

The Great Depression Scavenger Hunt

The Great Depression was a time of economic hardship around the world in the 1930's. Learn more about the Great Depression on the World Book Web and then find the answers to the following questions!

Find It!

1. What is the gold standard?
2. Why did the Federal Reserve raise interest rates in 1928 and 1929?
3. What was the unemployment rate in 1933?
4. What were Hoovervilles?
5. Who wrote the classic Great Depression novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*?
6. What was President Herbert Hoover's approach to the depression?
7. Name three agencies created by the New Deal.
8. When did the US unemployment rate finally fall to low levels?
9. How did Adolf Hitler rise to power during the Great Depression?
10. What were some new government policies that came out of the Great Depression?

Did You Know?

- ◆ In 1932, 15,000 veterans from World War I – named the Bonus Army – marched on Washington to demand the Senate pass a bill that would pay a promised certificate for their service in World War I. Eventually, Hoover had to use troops to drive the veterans out of the capital.
- ◆ At his inaugural address in 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt encouraged Americans by saying, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."
- ◆ Social security, established during the New Deal, still exists today in the United States. However, when the baby boomer generation retires, there will be more people collecting social security than there are in the workforce to support it. The Social Security Administration estimates that it may run out of funds out of funds by 2040.

Learn More!

- ◆ Listen to Roosevelt's first inaugural address, given on March 4, 1933.
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Media?id=au008533&st=great+depression>
- ◆ Watch this video outlining the major events of the Great Depression.
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/Media?id=vd000007&st=great+depression>
- ◆ The Great Depression hit the African American population especially hard. Read about the conditions of African Americans during the depression.
<http://www.worldbookonline.com/wb/article?id=ar006745&sc=-1#h21>

Answer Key

1. The gold standard is when a country sets the value of its currency to be equal to a certain weight of gold.
2. The Federal Reserve was attempting to slow down stock market speculation by reducing consumer spending and construction spending.
3. 25 percent
4. Hoovervilles were groups of shacks built out of tin cans and old crates where homeless people lived during the Depression.
5. John Steinbeck
6. Hoover thought that business would correct the economic conditions if government did not interfere. He vetoed many bills aimed at relieving the depression because he felt they gave the federal government too much power.
7. Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Public Works Administration (PWA), Work Projects Administration (WPA)
8. The unemployment rate sank to 1 percent during World War II.
9. Hitler appealed to the despair of the German people who were frustrated with their current government. Hitler convinced Germans that he would make them proud of their country again and he revived the economy by rearming the German military, which would soon lead to World War II.
10. As a result of the Great Depression, many countries began to take better care of poor people. They also began to rely on the government more to help regulate the economy.