



# Modern History General course

The USA between the wars 1918–1941

Externally set task 2017



Before starting this task **check** that you have:

- black or blue pen, 2B pencils
- sharpener
- eraser
- highlighters
- correction fluid/tape.



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Total time for the task: 50 minutes  
Total marks: 26 marks  
Weighting: 15% of the school mark

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Use the **three** sources provided to answer the questions that follow.

**Source 1**

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**See next page**

**Source 2**

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**Source 3**

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## Question 1

(4 marks)

Describe the historical context of Source 1. You should consider the following where appropriate:

- relevant event/s
- significant person/people
- key idea/s in the source.

The historical context of source 1 is what president FDR wanted to give to America after he won the election. As you can see in this source, there is Uncle Sam which represents America. FDR looks like he's about to offer Uncle Sam the bag of "New Deal Remedies" as he is the new government trying to make a positive change in the height of unemployment in America. FDR also says to the congress that he is willing to change remedies if they don't get results, which is very bold and unusual for a president to change his mind.

Question 2

(4 marks)

Explain the message/s of Source 2. Provide evidence from the source in your response.

The main messages in source 2 are that what really caused the great depression. This can be seen when they list some reasons why the great depression might of happened, such as too much over producing. There was a postwar building boom and 26,000,000 new cars, consumer goods flooding the market. People eventually stopped spending also, which was caused by there being too many products but not enough people to buy them.

## Question 3

(4 marks)

Compare and contrast the message/s of Source 1 and Source 2. You should consider the points of:

- similarity
- difference.

The similarities in Source 1 and 2 are that they're both about what it was like when president Hoover and president FDR were around. The differences are that while Hoover, in Source 2 is saying all the bad things in America yet gives no solution. But in Source 1 there is FDR offering new beginnings to America in the time of unemployment. I think these differences really show who was the better president and who really brought America out of poverty.



Question 4

(4 marks)

Explain how useful Source 3 is as historical evidence. You should consider the:

- strengths of the source
- weaknesses of the source.

Source 3 is historical evidence because it shows so many people standing outside of a bank in the time where the banks had no money and people lost all their life savings. The strengths of this source are that it can really make you feel for all those people who had nothing. The weakness in this source is that all the people in the photo look like business men because of what they're wearing and it would of been better to see normal, average Americans in the picture aswell.

## Question 5

(10 marks)

Discuss 'change' in the society that you have studied. In your response you must:

- identify **two** economic changes shown in the sources (2 marks)
- identify other major changes that occurred in the society (2 marks)
- explain the importance of the economic and other major changes, using evidence or examples to support your explanation. (6 marks)

Two economic changes in America at this time were the change of government and technological changes. The change in government is just what America needed. In 1933, Franklin Roosevelt won over Herbert Hoover, Franklin (FDR) won 42 states out of 48, FDR quickly started making changes. He made the new deal which meant to relief, recover and restore. He closed down all banks for 3 days so the banks had time to recover and if the banks didn't have enough money then they would remain closed. Lastly, he started his fireside chats where he would talk to the American people through their radios. This was very reassuring for the Americans because they felt like they finally had a president who cared. Another economical change was all the technological changes America went through. This was most devastating to farmers. Mass production took over, technology took over farmers jobs and soon they had no money and no where to live.

End of questions

Additional working space if required

Also, the 'dust bowl' affected the farmers lives immensely. A huge natural disaster ruined all their land so they couldn't produce anything anymore. Mass production meant they were too many things at once being produced and not enough people to buy.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Source 1** Berryman, C. (1934, January 5). New deal remedies [Cartoon]. *Washington Star*. Retrieved September, 2016, from [www.gettyimages.com.au/license/2669107](http://www.gettyimages.com.au/license/2669107)
- Source 2** Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum. (n.d.). *The Museum Exhibit Galleries: Gallery 6: The Great Depression (Why the 'Great' Depression?)*. Retrieved September, 2016, from [www.hoover.archives.gov/exhibits/Hooverstory/gallery06/index.html](http://www.hoover.archives.gov/exhibits/Hooverstory/gallery06/index.html)
- Source 3** *Depression: 'Runs on banks'* [Photograph]. (1933). Retrieved September, 2016, from [www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/archives/collections/franklin/?p=digitallibrary/digitalcontent&id=3485](http://www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/archives/collections/franklin/?p=digitallibrary/digitalcontent&id=3485)