



Government of **Western Australia**  
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



# MODERN HISTORY

GENERAL COURSE

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Externally set task Source Booklet  
The USA between the wars 1918-1941  
Sample 2016

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# Modern History

## Externally set task Source Booklet

### The USA between the wars 1918–1941

#### SOURCE 1

*(A description of young women in the 1920s who were known as 'Flappers'. Adapted from an on-line encyclopaedia.)*

**Flappers** were a 'new breed' of young Western women in the 1920s who wore short skirts, bobbed their hair, listened to jazz, and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior. Flappers were seen as brash for wearing excessive makeup, drinking... smoking, driving automobiles, and otherwise flouting social and sexual norms. Flappers had their origins in the liberal period of the Roaring Twenties, the social, political turbulence and increased transatlantic cultural exchange that followed the end of World War I, as well as the export of American jazz culture to Europe...

Flappers also began working outside the home and challenging women's traditional societal roles. They were considered a significant challenge to traditional Victorian gender roles, devotion to plain-living, hard work and religion. Increasingly, women discarded old, rigid ideas about roles and embraced consumerism and personal choice, and were often described in terms of representing a 'culture war' of old versus new. Flappers also advocated voting and women's rights.

**SOURCE 2**

Bobbed hair. Unstructured clothes. Smoking. 1930's Flappers ignored their old-fashioned parents.

**SOURCE 3**

*(Planned Economy or Planned Destruction? Published in the Chicago Tribune 21<sup>st</sup> April 1934.)*

On April 21 1934 the *Chicago Tribune* published a cartoon critical of the New Deal; the cartoonist was Casey Orr, and the cartoon was entitled 'Planned economy or planned destruction?'. For copyright reasons the cartoon cannot be reproduced in the online version of this document, but may be viewed by searching on the cartoon's title in Google Images.

**SOURCE 4**

*(Extracts from the inaugural address of F.D Roosevelt 4<sup>th</sup> March 1933.)*

I am certain that my fellow Americans expect that on my induction into the Presidency this is pre-eminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. This great Nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself – nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyses needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.

Recognition of the falsity of material wealth as the standard of success goes hand in hand with the abandonment of the false belief that public office and high political position are to be valued only by the standards of pride of place and personal profit. Small wonder that confidence languishes, for it thrives only on honesty, on honor, on the sacredness of obligations, on faithful protection, on unselfish performance; without them it cannot live.

Our greatest primary task is to put people to work. ... It can be accomplished in part by direct recruiting by the Government itself, treating the task as we would treat the emergency of a war...

We do not distrust the future of essential democracy. The people of the United States have not failed. In their need they have registered a mandate that they want direct, vigorous action. They have made me the present instrument of their wishes. In the spirit of the gift I take it.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Source 1** Flapper. (n.d.). *Wikipedia*. Retrieved January 23, 2014, from <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flapper>  
Used under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 License.
- Source 2** Patterson, R. (n.d.). *Bobbed hair. Unstructured clothes. Smoking. 1930's flappers ignored their old-fashioned parents* [Image]. Retrieved March, 2014, from <http://philosophermouseofthehedge.wordpress.com/2013/02/22/trumpeters-tundras-texas-no-tiaras/>
- Source 3** No image included
- Source 4** Roosevelt, F.D. (1933, March 4). *Address by Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1933* [Inaugural address]. Retrieved December, 2013, from [www.inaugural.senate.gov/swearing-in/address/address-by-franklin-d-roosevelt-1933](http://www.inaugural.senate.gov/swearing-in/address/address-by-franklin-d-roosevelt-1933)