



Name: _____ Date: _____ Due: _____

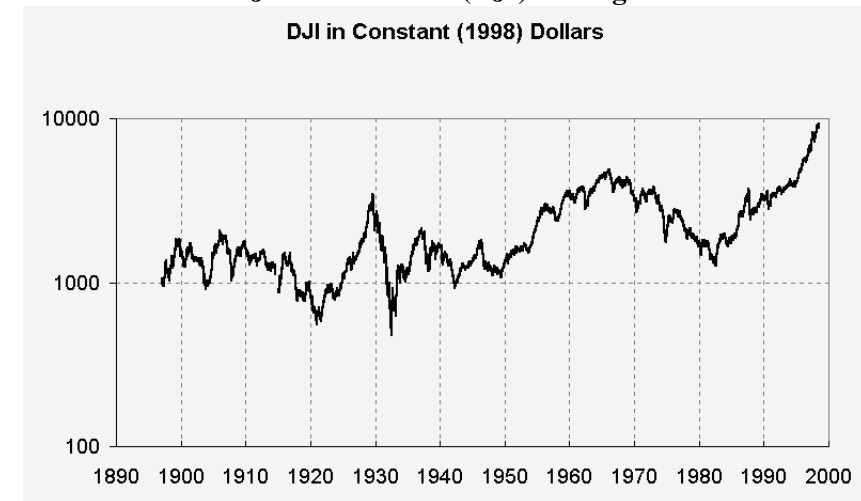
The Great Depression - Economic Effects

1. Use your notes from yesterday: describe what life was like in the 1920's; what were women and African Americans experiencing? Use complete sentences.

2. Using your notes from the PowerPoint "Stock Market Crash of 1929" define "Credit"

3. What happened to credit by the end of the decade in the US?

Document 1 - Dow Jones Industrial (DJI) Average



1. Using Document 1: What happens to the stock market value in 1929?

2. Using Document 1: When, approximately, does the stock market hit its lowest point?

3. Using Document 1: When, approximately, does the stock market reach the value it had been at prior to the great crash?

Document 2

“I want to tell you about an experience we had in Philadelphia when our private funds were exhausted and before public funds become available....

One woman said she borrowed 50 cents from a friend and bought stale bread for 3 and a half cents per loaf, and that is all they had for eleven days except for one or two meals....One woman went along the docks and picked up vegetables that fell from the wagons. Sometimes the fish vendors gave her fish at the end of the day. On two different occasions this family was without food for a day and a half....Another family did not have food for two days. Then the husband went out and gathered dandelions and the family lived on them.”

Senate Committee on Manufactures, 1932

- 1. Using your notes: how does a lack of jobs affect spending in an economy?**
- 2. Using Document 2: What part of the Depression cycle does this document represent? Why?**
- 3. Using your notes: How can attitudes of consumers (people who buy) affect the economy as a whole?**

Document 3: an excerpt from John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath*

And a homeless hungry man, driving the roads with his wife beside him and his thin children in the back seat, could look at the fallow fields which might produce food but not profit and that man could know how a fallow field is a sin and the unused land a crime against the thin children. And such a man drove along the roads and knew temptation at every field, and knew the lust to take these fields and make them grow strength for his children and a little comfort for his wife. The temptation was before him always. The fields goaded him, and the company ditches with good water flowing were a goad to him.

And in the south he saw the golden oranges hanging on the trees, the little golden oranges on the dark green trees; and guards with shotguns patrolling the lines so a man might not pick an orange for a thin child, oranges to be dumped if the price was low.

He drove his old car into a town. He scoured the farms for work. Where can we sleep the night?

Well, there's a Hooverville on the edge of the river. There's a whole raft of Okies there.

He drove his old car to Hooverville. He never asked again, for there was a Hooverville on the edge of every town.

The rag town lay close to water; and the houses were tents, and weed-thatched enclosures, paper houses, a great junk pile. The man drove his family in and became a citizen of Hooverville--always they were called Hooverville. The man put up his own tent as near to water as he could get; or if he had no tent, he went to the city dump and brought back cartons and built a house of corrugated paper. And when the rains came the house melted and washed away. He settled in Hooverville and he scoured the countryside for work, and the little money he had went for gasoline to look for work. In the evening the men gathered and talked of the land they had seen...

...In the camps the word would come whispering, There's work at Shafter. And the cars would be loaded in the night, the highways crowded -- a gold rush for work. At Shafter the people would pile up, five times too many to do the work. A gold rush for work. They stole away in the night, frantic for work. And along the roads lay the temptations, the fields that could bear food.

That's owned. That ain't our'n.

Well, maybe we could get a little piece of her. Maybe--a little piece. Right down there - a patch. Jimson weed now. Christ, I could git enough potatoes off'n that little patch to feed my whole family!

It ain't our'n. It got to have Jimson weeds.

Now and then a man tried; crept on the land and cleared a piece, trying like a thief to steal a little richness from the earth. Secret gardens hidden in the weeds. A package of carrot seeds and a few turnips. Planted potato skins, crept out in the evening secretly to hoe in the stolen earth.

...And then one day a deputy sheriff: Well, what you think you're doin'? ...I had my eye on you. This ain't your land. You're trespassing...

And the little green carrot tops were kicked off and the turnip greens trampled. And then the Jimson weed moved back in...

1. Using Document 3: write a paragraph about hope in the country during the Great Depression. Do you think it existed? Why?

2a. Do you think that these individuals in the story could ever be lifted out of poverty? Why or why not?

2b. What would it take to do so?