did he promise the German people? TO RESTORE GERMANY TO GREATNESS, TO PROVIDE JOBS TO ALL, TO REGAIN RESPECT OF THE REST OF THE WORLD
- 40) Why did they follow him? DESPERATE PEOPLE WILL DO DESPERATE THINGS, HITLER SEEMED TO HAVE THE ANSWERS TO GERMAN PROBLEMS
- 41) What did Hoover discover in the 1932 election campaign? HIS NAME MEANT FAILURE
- 42) What were Hoovervilles? SHANTYTOWNS WHERE THE HOMELESS LIVED
- 43) Who was the Democratic Party candidate? FDR (FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT)
- 44) What was his background? WEALTHY ARISTOCRAT, DISTANT COUSIN OF TR, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, HAD BEEN VP CANDIDATE IN 1920
- 45) What did he promise? A NEW DEAL, SOLUTIONS TO AMERICANS' MISERY
- 46) What was his slogan? HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN
- 47) What happened in the 1932 election? HE WINS IN A LANDSLIDE OVER HOOVER
- 48) What did FDR face? COLLAPSE OF THE BANKING SYSTEM
- 49) How many unemployed people in 1933? 16 MILLION PEOPLE, MILLIONS OF OTHERS WERE WORKING REDUCED HOURS AND/OR AT REDUCED WAGES
- 50) What % of the work force was unemployed? 25%
- 51) What could have happened in 1933? AMERICAN REPUBLIC COULD HAVE BEEN REPLACED BY A DICTATORSHIP OR ANARCHY
- 52) According to FDR, what was the only thing people had to fear? FEAR ITSELF
- 53) What did people think when listening to him on the radio? THAT HE WAS TALKING DIRECTLY TO THEM
- 54) What did he do to save the system? DECLARED A TEMPORARY CLOSING OF THE BANKS, AND THEN REOPENED THEM STOCKED WITH CASH, TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE
- 55) What did he do in his first hundred days? FROM MARCH TO JUNE FDR WORKED TO GET 15 NEW DEAL LAWS PASSED
- 56) How is it described? REORGANIZED THE BANKING SYSTEM (BANK HOLIDAY, EMERGENCY BANKING RELIEF ACT, GLASS-STEAGALL) , REGULATED STOCK SALES (FEDERAL SECURITIES ACT), SUPPORTED ENDING PROHIBITION, CREATED SUBSIDIES FOR FARMERS (AAA), PROVIDED FOR DIRECT RELIEF TO THE NEEDY (FERA), CREATED JOBS (PWA, CCC & CWA), NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY ACT (LABOR & PRICE RULES), TVA, FHA
- 57) What else did he do? GOVERNMENT REGULATION AND INTERVENTION INTO THE ECONOMY
- 58) What did the government do and why was it popular? IT HELPED PEOPLE, THEY NEEDED IT, CHURCHES FAMILIES AND CHARITIES WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE WHAT WAS NECESSARY
- 59) What was the haunting thought of 1933? THE DEPRESSION MAY NEVER END
- 60) What was FDR the first president to say? WORKERS HAD A RIGHT TO ORGANIZE UNIONS
- 61) What was the response of businessmen? MOST WERE OPPOSED TO UNIONS, FOUGHT BACK BITTERLY
- 62) What happened in San Francisco? LONGSHOREMEN STRIKE BECOMES A GENERAL STRIKE AFTER SOME WORKERS ARE KILLED, SAN FRANCISCO TODAY IS STILL A UNION TOWN
- 63) What happened in 1934? OVER 1,800 STRIKES OCCUR ACROSS THE NATION, FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, UNION RECOGNITION, TO PROTECT JOBS, ETC
- 64) What did FDR's critics say? HE WAS BETRAYING HIS CLASS, TOO FAR TO THE LEFT (TOO PROGRESSIVE)
- 65) What happened to some of his programs? DECLARED UNCONSTITUTIONAL BY THE SUPREME COURT
- 66) Who were challenging FDR? DR FRANCIS TOWNSEND (ADVOCATED FUNDS FOR ELDERLY), FATHER CHARLES COUGHLIN (RIGHT-WING RADIO PRIEST FROM DETROIT)
- 67) Who was the Kingfish? HUEY LONG, FORMER GOVERNOR AND SENATOR FROM LOUISIANA, A RADICAL POPULIST WITH A SOCIALIST AGENDA
- 68) What was his program? TO GREATLY TAX THE RICH AND PROVIDE BASICS OF LIFE TO ALL PEOPLE ("SHARE THE WEALTH")
- 69) What did he want? POLITICAL POWER, HIS CRITICS SAID HE WAS A POTENTIAL DICTATOR
- 70) What did FDR say about him? THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN AMERICA
- 71) What happened to him? KILLED BY AN ASSASSIN, ON THE STEPS OF STATE CAPITOL IN BATON ROUGE

72) What was FDR doing? SUPPORTING SOCIAL SECURITY, UNION RIGHTS, EXPANDING WELFARE AND JOBS

73) What does the USA have for the first time? A MORE EFFECTIVE CENTRAL BANKING SYSTEM (FEDERAL RESERVE POWERS WERE INCREASED)

74) What happened in the 1936 election? FDR WON IN A LANDSLIDE, THIS IS THE HIGH WATER MARK FOR AMERICAN LIBERALISM

75) How is the Tennessee Valley Authority described? A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT THAT BROUGHT JOBS, ELECTRICITY, AND SOIL CONSERVATION TO A UNDERDEVELOPED REGION OF AMERICA

76) What was happening in Germany? RECOVERING FROM THE DEPRESSION UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF HITLER AND THE FASCIST NAZIS, INTENSE NATIONALISM WAS TAKING ROOT

77) What was the German secret for recovery? MILITARISM, LARGE AMOUNTS OF FUNDS SPENT ON WEAPONS AND PREPARING FOR WAR

78) What happened in March 1936? GERMANY REOCCUPIED THE RHINE RIVER AREA TAKEN BY FRANCE AFTER WORLD WAR ONE

79) What was Hitler's promise to the German people? TO BUILD A GERMAN EMPIRE THAT WOULD LAST 1000 YEARS (THIRD REICH)