



QUIT

# Politics of the Roaring Twenties

CHAPTER OBJECTIVE

INTERACT WITH HISTORY

TIME LINE

MAP

SECTION 1 America Struggles with Postwar Issues

SECTION 2 The Harding Presidency

GRAPH

SECTION 3 The Business of America

VISUAL SUMMARY



# Politics of the Roaring Twenties

## CHAPTER OBJECTIVE

*To trace the political and social changes after World War I and throughout the decade of the 1920s*



CHAPTER  
20

# Politics of the Roaring Twenties



INTERACT  
WITH HISTORY

*World War I has ended. As Americans struggle to rebuild broken lives, the voices of angry workers can be silenced no longer. Despite public criticism, many risk losing their jobs to strike and join unions. The streets become a battleground for fair pay and better working conditions.*

*Would you strike and risk your family's welfare?*

## Examine the Issues

- Do city workers have a responsibility not to go on strike?
- Should the government intervene in disputes between labor and business?
- Does the success of a strike depend on you?



CHAPTER  
20

# Politics of the Roaring Twenties

## TIME LINE

### The United States

**1919–1920** Palmer Raids

**1920** Warren G. Harding is elected president.

**1921** Sacco and Vanzetti are convicted. Federal-Aid Road Act funds a national highway system.

**1923** President Harding dies, and Calvin Coolidge becomes president.

**1924** Calvin Coolidge is elected president.

**1925** A. Philip Randolph organizes the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

### The World

**1921** Chinese Communist Party is founded in Shanghai.

**1922** Benito Mussolini is appointed prime minister of Italy.

**1923** German economic crisis

**1924** Vladimir Ilich Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union, dies.

**1926** British laborers declare a general strike. Hirohito becomes emperor of Japan.

*continued . . .*



CHAPTER  
20

# Politics of the Roaring Twenties

## TIME LINE

### The United States

**1927** Henry Ford introduces the Model A.

**1928** Herbert Hoover is elected president.

### The World

**1928** Joseph Stalin launches the first of his Five-Year-Plans in the USSR.

**1929** National Revolutionary Party is organized in Mexico.

# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## KEY IDEA

*The Russian Revolution brings a Communist government to power. Many Americans fear that a similar revolution will occur in the United States. Political radicals and labor activists meet with increasing opposition.*

[OVERVIEW](#)[ASSESSMENT](#)

# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## OVERVIEW

### MAIN IDEA

A desire for normality after the war and a fear of communism and “foreigners” led to postwar isolationism.

### WHY IT MATTERS NOW

Americans today continue to debate political isolationism and immigration policy.

### TERMS & NAMES

- quota system
- communism
- isolationism
- nativism
- anarchists
- Sacco and Vanzetti
- John L. Lewis

# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## ASSESSMENT

1. Look at the graphic to help organize your thoughts. List some of the events of World War I and their after effects.

### Event

### Result

1. Nativism



Red scare

New immigration laws

2. Labor Strife



Strikes

*continued . . .*



# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## ASSESSMENT

2. Do you think Americans were justified in their fear of radicals and foreigners in the decade following World War I? **Think About:**

- the goals of the leaders of the Russian Revolution
- the challenges facing the United States

## ANSWER

### POSSIBLE RESPONSES:

- Yes. Radicals and immigrants threatened American traditions. The Communists' desire to overthrow the capitalist system posed a threat to the American way of life.
- No. Radical movements in this country were small, membership in the Communist Party was minimal, and the country had enough resources to accommodate immigrants.

*continued . . .*

# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## ASSESSMENT

3. In the various fights between management and union members, what did each side believe?

## ANSWER

Workers believed they deserved better wages and shorter workdays. Management believed that workers had no right to strike, unions caused unrest, and cheap immigrant labor was readily available.

*continued . . .*

# America Struggles with Postwar Issues

## ASSESSMENT

4. What do you think the Sacco and Vanzetti case shows about America in the 1920s?

## ANSWER

Those years were ones of suspicion, persecution, and fear.

SECTION  
**2**

HOME

# The Harding Presidency

## KEY IDEA

*The Republicans return to isolationism and the kind of policies that had characterized the period before the reforms of the Progressive Era.*

OVERVIEW

ASSESSMENT

# The Harding Presidency

## OVERVIEW

### MAIN IDEA

The Harding administration appealed to America's desire for calm and peace after the war, but resulted in scandal.

### WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The government must guard against scandal and corruption to merit public trust.

### TERMS & NAMES

- Warren G. Harding
- Ohio gang
- Charles Evans Hughes
- Teapot Dome scandal
- Albert B. Fall
- Fordney-McCumber Tariff

# The Harding Presidency

## ASSESSMENT

1. Look at the graphic to help organize your thoughts. List five significant events from this section and their effects.

| Events                  | Effects                                 |
|-------------------------|---|
| Kellog-Briand Pact      | Naval disarmament                       |
| Fordney McCumber Tariff | Raised tariffs to highest level         |
| Dawes Plan              | U.S. loans to Germany repay reparations |
| Quota Act               | Immigration restricted                  |
| Teapot Dome scandal     | Government corruption                   |

*continued . . .*

# The Harding Presidency

## ASSESSMENT

2. How do you think the Harding administration viewed the role of America in world affairs?

## ANSWER

### POSSIBLE RESPONSES:

- Isolationist: High tariffs, Quota Act and failure to enforce international agreements limited United States involvement with other nations.
- Peacemaker: urged international disarmament

*continued . . .*

# The Harding Presidency

## ASSESSMENT

3. How successful was Harding in fulfilling his campaign pledge of returning the country to “normalcy”?

## ANSWER

Harding had some success at restoring normalcy with the Kellogg-Briand Pact. However, high tariffs, immigration restrictions, and government corruption created an atmosphere of distrust that was not normal.

*continued . . .*



# The Harding Presidency

## ASSESSMENT

4. How do you think the post-war feelings in America influenced the election of 1920? **Think About:**

- the desire for normalcy
- Harding's image
- the issues Americans wanted to focus on

## ANSWER

Harding's call for peace and normalcy swayed public opinion in his favor.

# The Business of America

## KEY IDEA

*During the prosperous 1920s, the automobile industry and other industries flourish. Americans' standard of living rises to new heights.*

[OVERVIEW](#)[ASSESSMENT](#)

# The Business of America

## OVERVIEW

### MAIN IDEA

Consumer goods fueled the business boom of the 1920s as America's standard of living soared.

### WHY IT MATTERS NOW

Business, technological, and social developments of the 1920s launched the era of modern consumerism.

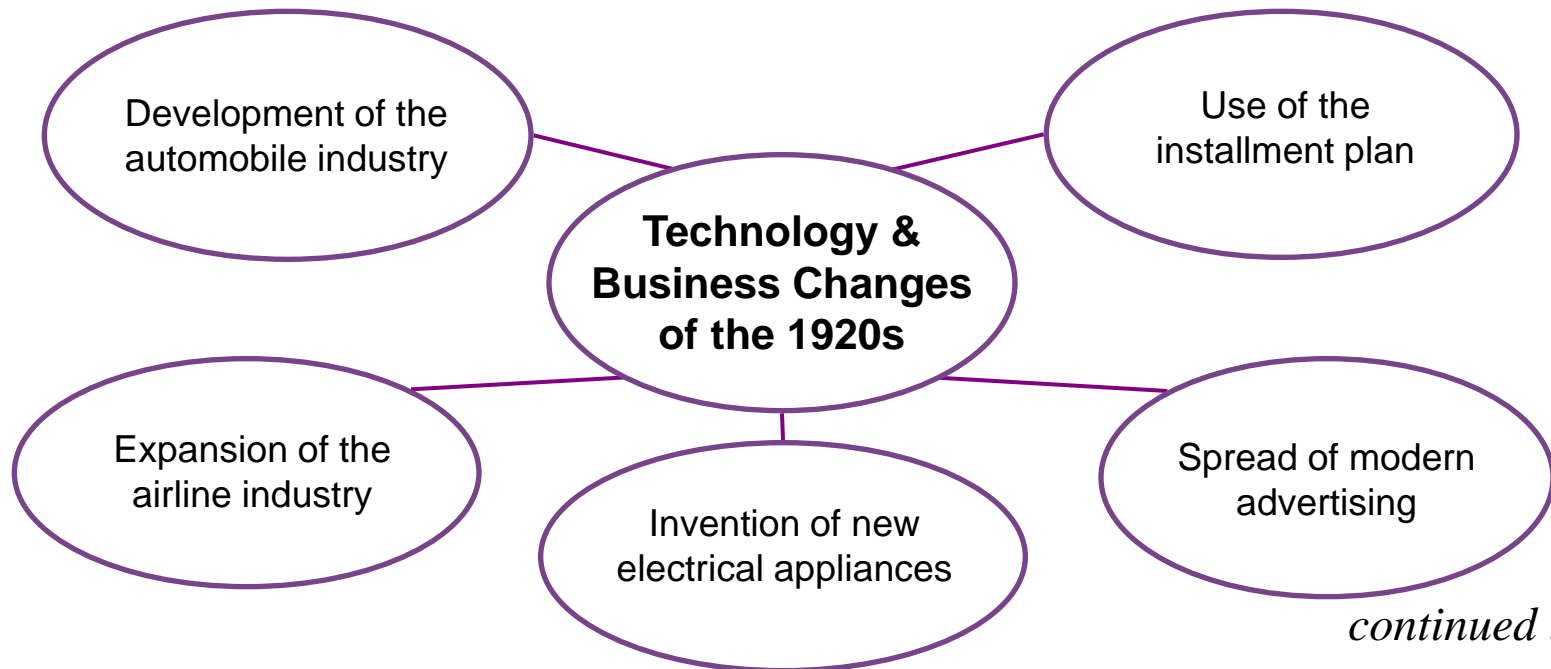
### TERMS & NAMES

- installment plan
- urban sprawl
- Calvin Coolidge

# The Business of America

## ASSESSMENT

1. Look at the graphic to help organize your thoughts. List events that illustrate the technological and business changes of the 1920s.



*continued . . .*

# The Business of America

## ASSESSMENT

2. Do you agree with President Coolidge’s statement “The man who builds a factory builds a temple—the man who works there worships there”? **Think About:**

- the goals of business and of religion
- the American idolization of business
- the difference between workers and management

## ANSWER

### POSSIBLE RESPONSES:

- Agree: A business and a religion both serve important needs. The workers must put their faith in the management of the factory where they work.
- Disagree: A business is organized for financial gain. A religious institution serves the spiritual needs of its members.