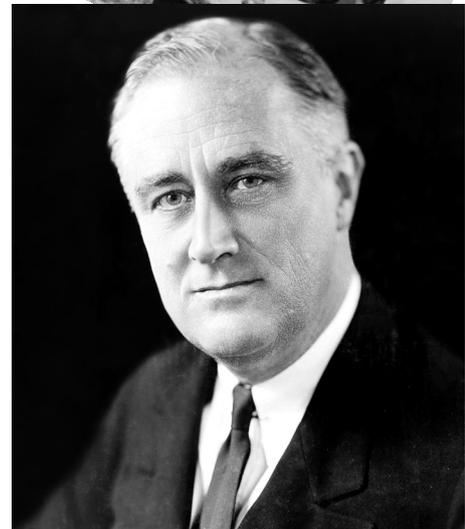
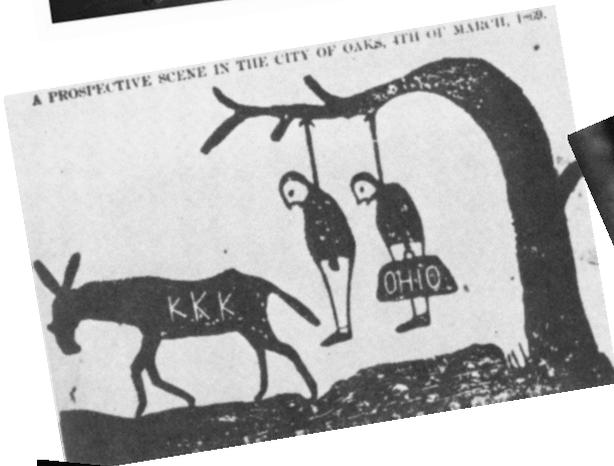


How far did U.S society change in the 1920s?



4. What were the 'Roaring Twenties'?

The 'Roaring Twenties' is a name given to a period in American history (1920s) when there was a huge shift in perceptions of culture, gender, leisure, racism and other issues surrounding society in America. For your course you need to know about 4 main areas.

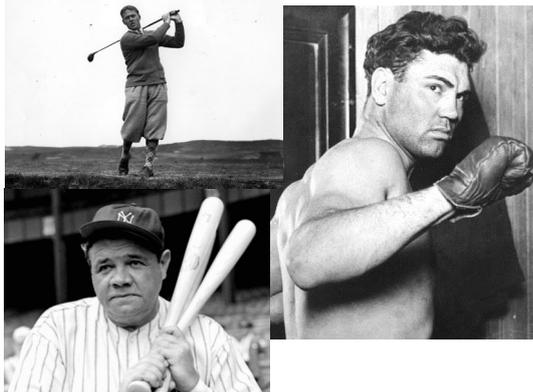
Sport:

Sport went from being a pastime to something that was hugely commercialised and an everyday part of peoples' lives through the newspapers and radios, as well as spectating their local teams. Three people who you could use as examples of famous stars are;

Jack Dempsey: A boxer who was heavyweight champion from 1919-26

Babe Ruth: A national hero of the most popular sport, baseball. He played for the New York Yankees

Bobby Jones: A world champion golfer known for good sportsmanship. He once stood on a ball which no one saw, but owned up to it voluntarily.



Radio:

Radio production boomed between 1920-29, rising from **\$2m worth in 1920, to \$600m worth by 1929**. This is because people wanted to listen to news, sports, jazz music and talk shows as a main form of entertainment. Many radio stations were funded by advertising. The most famous radio station in the USA at this time was called **KDKA radio** and had an unrivalled base of listeners.



The Movies:

85m people per week attended the movies by 1929. **'Talkies'** (films with audio) became popular and so did the rise of famous actors/actresses. Cinema was often criticised for having themes of a sexual nature and being saucy on occasions (by old standards). This is until the **Hays Code** of 1930 put restrictions in place on Hollywood to combat this.

Clara Bow: A very famous actress who was often criticised for playing roles which challenged traditional views of women

Rudolf Valentino: A famous actor who was seen as a 'heartthrob' and is most well known for his role in 'Lawrence of Arabia'



Music:

Jazz music became hugely popular during the 20s and this challenged peoples' views of black people, often making them more accepting and tolerant. The most famous club in New York relating to Jazz was the **Cotton Club** (probably a reference to the fact that many black slaves used to pick cotton). This club hosted famous musicians like

Duke Ellington: A superb Jazz pianist (piano player)

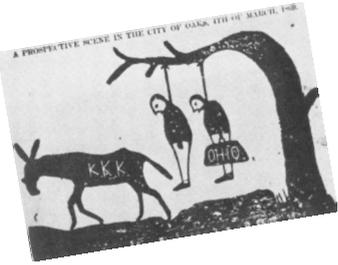
Louis Armstrong: A very famous trumpet player.

In addition to this, famous dances like the **Charleston** and the **black bottom dance** became hugely popular through the Jazz scene.



5. How widespread was intolerance in U.S society? (Part 1)

As well as the **'Roaring Twenties'** being an era of cultural progress, there are still many examples of society in America being quite intolerant during the 20s. Here are the best six examples of intolerance, including two case studies of individuals who were effected by these attitudes.

Intolerance example	Explanation	Why did some people think this way?
Immigration	<p>Throughout the course of WWI many Europeans fled to America in search of a new life. Over 500,000 people were migrating to America each year by 1919 and this migration continued well into the 1920s. Different immigrant sub communities began to appear in major cities like New York and many of these immigrants found jobs during the course of the 1920s. However, in 1924, the Johnson-Reid Act was passed by congress and the amount of immigrants was limited to a maximum of 150,000 per year.</p>	<p>Some workers in the old industries lost their jobs and blamed immigrants.</p> <p>Many people didn't like change and the government didn't want to lose votes by not taking action on this.</p>
Segregation	<p>In the southern states of America (those who supported the confederacy in the 18th century civil war) black and white people were segregated. This meant that the majority of black people (most of which lived in the South) had separate schools, water fountains, job entitlements, bus seats and much more. The Jim Crow laws made sure these rules were written into the legal system and all judges were white, with many of them being racist. Many black people also lived in fear of being harmed by white people, as lynch mobs had been known to murder black people for as little as suspicion of committing a crime.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>	<p>Slavery had ended, but many people still had these old fashioned views of black people being secondary citizens.</p> <p>The farms in the South wanted to pay black people less so their profits would be bigger.</p> <p>Many people in skilled jobs didn't want black people to compete against them in jobs.</p>
The KKK	<p>The KKK (Ku Klux Klan) were a Anglo-Christian (white Protestant Christian) organisation who claimed to protect America against foreign influence. They targeted Catholics, Jews, homosexuals, immigrants, black people and anyone else who they viewed as a 'threat' to the influence of white Americans. During the 1920s the Klan was led from Georgia by a man called William J Simmonds and he managed to boost the organisation's popularity in the 'deep South'. The Klan's membership peaked at 5m by 1925, but declined in the late 20s because of allegations of rape and murder by a Klan leader in Indiana.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>	<p>For the reasons outlined in the box above.</p> <p>Many people liked the security and belonging to a group of some kind.</p> <p>In some places with high Klan membership, it was seen as strange if you weren't a 'Klansmen'</p>

5. How widespread was intolerance in U.S society? (Part 2)

Intolerance example	Explanation	Why did some people think this way?
<p>John Scopes Trial (Monkey Trial)</p>	<p>After 1925, in the state of Tennessee it was the law that teachers were only allowed to teach about the creation of the world through Creationism (the idea that God made the world) rather than Darwin's theory of evolution (the idea of the big bang and constant development over time). A biology teacher from Dayton (in Tennessee) called John Scopes decided to teach Darwinism and was taken to court by the Tennessee government. The lawyer defending Scopes was Clarence Darrow (a famous Chicago lawyer) and the lawyer prosecuting was William Jennings Bryan (A Tennessee Christian lawyer). The courts were biased against Scopes and eventually prosecuted him, fining him only \$100. This was a laughable fine and the real winners were Scopes and Darrow, because they got Jennings to admit he didn't believe in Creationism AND the law banning the teaching of Darwinism was scrapped less than a year later.</p>	<p>Many people living in rural areas were still heavily religious and old fashioned.</p> <p>This case showed that many people were moving to believe more in science than religion.</p> <p>It showed that people in the cities had modern attitudes and this attitude was winning.</p>
<p>The Red Scare</p>	<p>There was a huge fear in America that many of the European immigrants were bringing Socialist and Communist ideas from Europe. The Russian revolution in 1917 had scared many Americans that communism was going to take over the world. Attorney-General Palmer responded by ordering the rounding up of suspected Communists and deporting them. This was known as the Palmer Raids. In response to this a wave of bombings against politicians took place, including bombings on Palmers house in Washington D.C, resulting in the demolition of his property.</p>	<p>There was lots of propaganda against Communism and Russia.</p> <p>Many people were scared they would lose money if Communism arrived in America.</p> <p>The government used this fear to motivate people.</p>
<p>Sacco & Vanzetti</p>	<p>In 1921, two Italian immigrants called Sacco & Vanzetti were accused of stealing \$16000 from a shoe factory in Massachusetts and murdering 2 people whilst doing it. The case went to trial and became world famous because there were tensions with immigration in 1920s America. The evidence against them was that they were carrying guns at the time and had 'radical' political view points, as shown by the leaflets found in their car (were they their leaflets? Hmmm). The evidence in their favour was that someone else admitted to the robbery and murder, they had an alibi to prove they weren't there. Even though the evidence wasn't solid they were executed by the electric chair in 1927 after a 6 year trial. The trial is seen as important because it shows that public opinion was against immigrants even if they weren't proved to have done anything wrong, the people wanted blood.</p>	<p>For the same reasons as people were against immigration (see previous page)</p> <p>Because the media (papers and radio) constantly discussed these issues and some people were brainwashed.</p> <p>This was a high profile case and the government wanted to be seen to be taking action.</p>

6. Why was prohibition introduced and later repealed?

Prohibition banned the production, sale and consumption of alcohol in America. It came into effect in 1919 through the passing of the **18th Amendment (a law)**, but the Federal (central) Government couldn't legally arrest people for breaking this until the introduction of the **Volstead Act in January 1920**. Prohibition was ultimately a failure and the 18th Amendment was eventually **repealed on the 5th December 1933**.

Why was Prohibition introduced?	What were the effects and why was Prohibition repealed?
<p>It was already in 13 'dry' states, most of which were on the 'bible belt', a heavily religious area in the middle of the USA. Utah is the most famous dry state. The thinking was that if individual states can make it work then why can't the nation.</p>	<p>Moonshine was a type of alcohol that could be brewed at home using basic ingredients. If done incorrectly it could be poisonous, cause blindness or even death. Under prohibition production of this illegal alcohol boomed. This was supplied to rural areas and the speakeasies in cities across the country.</p>
<p>Moral reasons. Alcohol is well known, even today, to cause immoral behaviour like violence, sexual promiscuity and social problems like poverty and crime. The government hoped that the introduction of prohibition would reduce these things.</p>	<p>Smuggling was common and famous 'rum runners' like William McCoy made millions from it. In 4 years he is thought to have smuggled over \$70 million worth of Whiskey from Canada to the U.S. Smugglers used boats, tunnels, cars, lorries and had very sophisticated smuggling arrangements, often involving police they had paid off.</p>
<p>Campaigning by groups such as the Anti-Saloon League and the Women's Temperance Union played a part in introducing prohibition. They were nicknamed the 'dries' and put pressure on politicians to vote in their favour. These movements also had huge support from the church, who were naturally against the production, distribution and consumption of alcohol.</p>	<p>Organised crime flourished in many major cities during the 1920s. Famous gangsters like Al Capone were made through the selling of illegal liquor. He operated in Chicago and is thought to be behind more than 200 known gang related murders (without anyone being convicted!) between 1927-31. The mafia survived by bribing police, judges and politicians and, in the case of Capone, he managed to bribe the mayor 'Big Bill' Thompson. Those who wouldn't take cash were intimidated into cooperation or killed. Some 'straight' prohibition agents like Elliott Ness and '2 Gun' Hart had big successes in tackling these gangs.</p>
<p>Due to WWI: Many breweries which had set up in America were of German descent. After the 1917 sinking of the U.S cargo ship, the Lusitania, many people with anti-German views used this as a patriotic reason to get the breweries shut down. Also, many people thought that the grain would be better used exporting to the hungry people of Europe.</p>	<p>Ineffective enforcement. Many states refused to spend their own money on enforcing prohibition, as they believed it would never be effective. As a result the enforcement of prohibition by federal government was poor and in the end Roosevelt campaigned to become president on the promise that he wouldn't waste any more money trying to enforce it. The 18th Amendment was officially repealed on the 5th December 1933 after Roosevelt came to power in the 1932 election.</p>
<p>Elections and politics: Many politicians in booming cities didn't want to risk losing the vote by introducing prohibition, however, many more traditional rural politicians supported them. The Republican government had more support in the South of the USA and in rural areas, whereas the Democrats had more support in the cities.</p>	<p>Many jobs and a lot of tax revenue could be created if alcohol was legal again. Bars, liquor stores, breweries, restaurants, transportation and distilleries would all become legal, taxable businesses.</p>

7. How far did the role of women change during the 20s?

The 1920s was a time of change for women as generally the options for them to break away from a traditional image came about. Powerful women emerged in the business place, communities and the media who helped this change spiral. Flappers became an every day part of life, embracing the new opportunities and using it to promote their independence. That said, the majority of women still remained in traditional roles around the home.



Changed	Didn't change
<p>Women won the right to vote in 1920, following the success of women in Britain obtaining the right to vote after WWI (1919). This meant they had more of a say over their country and lives of other women.</p>	<p>Many women with families remained in a domesticised working environment (working in the house), having to run the family and the home</p>
<p>Due to job creation during the 1920s, more jobs started to accept women. This included skilled roles and jobs where women were not accepted previously. This meant they became more financially independent.</p>	<p>Life for women in the countryside remained largely unaffected because they were not exposed to the new ways of life for those living in the city. Many men made an active effort to try and keep things that way.</p>
<p>Contraception meant that women did not have to wait until marriage before having intimate sexual relationships. This gave them more freedom.</p>	<p>Women still got paid less than men even if they were doing the same job.</p>
<p>Women no longer had to be accompanied by a Chaperone to get into the top bars and clubs. This gave them more freedom.</p>	<p>Women still experienced difficulties with men's moral behaviour and there are numerous examples of sexual crimes committed against women which ended without prosecution (this still goes on today!!)</p>
<p>Fashion began to change. Many new women's fashions came in which enabled them to choose their own image. This could be anything from a bob haircut, to short skirts, revealing clothing and generally anything they wanted to wear. This gave them freedom and the feeling of liberation.</p>	
<p>Women began to have more free time as new machines like the vacuum cleaner and washing machine began to free up time.</p>	
<p>Women went to all sorts of trendy jazz and swing clubs to socialise with whoever they wanted. They were also now allowed to smoke in public.</p>	

PART 5: TOP 15 QUIZ

1. Name three famous sports personalities in 1920s America?
2. Name two famous Jazz musicians in 1920s New York
3. What name was given to some of the first films with audio?
4. Which set of rules, introduced in 1930, restricted what could be shown in Hollywood movies?
5. Which radio station grew to fame during the 1920s in America? Why was radio an influential form of entertainment?
6. How many people attended the movies per week by 1929?
7. Which Act restricted immigration to America in 1924? What was it limited to?
8. Which set of laws reinforced segregation in the U.S.A?
9. Who led the Ku Klux Klan from Georgia during the 20s?
10. What did John Scopes teach?
11. Who was the prosecution lawyer against John Scopes? Who defended him?
12. Even though John Scopes was fined, why do many people believe that he actually won?
13. What were the Palmer Raids?
14. What were Sacco & Vanzetti accused of?
15. Give 2 bits of evidence which were FOR and AGAINST Sacco and Vanzetti at their trial.
16. How long was their trial? What was their sentence?
17. Name two organisations known as 'dries'
18. How was WWI a reason to introduce Prohibition?
19. Which two laws made Prohibition come into effect?
20. Name one famous gangster and two famous Prohibition agents.
21. Name five reasons for Prohibition being repealed.
22. When was it repealed?
23. Name one famous 'Rum runner' and state the value of the whiskey he smuggled during his career.

EXAM QUESTIONS: USA Society Change

DESCRIBE:

Describe the American cinema and movie industry in the 1920s (4 marks)

What was the Ku Klux Klan? (4 marks)

Describe changes to the music industry in 1920s America (4 marks)

EXPLAIN:

Explain why Sacco and Vanzetti were executed (6 marks)

Explain why the lifestyle of some women changed in the 1920s (6 marks)

Explain why there was a 'Red Scare' in America in the 1920s (6 marks)

Explain the impact of the KKK on American Society (6 marks)

EVALUATE:

'Outside the cities of the North many American women felt little change in their lives'

How far do you agree with this statement? (10 marks)

'Americans were intolerant in the 1920s.'

How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer (10 marks)

'Prohibition ended because it encouraged gangsters.'

How far do you agree with this statement? Explain your answer. (10 marks)

How far did the lives of American women change in the 1920s?

Explain your answer (10 marks)