



New Deal

U.S. History Unit Companion

Directions

- Complete the Prepare section before you begin a unit.
- Complete the Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes section as you work through each lesson.
- Complete the Unit Review sections before you take the cumulative assessment.

NOTE: Your teacher may require that you complete and submit this unit companion.

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Prepare

Throughout the New Deal unit, you will explore the following Essential Questions.



Unit Essential Questions

- What was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s New Deal?
- What were the immediate impacts of the New Deal?
- How did the Second New Deal compare to the first?
- What were the effects of the Second New Deal?
- What was the impact of various New Deal agencies?
- What were the long-term consequences of New Deal policies?

You will learn about the following topics in the New Deal unit:

- President Roosevelt’s plans for the New Deal
- the immediate impact of early New Deal programs
- how the Second New Deal compared to the first New Deal
- the agencies and programs created by the New Deal, and their impacts on different groups in the United States
- the long-term consequences of the New Deal programs
- how the New Deal changed the role of national government

You will take a cumulative quiz and test over the content in this unit.



Lesson Summaries and Guided Notes

Each lesson is summarized on the following pages. Read the summary before a lesson to preview the most important information, including people, places, and events. Read the summary after a lesson to review the lesson content without rereading every word. As you complete each lesson, record information in the Guided Notes section. Some questions have been provided for you. You may also take notes on other important lesson information.

Roosevelt's New Deal Summary

Democratic candidate Franklin Delano Roosevelt easily defeated incumbent President Herbert Hoover in the election of 1932. Unlike Hoover, who supported limited government intervention in the country's financial problems, Roosevelt promised to take action to address the problems of the Great Depression. During the period between Roosevelt's election in November 1932 and his inauguration in March 1933, conditions worsened in the United States as the government did little to intervene. The economic decline that occurred during the four-month transition led Congress to pass the Twentieth Amendment to the Constitution, changing a president's inauguration day from March to January.

When Roosevelt took office, he promised Americans he would take immediate action to ease the country's struggles. He closed banks until they could be inspected and regulated, and he began to create a variety of agencies aimed at creating jobs that would improve the country's infrastructure. Roosevelt's attitude that the government's role was to improve the lives of its citizens reflected the Progressive party's beliefs. His broad creation of reforms and agencies became known as the New Deal.

Roosevelt's New Deal Guided Notes	
What qualities made Franklin Roosevelt popular with Americans? (slide 1)	Roosevelt had an attitude of optimism and confidence, which people needed in difficult times. He had struggled himself with polio, and that made him a sympathetic and relatable figure to others who struggled. He projected a reassuring and calm tone when he communicated with the people, explaining complicated concepts in ways they could understand.
What were "fireside chats"? (slide 1)	
What events contributed to the passage of the Twentieth Amendment? (slide 2)	

Roosevelt's New Deal Guided Notes

Read and watch the video of Roosevelt's Inaugural Address. What did Roosevelt say was the nation's primary task, and how did he plan to address it?
(slide 3 video)

What did progressives see as the role of government in society?
(slide 4)

Name two agencies Roosevelt established in his first 100 days as president and describe the purpose of each.
(slide 5)

Impact of the New Deal Summary

The New Deal had to address the needs of people suffering in both rural and urban areas. In rural areas, farmers struggled to earn fair prices for their goods. The Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) sought to maintain high prices for agricultural products by limiting supply. The program was slow to bring economic relief, especially to small family farms and many criticized the AAA for extreme tactics of destroying crops and livestock to drive up prices, while many struggling citizens were starving. In response, the Southern Tenants Farmers Union (STFU) formed to demand relief for the farmers.

The National Recovery Administration (NRA) was established to help businesses and workers in cities. The NRA sought to improve business through regulations and establishment of better labor relations and to set minimum wages and maximum work hours to protect workers, but the sometimes violent labor strikes exposed ongoing problems and injustices in the workforce that the New Deal was unable to immediately fix.

In response to environmental disasters, such as the Dust Bowl, Roosevelt establish another major program called the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The CCC gave people jobs to address environmental concerns and saw immediate results in raising awareness and protecting the environment.

Impact of the New Deal Guided Notes	
How did the Agricultural Adjustment Act help boost agricultural prices? (slide 1)	
What was the “Brains Trust,” and what was its goal? (slide 1)	
What events led to the establishment of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union (STFU)? (slide 2)	

Impact of the New Deal Guided Notes

Name two ways in which the National Recovery Administration (NRA) helped the nation's industrial sector? (slide 3)	
How does collective bargaining work? (slide 3)	
What flaws in labor relations did Roosevelt's relief programs fail to fix? (slide 4)	
In what ways did the Civilian Conservation Corps' projects benefit the environment? (slide 5)	

The Second New Deal

Roosevelt’s early New Deal programs were emergency efforts to provide immediate relief to struggling Americans. He then passed additional reforms, known as the Second New Deal, which established social safety net programs that are still in place today. These programs include Social Security and efforts to ensure better working conditions for Americans.

One downside to the New Deal policies was the creation of a deficit in the American budget. Government spending to support New Deal programs left the country in debt. Additionally, the New Deal was criticized by both liberals and conservatives. Some liberals thought the policies didn’t help people enough. Conservatives thought they were an example of excessive overreach on the part of the federal government.

The Supreme Court opposed some New Deal policies, too. After the court declared both the AAA and the NIRA New Deal programs unconstitutional, President Roosevelt attempted “court packing,” or adding justices to the Supreme Court who agreed with him. While Roosevelt was unsuccessful in his attempt at court packing, he did intimidate the Supreme Court enough that they never struck down another New Deal policy again.

The Second New Deal Guided Notes	
What was the difference between the first and second New Deals? (slide 1)	The policies of the first New Deal were designed to provide immediate emergency relief to ease the nation’s suffering. The Second New Deal established more permanent social safety nets that are still in place today.
How did the Social Security Act provide a safety net for the most vulnerable citizens? (slide 1)	
What did the Fair Labor Standards Act establish? (slide 2)	
What was a negative consequence of the New Deal policies on the country’s budget? (slide 3)	

The Second New Deal Guided Notes

What were conservatives' criticisms of the New Deal?
(slide 4)

What were liberals' criticisms of the New Deal?
(slide 4)

How did the Supreme Court limit Roosevelt's power?
(slide 5)

What was Roosevelt's response to the Supreme Court's decisions that were unfavorable to his policies?
(slide 5)

Work and Culture Summary

During the Second New Deal, Congress allocated money to establish the Works Progress Administration (WPA). The goal of the WPA was to provide jobs to Americans that would improve communities through infrastructure.

One division of the WPA was the Federal Arts Project. This project provided funds to artists to create visual and performing arts projects. Additionally, the Federal Writers' Project paid writers to interview everyday Americans and record their oral histories. These oral histories documented the experiences of Americans who endured the Great Depression and many who had been formerly enslaved.

Photography played a major role in shaping the nation's views and even government policies during the Great Depression. Photojournalists captured the despair of everyday citizens, compelling the government to help these people.

Much of the art and literature of the time reflects the despair people felt as they struggled to survive, but also captures the values of hard work and cooperation that helped Americans persevere.

Work and Culture Guided Notes	
Why was the Works Progress Administration (WPA) established? (slide 1)	The Works Progress Administration was established to provide jobs to unemployed Americans. Jobs with the WPA were focused on improving the country's infrastructure. Laborers built hospitals, schools, and roads to improve communities.
What was the Federal Arts Project and how did it help to improve public spaces? (slide 2)	
How did the Federal Writers' Project help both writers and the people they interviewed? (slide 3)	
Why did the Farm Services Administration hire photojournalists to take pictures? (slide 5)	

Work and Culture Guided Notes

How did were art and literature of the 1930s influenced by the events of the Great Depression?
(slide 6 video)

The New Deal's Legacy Summary

During the New Deal, the federal government increased spending and regulation aimed at improving people's lives. This increased role of the federal government ushered in a new era of national power.

New Deal policies had mixed results. On the positive side, the New Deal helped many people survive difficult economic times and introduced social services that are still in practice today. However, the government spending necessary for the New Deal increased the national deficit. The environment suffered from some environmentally-damaging projects. Unemployment during the Great Depression was high in spite of the efforts of New Deal Programs.

Some segments of the population did not benefit from New Deal programs. African Americans in particular were excluded from many benefits and faced racial discrimination. For example, tenant farmers, many of whom were black, received little or no support from the AAA. Women also struggled to receive equal benefit from the New Deal programs. The prevailing attitude was that women should not take available jobs, so that they would be open for men.

While President Roosevelt's legacy regarding race relations was mixed, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was a champion of rights for different marginalized groups including African Americans, women, and the rural poor. She traveled around the country lobbying for bills. Her political activism was a break from the tradition of First Ladies.

The New Deal's Legacy Guided Notes	
How did the New Deal programs reflect the changing role of government? (slide 1)	The New Deal programs represented a new era in which the federal government spent lots of money and intervened greatly in the lives of Americans. This era saw a huge increase in the federal government's power.
What were three positive outcomes of the New Deal? (slide 2)	
What were the negative consequences of the New Deal? (slide 2)	

The New Deal's Legacy Guided Notes

In what ways were African Americans left out of many of the New Deal's benefits? (slide 3)	
Why did many women have trouble getting work during the Great Depression? (slide 3)	
How did Eleanor Roosevelt break the traditional roles of a First Lady? (slide 5)	
Who was Mary McLeod Bethune and what was her role in national government? (slide 5)	



Unit Review – Key Words

Describe the following key words from the New Deal unit. Your descriptions should be as detailed as possible. Include names, dates, and relevant facts related to each key word. Be sure to explain why each person or term is important.

Remember to download and save this PDF before writing.

Roosevelt's New Deal

Key Word	Description
Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)	The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was a New Deal work relief program that hired unemployed men to work on environmental projects.
Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA)	
fireside chats	
Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)	
Twentieth Amendment	

Impact of the New Deal

Key Word	Description
Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA)	The Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA) was a New Deal program designed to help farmers by limiting production of agricultural goods.
Brains Trust	
collective bargaining	

Key Word	Description
National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 (NIRA)	

The Second New Deal

Key Word	Description
court packing	The term “court packing” refers to President Roosevelt’s plan to expand the number of Supreme Court justices by adding new ones who supported his views.
Fair Labor Standards Act	
Huey Long	
John Maynard Keynes	
Second New Deal	
Social Security Act	
Wagner Act	

Work and Culture

Key Word	Description
Dorothea Lange	Dorothea Lange was an American photojournalist best known for her images of people suffering from the effects of the Great Depression.
Federal Art Project	
mural	
Works Progress Administration (WPA)	

The New Deal's Legacy

Key Word	Description
Marian Anderson	
Mary McLeod Bethune	



Unit Review – Key Questions

Before the unit assessment, answer the following key questions. Each question contains a tip to help you locate the material in the course. You may want to add your own note about the location of the information. Write the answers in your own words, and test your memory of each answer by covering the answer column while quizzing yourself. Remember that some content may be presented in a multimedia presentation, graphic, or other resource. Refer to the transcripts or text versions for written versions of that content.

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
What was Franklin Roosevelt’s plan to address the nation’s problems? (Roosevelt’s New Deal)	Franklin Roosevelt planned to help Americans through direct government action. He insisted that the government should lead the effort in overcoming widespread unemployment. He supported better use of natural resources and government regulation of business.
What key legislation was passed during Franklin Roosevelt’s first 100 days in office? (Roosevelt’s New Deal)	
What were some of the benefits and drawbacks of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA)? (Impact of the New Deal)	
Why was there so much unrest among laborers, despite government efforts to improve labor relations? (Impact of the New Deal)	
How was the Second New Deal different from the first New Deal? (The Second New Deal)	

Key Question / Location	Answer in your own words
What were some of the criticisms of Roosevelt’s New Deal policies? (The Second New Deal)	
How did the Works Progress Administration benefit American infrastructure? (Work and Culture)	
How did special divisions of the Works Progress Administration help artists and writers? (Work and Culture)	
How did the role of the federal government change during the New Deal? (The New Deal’s Legacy)	
How were New Deal programs biased against African Americans and women? (The New Deal’s Legacy)	