

Versailles:

GARGLE (Main clauses of Versailles)
U GARGLER (how Germans felt about it)
BOLMA (importance of Versailles)
SAINTS (Post-war Treaties)
APES (Problems with self determination)
NAME (Successes)
CHAPY FELL (nations established)
GAMES (Failures)

League:

SIDE (four aims of league)
SCACHIRMS (structure of league)
SUM (three strengths of league)
SAMBOK (Six successes of the League in the 1920s)
VIMCOD (Six failures of the league in the 1920s)
WAS DUMB (reasons for the league's failure)
BUSTED UP (eight reasons for league's failure)

Road to War:

CRAMCUP [Hitler's steps to war]
A GANG [Appeasement – what it meant in practice]
SCAB [Why Britain failed to make a treaty with the Soviets]
THUG [Why the Soviets and the Nazis reached an agreement]

A. Versailles

AIMS OF THE BIG THREE

1. **Georges Clemenceau, President of France** – blamed Germany = punishment/ 'hard justice'/ angry = revenge/ wanted to 'make Germany pay' for the Damage/ felt threatened = wanted independent Rhineland/ get Alsace-Lorraine/ peace = wanted Germany weak and crippled .
2. **Woodrow Wilson, President of America** – 14 Points/ a better world 'safe for democracy'/ fair peace/ self-determination/ International Co-operation (League of Nations)
3. **David Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Britain** – compromise/ punish & make Germany pay, but not revenge like France/ protect British Empire/ trade/ peace: did not want to create anger in Germany which would lead to war in the future.

SIX TERMS OF THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES [memory word: GARGLE]

Guilt – clause 231: Germany accepted blame 'for causing all the loss and damage' of the war.
Army – army: 100,000/ no submarines/ no aeroplanes/ 6 battleships/ Rhineland de-militarised
Reparations – £6,600 million – in instalments, until 1984).
Germany lost land – Alsace-Lorraine to France/ Saar to France (15 years)/ Malmedy to Belgium/ North Schleswig to Denmark/ West Prussia and Upper Silesia to Poland/ Danzig a 'free city'/ Memel to Lithuania/ German colonies became 'mandates' of the League of Nations.
League of Nations set up.
Extra points – forbade Anschluss/ Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania independent states.

HOW THE GERMANS FELT [memory word: U GARGLER]

Unfairly treated – no part in Conference talks/ forced to sign/ few of 14 Points in the Treaty.
Guilt – 'Such a confession in my mouth would be a lie', said Count Brockdorff-Rantzau.
Armed forces – meant Germany could not defend itself against even small countries (the Dungervolker - Dung people).
Reparations – starved German children.
Germany lost territory – a humiliation/ contrary to self-determination/ made Germany poorer - took farm land (W Prussia) and industrial land (Saar).
League of Nations – an insult/ meant Germany couldn't defend itself in the League of Nations.

Extra – forbidding Anschluss was against the principle of self-determination.

Results – riots in Berlin/the *Deutsche Zeitung* attacked 'the disgraceful treaty'/ Kapp Putsch (1920) to try to overturn the Treaty.

WHY WAS THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES MORE IMPORTANT? [memory word: BOLMA].

Big Three negotiated Versailles - other treaties designed by officials.

Outlined principles (self-determination/Guilt/Army reduced/Reparations/loss of land) - other treaties simply applied them.

LLeague of Nations was set up by Versailles.

Major Powers were involved: how Britain and France dealt with Germany; not scared of Austria or Turkey.

Afterwards, Versailles led to Hitler and World War II

WHAT THE ALLIES THOUGHT ABOUT THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES

1. Clemenceau

- **LIKED** Clause 231/ disarmament/ Reparations/ Getting back Alsace-Lorraine & mandates
- **DISLIKED** Saar (only for 15 years)/ wanted an independent Rhineland, not just demilitarised.

2. Wilson

- **GOT** League of Nations/ self-determination for Poland, Czechoslovakia etc,
- **DISLIKED** many of his 14 points were ignored/ Britain opposed freedom of seas/ only defeated powers were made to disarm/ colonies were given no say in their future/ American Senate refused to sign Treaty or join League of Nations.

3. Lloyd George

- **LIKED** reducing German navy/ getting German colonies as British mandates
- **DISLIKED** Wilson's ideas about colonies and freedom of the seas/ Clemenceau's harshness
- JM Keynes said that reparations would cause another war
- Harold Nicolson thought the Treaty 'neither just nor wise'.

THE FOUR OTHER TREATIES OF 1919–20 [memory word: SaiNTS]

Saint Germain (with Austria, 1919), in which Austria – had to give land to Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, and Italy/ was allowed only a volunteer force of 30,000 men and no navy/ was forbidden to unite with Germany (Article 88)/ had to pay reparations.

Neuilly (with Bulgaria, 1919), in which Bulgaria – had to give land to Yugoslavia and Greece/ was allowed an army of only 20,000 men/ had to pay reparations.

Trianon (with Hungary, 1920), in which Hungary – had to give land to Poland, Romania, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia/ was allowed an army of only 35,000/ had to pay reparations.

Sèvres (with Turkey, 1920) dismantled the Turkish Empire – Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco became independent/ Syria became a French mandate/ Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Suez canal became British mandates/ Turkey lost Smyrna to Greece, control of the Straits into the Black Sea/ Turkey had to disarm and pay reparations.

SELF-DETERMINATION (= the right to rule yourself)

Problems [memory word: APES]

Areas are sometimes very mixed racially

Physical frontiers are not the same as racial areas

Economic areas are not the same as racial areas

Suspicion: Germans not allowed self-determination

Successes [memory word: NAME]

Nine nations set up – CHAPY FELL – Czechoslovakia, Austria, Poland, Yugoslavia; Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania.

Minorities: countries had to treat minorities fairly

Elections (plebiscites) in 3 places – Schleswig, Upper Silesia and the Saar.

Failures [memory word: GAMES]

Germans in Sudetenland to Czechoslovakia

Anschluss forbidden

Minorities existed

Empires stayed

Specific violations – 1919 d'Annunzio captured Fiume/ 1920: Poland conquered land from Russia and Lithuania

AFTER 1919: DATES LIST

28 Jun 1919	Treaty of Versailles signed.
19 Feb 1920	US Senate refuses to sign the Treaty of Versailles.
17 Mar 1920	Kapp Putsch (rebellion) in Germany, against the peace treaty, fails.
6 Apr 1920	French troops invade Ruhr in Germany after the German govt had sent troops into the Rhineland to stop rioting.
8 Mar 1921	French, British and Belgian troops invade the Ruhr to force Germany to agree to reparations.
11 Jan 1923	French and Belgian troops invade the Ruhr to force Germany to pay reparations.
9 Apr 1924	Dawes Plan: gives Germany longer to pay reparations, and grants huge loans to get the German economy going.
16 Oct 1925	Locarno Pact: peace agreement between Fr., Br., Belgium, Italy & Germany.
8 Sep 1926	Germany admitted to the League of Nations.
27 Aug 1928	Kellogg-Briand Pact: 65 nations (inc. Fr/Br/USA/Ger) promise to abolish war.
7 Jun 1929	The Young Plan reduces reparations.
9 Jul 1932	Lausanne Agreement: USA, France and Britain suspend reparations payments.

2. The League of Nations

FOUR AIMS OF THE LEAGUE [memory word: SIDE]

- Stop war** – (Article 10 of the Covenant = 'collective security')
- Improve people's lives and Jobs** – Encourage co-operation in trade/ Economic and social agencies.
- Disarmament**
- Enforce the Treaty of Versailles**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

- 42 countries joined at the start. By the 1930s this had risen to 60.
- May 1920, the US Senate voted against Versailles.
- The USSR did not join the League. In 1919 it set up the Comintern to cause revolution.
- Germany was not allowed to join the League as a punishment for causing WWI.
- The leading members were Britain and France, helped by Japan and Italy.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE [memory word: SCACHIRMS]

- Secretariat:** supposed to co-ordinate the different functions of the League/ too few secretaries to do the work - slow and inefficient
- Council:** met 4-5 times a year/ 5 permanent members - Br, Fr, It, Jap & Ger - with a veto.
- Assembly:** the League's main meeting, held once a year/ decisions only by unanimous vote
- + the Committees:** Court of international justice/ Health committee/ International labour organization/ Refugees committee/ Mandates commission/ Slavery commission
- ALSO Conference of ambassadors (not really part of the League's organisation).

THREE STRENGTHS OF THE LEAGUE [memory Word: SUM]

- S**et up by the Treaty of Versailles
- U**niversal membership, all of which had signed the Covenant promising to support the League.
- M**eans of Influence – Covenant (26 promises which every member agreed to follow)/ Moral condemnation (public opinion)/ Arbitration (act as a referee)/ Sanctions (refuse to trade)/ Military Force (send an army)/ 'Community of Power' (acting together).

SIX SUCCESSES OF THE LEAGUE IN THE 1920s [memory word: SAMBOK]

- Silesia, 1921** – Germany and Poland agreed to partition after a plebiscite.
- Aaland Islands, 1921** – said the islands should belong to Finland; Sweden and Finland agreed.
- Mosul, 1924** – the Turks demanded Mosul, Iraq. The League supported Iraq; Turkey agreed.
- Bulgaria, 1925** – Greece invaded Bulgaria, but withdrew when Bulgaria appealed to the League.
- Other:** 400,000 Prisoners of War repatriated/ Turkish refugee camps (1922)/ Leprosy/ Drugs companies closed down/ Attacked slave owners in Sierra Leone and Burma/ Economic advice to Austria and Hungary
- Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1928** – signed by 23 nations and supported by 65, to outlaw war.

SIX FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE IN THE 1920s [memory word: VIMCOD]

- Vilna, 1920** – Poland refused the League orders to withdraw from Vilna.
- Invasion of the Ruhr, 1923** – by France; the League was not even consulted, and Britain disagreed.
- Memel, 1923** – The League told Lithuania to leave, but the Conference of Ambassadors agreed.
- Corfu, 1923** – General Tellini murdered, so Italy occupied Corfu. The Conference of Ambassadors overruled the League's order to Mussolini to leave – forced Greece to pay compensation to Italy.
- Other Treaties:** Washington, 1921/ Dawes Plan, 1924/ Locarno Pact, 1925/ The Geneva Protocol, 1924 (to support the League of Nations) failed because Britain refused to sign it
- Disarmament** – Britain objected to the 1923 conference/ 1932-1934 conference was wrecked when Hitler demanded parity with France.

TWO FAILURES OF THE LEAGUE IN THE 1930s

- Manchuria, 1931:** The League sent officials (took a year)/ voted that Japan return Manchuria (Feb 1933 - Japan resigned from the League)/ could not agree economic sanctions or arms sales ban.

2. **Abyssinia, 1935:** Mussolini invaded (October 1935) Haile Selassie's Abyssinia/ Britain and France secretly agreed to give Abyssinia to Italy (Hoare-Laval Pact, 1935)/ The League tried sanctions on arms sales, rubber and metals, but they did not close the Suez Canal or ban oil sales.
3. **These failures killed the League** – Mussolini gained prestige/ Britain, France and the League were weakened - countries decided it was a 'sham', left and began to prepare for war instead.

REASONS THE LEAGUE FAILED: [Memory word: **WAS DUMB**]

Weak from the beginning –League's powers were nothing more than 'tut tut'; sanctions did not work and it had no army

America – the strongest nation was missing, along with the USSR (before 1934); and Germany before 1926 or after 1933)

Structure - the League's organisation was muddled, so it took ages to do anything (e.g. Lytton commission in 1931); members couldn't agree, but decisions had to be unanimous - this paralysed the League

Depression: Caused member states to worry more about themselves than about collective security; contributed to the rise of dictatorship in Germany, Italy and Japan; and to appeasement on the part of Britain and France.

Unsuccessful – every time the league was unsuccessful – e.g. Manchuria and Abyssinia, it weakened its reputation so that other nations – particularly Germany – felt able to flout the Treaty it was supposed to protect.

Members – the league's members failed it – Italy and Japan openly defied it; Britain and France betrayed it.

Big bullies – in the 1920s, the League had been quite successful with small, weak countries; in the 1930s, powerful countries like Germany, Italy and Japan defied the League - they were too strong for the League to stop them

AND/OR:

EIGHT REASONS THE LEAGUE FAILED [memory word: **BUSTED UP**]

Britain and France – were not prepared to use their armies and had other priorities.

USA, USSR and Germany – USA was never a member/ USSR not until 1934/ Germany not until 1926, and Hitler left the League in 1933.

Structure – its organisation [**SCACHIRMS**] was cumbersome so decisions were very slow.

Treaty of Versailles set up the League – so it was hated because the Treaty was hateful.

Economic Depression – countries acted to save their own interests, and ignored the League.

Dictators – dictators like Mussolini and Hitler would not compromise.

Unsuccessful – the League's failures damaged its reputation, so members left/ignored it.

Powerless: moral condemnation was just ignored by powerful nations/ the League had no armies/ people found ways round sanctions.

3. Road to World War II Revision

CRAMCUP [Hitler's steps to war]

A GANG [Appeasement – what it meant in practice]

SCAB [Why Britain failed to make a treaty with the Soviets]

THUG [Why the Soviets and the Nazis reached an agreement]

HITLER'S AIMS

- **Abolish the Treaty of Versailles** – Thought it was unjust and humiliating/ didn't like Tiny armed forces, Rhineland demilitarised, *Anschluss* with Austria forbidden, Germans forced to live in Czechoslovakia (Sudetenland) and Poland (including Danzig).
- **Lebensraum - Expand German territory** – To unite Austria with Germany/ To get extra *lebensraum* [living space] for Germans.
- **Defeat Communism** – Believed Bolsheviks helped cause German defeat in WW1/ Feared Bolshevik takeover.

HITLER'S STEPS TO WAR [memory phrase: CRAMCUP]

- **Conscription & Rearmament** – Began in secret/ Took Germany out of League of Nations/ **1935** – Introduced conscription, Increased spending on arms, Huge rearmament rally, Naval agreement with Britain allowed German navy of 35% of British navy/ Increased airforce to 8,250 by 1939.
- **Rhineland** – 7 March 1936: moved troops in, breaking Treaty of Versailles and Locarno Treaty/ Justified it by claiming that USSR + France agreement threatened Germany/ German army (only 22000 soldiers) had orders to withdraw if opposed/ France and Britain did not stop him/ League of Nations powerless, didn't want to risk war.
- **Anschluss** – **1934**: Failed attempt/ **Feb 1938**: Hitler encouraged Austrian Nazis to stir up trouble, Austrian Chancellor Schuschnigg sought British and French help, but was refused/ **9 March 1938**: Schuschnigg called for a plebiscite on union/ **11 March 1938**: Hitler sent in troops, then held a plebiscite/ **10 April 1938**: 99.7% voted for union.
- **Munich** – **April 1938**: Many Germans Nazis lived in the Sudetenland – stirred up trouble **15 Sept 1938 Berchtesgaden**: Hitler agreed to the parts of the Sudetenland which voted that they wanted to unite with Germany. He promised that the rest of Czech. was safe. **27 Sept 1938 Bad Godesberg**: Hitler demands immediate control of all Sudetenland **29 Sept 1938 Munich Agreement**: Britain, France & Italy gave the Sudetenland to Hitler **30 September**: Chamberlain calls Munich: "Peace for our time".
- **Czechoslovakia** – 15 March 1939: German troops took over the rest of the country. No Czech resistance. Britain and France abandoned appeasement.
- **USSR/ Nazi Germany Pact** – 23 August 1939, Nazi-Soviet Pact shocked world; frees Hitler to attack Poland.
- **Poland** – 1 Sept 1939 Hitler invaded Poland – Britain and France declared war on Germany.

APPEASEMENT – Britain and France [A GANG]

- Accepted: German re-armament (e.g. Anglo-German Naval agreement 1935) and occupation of the Rhineland accepted
- Allowed Hitler to use German bombers in Spanish Civil War (1937–39)
- No action over Anschluss (1938).
- Gave in over Sudetenland at Munich (1938).

WHY APPEASEMENT?

1. **Chamberlain feared another war. People wanted peace so** not enough public support to go to war.
2. **Belief in the League of Nations to solve problems so** they did not threaten Hitler with war.
3. **Britain too weak for war in 1938, needed time to re-arm so** appeasement bought Britain a year to re-arm.
4. **Treaty of Versailles was considered unfair so** many British people sympathised with Hitler's demands.
5. **Chamberlain misjudged Hitler so** he trusted Hitler's promises that Sudetenland was the last thing he wanted
6. **Fear of Communism so** people let Hitler grow strong because they thought a strong Germany could stop Russia.

APPEASEMENT WAS ABANDONED February-September 1939

- **Feb**: Franco (a Fascist) won the Spanish Civil War so it seemed Fascism was on the increase everywhere.
- **15 March**: Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia so people realised that only a war would stop him.
- **March**: Chamberlain promised to defend Poland which made war inevitable when Hitler invaded Poland.
- **April**: Mussolini conquers Albania which made it seem that Fascism was wanting to take over the world
- **May**: Pact of Steel [Hitler and Mussolini] which showed Hitler was building up his forces for war.
- **Aug**: British alliance with USSR failed, but **23 August Nazi-Soviet Pact** so Hitler was free to invade Poland.
- **Aug**: Hitler stirred up trouble in Danzig and demanded the Polish corridor, then

- Sept: Hitler invaded Poland.

AUG 1939: ANGLO-SOVIET TALKS FAIL [memory word: SCAB]

Suspicion – Chamberlain didn't trust Stalin – Communist & dictator. Stalin didn't trust the British [thought they wanted to trick him into war with Germany]. Poland didn't trust USSR.

Choice – If Stalin allied with Britain, he would end up fighting in Poland on Britain's behalf
Hitler was promising half of Poland for doing nothing.

Appeasement – Stalin didn't think Britain would honour its promise to Poland. He thought he would be left fighting Hitler alone.

Britain delayed, Aug 1939 – Britain sent an official (Plunkett-Erle-Drax) to USSR by boat - too slow. An admiral, he was not important enough to make decisions.

WHY A NAZI-SOVIET PACT [memory word: THUG]

In August 1939 the USSR signed an agreement with Germany.

Time to prepare for war – It gave Russia 18 months to make military preparations.

Hope to gain – Stalin hoped Germany, Britain and France would wear themselves out in a long war.

Unhappy with Britain – Stalin turned to Germany when Britain was too slow - SCAB

Germany's Motives – Hitler thought it would make Britain back down over Poland.

Paper 1 C8 A World Divided: Superpower Relations 1945-1962

BARE (Causes of the Cold War)

GESCHICHTE (Beliefs - ideological and structural differences east and west)

SURPRISE (Tehran)

PODCASTERS (Yalta)

CLASP (Tensions at Potsdam)

GRENADE (agreements at Potsdam)

CHICAS (Truman Doctrine and Marshall Plan)

CABAN (Causes of Berlin)

SCENA (Consequences of Berlin)

DUCKS (causes of Korean war)

DE-STALINISATION [Consequences of Khrushchev's succession in USSR]

Hungary – no mnemonics

CRABS [Causes of Cuban Missile Crisis]

Causes of the Cold War **[BARE]**:

- Beliefs (ideological differences),
- Aims and attitudes during the war
- Resentments over the past;
- Events (1941-49)
- **Beliefs - Ideological differences [GESCHichte]:**
 - Geschichte – Government, economy, society, culture, human rights
- **Aims and attitudes during the war**
 - **Tehran (1943) [SURPRISE]**

Second front to be opened;
USSR would attack Japan after German defeat;
Relationships – Stalin and Roosevelt's was good; Churchill and Stalin not so good.
Poland would get land from Germany.
Roosevelt sided with Stalin against Churchill over the
Invasion of
Southern
Europe (i.e. the Balkans – Churchill wanted to prevent Stalin's land-grab in Eastern Europe).
 - **Yalta (February 1945) [PODCASTERS]:**

Prosecute Nazis and de-nazify Germany
Occupied Germany to be demilitarised and
Divided into 4 zones.
Call elections in all liberated territories (as agreed between USA and UK in the 1941 Atlantic Charter **which asserted the right of countries to choose their own governments**).
All to join UN (Soviet Republics Belorussia and Ukraine were to have their own voting rights; the USA would draw up the charter).
Soviet sphere of influence to include Poland but run on 'a broader democratic basis'.
Twenty million Poles to be moved along with western border of Poland
Extract
Reparations from Germany;
Stalin to declare war on Japan 3 months after Germany's defeat
 - **Potsdam (July 1945)**
Sources of Tension [CLASP]

Change of personalities: FDR died in April 1945 and he was replaced by Vice- Truman who was less willing to compromise than Roosevelt and more anxious to stop the spread of Soviet influence. In particular, he was less sympathetic to Russian demands for

heavy reparations. Stalin was by his nature paranoid and the loss of a common enemy and the development of the atomic weapon in particular would only increase his sense of the world being against him.

Loss of a common enemy following Germany's surrender on May 7th meant that the allies did not need each other quite as much and long-held differences came to the fore.

Atomic bomb had been tested the day before the conference began - July 16th - Churchill noted that Truman immediately adopted a more aggressive tone towards the Soviets. He 'generally bossed the whole meeting'. The fact that the Americans had said nothing to the Soviets about the weapon before Potsdam increased their suspicion.

Stalin had broken his word over

Poland and was setting up a government of communists there.

Agreements – [Grenade]:

Germany to be rebuilt and restored;

Reparations to be taken from each zone by occupying ally if they wished;

Ethnic Germans to be expelled from Czechoslovakia;

Nuremberg trials to be set up;

Allied Control Commission to organise German life;

Democracy to be restored;

Europe to be rebuilt by a Council of Foreign Ministers

- **Resentments over the Past [RASP]**

- Russia cancelled its debts to the west following the Bolshevik revolution of 1917
- Allies invaded Russia at the end of WWI in an attempt to overthrow the Bolsheviks
- Stalin had made a pact with the Nazis in 1939
- Procrastination over the second front - Britain and America were slow to open a second front, perhaps because they wanted to see both Germany and Russia weakened.

EVENTS 1946–1948

1946 - The War of Words – from allies to enemies

1. Stalin's Bolshoi speech February 1946
2. Long Telegram – George F. Kennan to Washington – February 1946 – reported that Stalin had given a speech calling for the destruction of capitalism and reported that the USSR was building up its military power.
3. Iron Curtain Speech – Churchill at Fulton, Missouri, March 1946
4. Stalin's response – March 1946 – called Churchill's speech a declaration of war; compared Churchill and his allies to Hitler and his cronies.
5. Novikov's Telegram – September 1946
 - American government was no longer interested in co-operation with the USSR.
 - America desired to dominate the world.
 - American public was being prepared for war with the USSR.

GREECE (February 1947)

- Britain asked for US supplied arms and money to defeat the Communists.

TRUMAN DOCTRINE (March 1947) –

- The USA implemented a policy of 'containment' towards the USSR – to prevent Communism spreading any further. **CHICAS** – Truman declared that the world had to make a **CHOICE** – the world had to make one between communist dictatorship and capitalist democracy; American had to abandon its **ISOLATIONISM** in favour of a policy of **CONTAINMENT** where the USA became the World's Policeman, protecting the free world against the spread of Communism; by supplying military **AID** and economic **SUPPLIES** to countries threatened by communism. The first practical elements of a new policy came in May 1947, with aid packages for Greece (\$400 million) and Turkey (\$100 million).

MARSHALL PLAN (June 1947) –

- Marshall believed poverty was a breeding ground for Communism. American introduced 'Marshall Aid' – \$17 billion to get Europe's economy going.
- Yet much more was to come in June, with the promulgation of the European Recovery Program (ERP). It became better known as the 'Marshall Plan' after its chief promoter, Secretary of State George Marshall. Members of the government viewed the economic reconstruction of Europe as a matter of great urgency, for two reasons. First, economic instability would generate political instability and probably give rise to communist revolutions. Secondly, US trade depended on a productive, prosperous Europe. Marshall himself explained this in a speech to Harvard University students in June 1947.
- The Marshall Plan was finally approved by Congress on 31st March 1948 following the defenestration of the pro-US politician Jan Masaryk, which confirmed for the Washington Congressmen that Stalin was actively taking over Eastern Europe. Congress approved \$17 billion worth of aid to 16 countries over 4 years.
- These loans came with strict conditions, such as the adoption of liberal, democratic and capitalist policies.
- Marshall aid was designed to:
 - Stabilize the economies of countries on the borders of Soviet Europe, thereby making them less vulnerable to Soviet-style revolution.
 - Make hay for the American economy, as many of the beneficiary corporations were American.
 - Provide propaganda to make America appear visionary and generous.

SALAMI TACTICS (1945–48) 'Slice-by-slice', Stalin ensured all East European countries had Communist governments and became satellite states.

Crucial in these developments was the establishment in October 1947 of **COMINFORM** (The Communist Information Bureau - the American equivalent was the Central Intelligence Agency or CIA established at the same time) - and later the Molotov Plan, which became **COMECON** (The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, 1949) designed to make each of Russia's satellites co-dependent upon Moscow. Cominform represented the political and Comecon the economic wings of Soviet policy in eastern Europe – what Rakosi called 'salami tactics':

- 1) **Albania** (1945) – the Communists took power after the war without opposition
- 2) **Bulgaria** (1945) – the Communists executed the leaders of all the other parties.
- 3) **Poland** (1947) – the Communists forced the non-Communist leaders into exile.
- 4) **Hungary** (1947) – Russian troops stayed / Stalin allowed elections (non-communists won a big majority)/ Communists led by the pro-Russian Rakosi./ Rakosi demanded that groups which opposed him should be banned./ He got control of the police, and arrested his opponents./ He set up a secret police unit, the AVH.
- 5) **Romania** (1945–1947) – the Communists gradually took over control.
- 6) **Czechoslovakia** (1948) – the Communists banned all other parties/ killed their leaders.
- 7) **East Germany** (1949) – Russians turned their zone into German Democratic Republic.

Berlin Blockade, 1948-9

1. **Causes** [**CABAN**]

- **Cold War** was beginning to bite – created tension.
- **Aims** – USA+UK wanted Germany to recover/ Stalin looting German industrial capacity.
- **Bizonia** – USA, UK, France merged zones and on 1st June 1948 announced a new state with a constituent assembly.
- **American Aid** – Marshall Aid was voted 31 March 1948.
- **New Currency** – Britain and America introduced new currency 23rd June – destabilised the East German economy. Stalin said that this was the cause of the blockade.

2. **Events** –

- (24 June 1948) – Stalin closed rail, road and canal links to Berlin / Lasted 11 months/ Allies airlifted supplies to Berlin – 275,000 flights, 1.5m tons/ In winter, Berliners lived on dried eggs and potatoes/ 4 hours of electricity a day./ US had B29 bombers on standby./
- (12 May 1949) – Stalin re-opened the borders.

3. Results [SCENA]

- Success for America's policy of Containment and propaganda victory.
- Cold War got worse – Berlin's divisions became permanent;
- East/West Germany: German Democratic Republic/ Federal Republic of Germany.
- NATO and Warsaw Pact – NATO (1949) defensive alliance against USSR/ Warsaw Pact 1955 by Russia.
- Arms Race. The USA and USSR competed for world domination

KOREAN WAR (North Korea [Communist] invaded South Korea [Capitalist])

1. Causes [DUCKS]

- Domino theory – Truman thought that Far Eastern countries would fall like dominoes. China Communist (1949). Truman feared Japan would follow.
- Undermine Communism – The National Security Council recommended (NSC 68 – April 1950) abandoning containment to 'roll back' Communism.
- Cold War – America & Russia battle for world domination took on a new dimension – war by proxy - Korea was a 'war at arm's length'.
- Kim Il Sung – got Stalin's and Mao tse Tung's agreement to attack South Korea. Only Kim Il Sung recognised by Communist nations.
- Syngman Rhee (1950) – boasted he would attack North Korea – gave an excuse. Only Syngman Rhee recognised by the United Nations.

2. Events

- By June 1950 – the NKPA captured most of South Korea from the ROKs.
- July 1950 – UN troops (Americans led by MacArthur), drove the Communists back to the Chinese border.
- October 1950 – China attacked/ drove the Americans back/ advanced into South Korea.
- March 1950 – American reinforcements drove back Chinese (200,000 dead). Truman told the troops to stop at the 38th parallel. Truman sacked MacArthur for criticising his orders.
- 1953 – Truce: America claimed successful containment.

3. Results

- Another success for Containment... but
- A Failure for Rollback – America realised it could not defeat USSR and China by means of conventional weapons. It therefore...
- Increased its spending on nuclear weapons – by 400%, creating what Eisenhower would later lament as the 'military-industrial complex'.

KHRUSHCHEV succeeded Stalin, seemed to offer hope of peaceful coexistence but in the end brought increased tension:

1. He advocated 'Peaceful Coexistence'/ He met Western leaders at summit meetings/ He was friendly to Yugoslavia, telling Tito there were 'different roads to Communism'/ He criticised Stalin, executed Beria, set free political prisoners and de-stalinised the eastern bloc countries.
2. In 1956 his 'secret speech' signalled a period of De-stalinisation within the Soviet Union:
 - Destroyed the cult of Stalin and the perception that he was a legend starting with the secret speech of 25 February 1956
 - Stalin's statues and portraits were removed from public places
 - The secret police were given less power
 - Abolition of the death penalty
 - Laws of censorship were relaxed so there was more freedom in the media and the arts
 - Increased freedom was given to writers and artists

- **No** elimination of his rivals, as Stalin had done, they were just given unimportant jobs instead
 - **I**ndication of a less brutal control of the party
 - **S**talingrad was renamed to Volgograd
 - **A**lso erased Stalin from history by taking his body from the Red Square mausoleum where it was displayed alongside Lenin and burying it in a grave alongside other Soviet leaders.
 - **T**housands of political prisoners were released from Gulags which were closed.
 - **I**mproved Khrushchev's image – portraying him as good and Stalin as bad and disassociated himself from Stalin's crimes even though he had been responsible for thousands of deaths himself
 - **O**ther places and buildings named after Stalin were renamed
 - **N**evertheless, the basic elements of the Soviet system, including the dominance of the Communist Party, remained intact.
- 3. In fact 1955–1963 was the time of greatest tension in the Cold War**
- Khrushchev used Russian troops when countries tried to leave Russian control.
 - By peaceful co-existence, Khrushchev meant 'peaceful competition' (He loved to argue (Kitchen debate with Nixon)/ He gave economic aid to countries like Afghanistan and Burma/ Space Race (1957: Sputnik. 1961: Yuri Gagarin orbits the earth)/ Arms Race (1953: Russia got the hydrogen bomb, five years ahead of US predictions)
 - Warsaw Pact (1955) – USSR/ Albania/ Bulgaria/ Czechoslovakia/ E Germany/ Hungary/ Poland/ Romania
- 4. In response,** in America **McCarthy** conducted a 'witchhunt' for Communists/ In 1955, NATO agreed to an army of 0.5 m men in W Germany/ rushed to put a man on the moon (though this did not occur until 1969)/ American U2 planes spied on Russia and one was shot down on May 1st 1960 with its pilot still alive – Gary Powers.

HUNGARY (1956)

1. Causes:

- **Poverty** – When most of Hungary's food was sent to Russia
- **Russian Control** – The Hungarians were very patriotic/ They hated censorship, the AVH, and Russian control of education./ They hated having Russian troops stationed in Hungary
- **Catholic Church** – Communism tried to destroy religion, but Hungarians were Catholics
- **Help from the West** – The Hungarians thought Esienhower or UN would help.
- **Destalinisation** –Led to protests against Rakosi's harsh government.

2. Events (3 key dates)

- **23 October** – Student riots – attcks on AVH and Russian troops
- **24 October – 3 November** – Reforming government led by Imre Nagy (Democracy/ Freedom of speech/ Freedom of religion/ Aimed to withdraw from Warsaw Pact.
- **November** – Soviets sent 1000 tanks to crush/ Western powers protested but didn't want a war.

3. Results

- Janos Kadar put in control of Hungary
- 4,000 Hungarians killed/ Nagy shot./
- 200,000 Hungarians flee to West./
- Many westerners leave the Communist party./
- Russia stays in control in Eastern Europe./
- Western leaders all the more determined to 'contain' communism.

U2 CRISIS

- 1 May 1960 Soviets shot down American U2 spy plane over USSR, and captured pilot Gary Powers./ Americans had to admit he was a spy./ Khrushchev demanded apology + end to spy flights./ Eisenhower refused.

Results

- Khrushchev walks out of Paris summit (14 May 1960)/ Eisenhower's planned visit to Russia cancelled/ Khrushchev demands US leaves West Berlin/ Americans came off badly – been caught lying- propaganda victory for USSR./ New American president Kennedy promises to get tough on Communism.

BERLIN WALL, 1961

1. Causes

- **Growing tension** (U2 crisis/ Kennedy finances anti-Communist forces in Laos and Vietnam)
- **Refugees** (West Berlin enjoyed much higher standard than East Berlin./ 1945 –1960 3 million people crossed the border – a propaganda point for the US – most were skilled workers)
- **Sabotage** –The Russians claimed that America used West Berlin for spies and sabotage in east Germany..

2. Events

- 13 August 1961– East Germans erected a barbed wire wall overnight (later stone)/ All East – West movement was stopped./ Wall fortified with barbed wire and guns./Western powers could do nothing.

CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS

1. Causes (CRABS)

- **Cold War tensions** – U2 – Berlin Wall – Laos – Vietnam
- **Revolution in Cuba led by Fidel Castro** only 90 miles off coast of America./ Close relationship with USSR (oil, machinery and money in return for sugar)/ Cuba nationalises American companies
- Arms Race reaches new heights – both countries have Hydrogen bombs, both have capability of delivering them by means of bomber aircraft, but only US has USSR within range of MRBMs.
- **Bay of Pigs** – (April 1961) America sent in rebels in but they were defeated (a humiliation) and Castro looked to Soviet Union for protection.
- **Spy planes photograph Soviet missile sites** on Cuba– 14 October 1962.

2. Events

- Kennedy ordered a naval blockade and threatened invasion.
- For 10 days the world was on the brink of nuclear war.
- Kennedy promised to remove US missiles from Turkey
- 28 October Khrushchev removed the missiles and the crisis was over

3. Results

- Khrushchev seemed to have failed
- Kennedy became the hero of the Western world
- Telephone hot line set up between Moscow and Washington.

Paper 2 Section A: USA: 1917-1929

- IMAGE** - FIVE reasons why America rejected ToV - Isolationism; Money; American Soldiers; Germans; Empire. Two principles of the Ford-McCumber Act – set by the wages in country of origin and the American cost of production in America.
- WAIF** – FOUR reasons Americans wanted high tariffs – Wartime boom was coming to an end; American wages being high; Isolationism; Farmers wanted protection because of over-production;
- PRT** - THREE reasons Americans wanted to stop immigration – Prejudice; Red scare; Trade unions; THREE laws to control immigration – Immigration law imposing literacy test (1917); 1921 Emergency Quota Act (3% of 1910); 1924 National Origins Act (2% of 1890) THREE measures to 'Americanize' immigrants – Americanization Day rallies; Citizenship exams; classes in English language and American civics.
- CI SUCCESS** - SEVEN indications of a booming economy in the 1920s – Consumer Confidence; Innovation in production methods; Synthetics; Upsurge in car ownership; Cycle of prosperity; Exchange of Stocks (stock exchange); Skyscrapers.
- PAT GOT CASH** - TEN reasons why industry boomed in the 1920s – Population; Abundant raw materials; Tariffs; Government relaxed regulations and taxes; Opportunities for new technology; Techniques of production (assembly line production methods); Cycle of prosperity; Advertising; Sales Methods; Hire Purchase.
- FLOP CUTS** - EIGHT weaknesses of the American economy in the 1920s – Farming; Low wages; Old industries; Poor Black Americans; Cartels; Unemployment; Trade problems; Stock exchange.
- POWER** - FIVE aspects of the 'Roaring Twenties' – Prohibition (A CRIME, DAMAGE & ALE) ; Organised crime; Women's lives; Entertainment; Racism.
- A CRIME** – Anti-Saloon League; Christian organisations – e.g. Women's Temperance Union; Rural America – reacted against cities; Isolationism – rejection of foreign culture, especially German beer. Madness and lateness to work; Easy Street – film by Charlie Chaplin that highlighted the dangers of alcoholism;
- DAMAGE** – SIX reasons Prohibition was a failure – Drinking continued; availability of liquor underground; Made criminals of ordinary people; Adverse effects of bad liquor; Gangsterism; End (abolished in 1933 by 21st amendment)
- ALE** – THREE reasons Prohibition was a success – Alcohol was destroyed; Lowered consumption even after 1933 – pre-1914 levels not reached until 1971; Eliot Ness and the Untouchables became national examples of high standards;
- HACKLE** - SIX examples of racism in 1920s America – Hostility to immigrants; American government; Jim Crow; KKK; Lynchings; Even in the north – de facto segregation.
- RHINO** - FIVE aspects of the Black renaissance.

Part 1: The growth of Isolation, 1917-1922

How did the USA react to the end of World War I?

Rejection of the Treaty of Versailles

1. 1918 Republicans won a majority in the Senate/ Republican opposition to Wilson led by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge - proposed 14 changes ('reservations')
2. Wilson set off on a nation-wide tour, but had a stroke. ToV and LoN rejected by the Senate in March 1920.
3. **Reasons [IMAGE]:** Isolationism (led by Senator Borah)/ **M**oney – not wanting to spend money on wars/ **A**merican soldiers – 100,000 had died in WWI/ **G**ermans – German immigrants hated the ToV/ **E**mpire – Americans hated the British Empire PLUS WILSON (80% of Americans wanted the League, only 12 Senators were isolationists; the rest would have accepted Lodge's 14 reservations. But Wilson would not accept any compromise and his 23 supporters voted against the Treaty.)

How did the policies of the American Government encourage isolation?

American Isolationism in the 1920s

In 1920 Warren Harding became President under the slogan 'return to normalcy'.

Tariffs:

1. Fordney-McCumber Act (1922) – highest tariffs in history (up to 400%) set according to Scientific tariff (the wages in the country of origin) and American selling price (the cost of production in America).
2. **Reasons Americans wanted high tariffs [WAIF]:** **W**artime boom: American businessmen wanted this to continue/ **A**merican wages: were rising, and American businessmen feared low wages in Europe would bring

down cost of production abroad and foreign goods would be cheaper/ Isolationists wanted America to be self-sufficient/ Farmers wanted protection because overproduction was causing prices to fall

Immigration

1. 1917 Immigration Law (immigrants must be able to read English/ banned immigrants from China & Japan),
2. 1921 Emergency Quota Act (maximum number 357,000 / reduced immigration from eastern and southern Europe by only allowing each country to send 3% of immigrants already in America in 1910)
3. 1924 Reed-Johnson Act – also called the National Origins Act (maximum number 154,000 / reduced immigration from eastern and southern Europe by only allowing each country to send 2% of immigrants already in America in 1890)
4. AMERICANIZATION. This term was brought into general use during the organization of “Americanization Day” celebrations in a number of cities for July 4, 1915. It properly refers to the “science of race assimilation” Americanization of immigrants otherwise known as ‘Naturalization’. The National Americanization committee was established in May 1915 in the context of WWI and particularly after America entered the war in 1917. After the war, the emphasis shifted from emergency propaganda to education. During the 1920s Americanisation committees sprang up across America. Over 30 states passed laws requiring Americanization programmes; in hundreds of cities Chambers of Commerce organised classes in English language and American civics; immigrants were asked to take ‘citizenship exams’; over 3000 school boards operated after school and Saturday classes; companies like the Ford Motor Company played a prominent role.
 - a. The Federal Bureau of Naturalization organised naturalization proceedings, and patriotic ‘Americanization Day’ rallies and Fourth of July celebrations.
 - b. The Federal Bureau of Education organised courses on politics and democracy to prepare immigrants for the ‘citizenship exam’.
 - c. The courts clamped down harshly on political crimes by immigrants
5. Sacco and Vanzetti - two anarchist immigrants from Italy found guilty of armed robbery and murder (1920) and executed (1927), despite 107 witnesses that they were elsewhere at the time, and in 1925 the murderer giving himself up. The jury did not believe the defence witnesses because they were all of Italian origin.
6. **Reasons [PRT]:** Prejudice against Japanese and Chinese, and poor Catholics and Jews from eastern Europe – claims America was turning into ‘a race of mongrels’/ Red scare over communists and anarchists (e.g. Sacco and Vanzetti)/ Trade Unions feared that immigrants would take their jobs.

Part 2: The Promised Land? The USA in the 1920s

How far did the USA achieve prosperity in the 1920s?

The 1920s Economy

1920-1929: Gross National Product rose 40% and income per person 27% – mass production (e.g. Ford motor cars), a consumer boom (including buying things on hire purchase) and a stock market boom.

- **Boom [CI SUCCESS]: Consumer Confidence; Innovation in production methods – e.g. Ford Production line; Synthetics – production of new plastics; Upsurge in Car ownership:** 1920-1929 rose from 8m to 23m; by 1925 one Ford car every 10 seconds/ By 1929, 75% of all leather, glass and rubber went to the car industry; demand for petrol and oil grew; road construction, garages also increased; meanwhile travelling salesmen began to take products far and wide. The growth in spending and demand led in turn to more employment and more money and more spending: **Cycle of prosperity:** more sales = more production = more wages = more spending/ Consumer durables (e.g. fridges) and electrical goods (telephones x2, radios 60,000 to 10 million) PLUS (the first plastic), cellophane and nylon; products went down in price as a result of mass production making them more affordable (Ford car that cost \$950 in 1908 would cost \$350 in 1926 for a much improved version. The number of cars in the US in 1915 was 1 million; by 1939 it was 28 million. Hire Purchase made buying possible for poorer people so that they too could share in the prosperity/ Entertainment Industry: boomed (Hollywood, cinemas, jazz clubs and speakeasies)/ **Stock Exchange:** a ‘Bull market’ on Wall Street/. Buying on the margins – people borrowed money to buy shares in the expectation that their value would increase and thereby enable them to pay back the brokers’ loan and make a profit. **Skyscrapers**, urban growth and highway development.
- **Reasons for economic boom [PAT GOT CASH]: Population** growing rapidly/ **Abundant raw materials** – esp. coal, iron and oil/ **Tariffs protected** American industry/ **Government relaxed regulations** and low taxes (laissez faire)/ **Opportunities of New Technology** (e.g. electrical, radio, film, nylon)/ **Techniques of production** – Ford’s **Assembly line**, and Frederick Taylor’s time and motion/ **Cycle of prosperity** – increased prosperity increased

prosperity/ **Advertising** (billboards, radio commercials,)/ **Sales methods** (commercial travellers, mail order, chain stores such as Woolworths)/ **Hire Purchase** – instalments.

But many Americans did not share the prosperity, esp. farmers, coal and textiles workers, and Black Americans.

- **Poverty [FLOP CUTS]: Farming** - 1929 farmers' wages 40% of national average, ½m farmers go bankrupt pa/ **Low wages**: top 5% of the population earned a third of the income, but 40% were below the poverty line/ **Old Industries** textiles and coal a coal miners' wages a third of the national average. There were 2 million employed throughout the 1920s/ **Poor Black Americans** – 1m black farm workers lost their jobs in the 1920s – Blacks stuck in low-pay, menial jobs – New York's black Harlem district: sleeping in shifts, 'Rent parties'. **Cartels, trusts and monopolies** 'fixed the market' to keep prices high and wages low. **Unemployment** – never below 2 million in the 1920s; **Trade Problems** - high tariffs caused retaliation in kind by other countries; **Stock exchange** was overheating.

'The Roaring Twenties'. Is this a good description of the USA in the 1920s?

POWER:

Prohibition – Why?

A CRIME – Reasons for Prohibition

- a. **Anti-Saloon League** - campaigned that drink hurt families because men wasted money on beer, that it ruined their health and lost them their jobs, and that it led to domestic violence and neglect.
- b. **Christian organisation** – esp. Women's Christian Temperance Union – supported prohibition. (The early 20th century was a time of Christian revival.)
- c. **Rural America** – scandalised by behaviour in the towns – supported it.
- d. **Isolationism** – it was said that money spent on drink 'flew away to Germany' because much of the beer drunk in America was brewed there.
- e. **Madness**, crime, poverty and illness were seen as caused by alcohol - many (including BOTH my grandparents, 'signed the pledge' *never* to drink.)
- f. **Easy Street** – Charlie Chaplin's comic film (1917) showed how drink damaged, and Christianity nurtured, families' happiness and prosperity.

In 1919 - as the result of a long and powerful campaign - the 18th Amendment to the Constitution made the manufacture, transport or sale of alcoholic drinks illegal. The Volstead Act, passed at the same time, declared any drink more than 5% proof 'alcoholic'.

DAMAGE – Prohibition was a failure

- a. **Drinking continued**: impossible to enforce (not enough police - only 4000 agents, many of whom were sacked for taking bribes).
- b. **Available**: the liquor trade just 'went underground'. speakeasies (illegal bars), moonshine (illegally-made alcohol), bootlegging (smuggling alcohol to sell). It is sometimes asserted that there were more speakeasies than there had been saloons (not true, but there were 200,000 speakeasies in 1933).
- c. **Made criminals of ordinary people**
- d. **Adverse effects**: moonshine was poor quality and sometimes killed people. 'Jackass brandy' caused internal bleeding, 'Soda Pop Moon' contained poisonous alcohol.
- e. **Gangsterism flourished running the illegal trade**: It became hugely profitable, and led to a growth of violence, protection rackets etc. associated with the illegal trade (see '[Organised Crime](#)' below). The general flouting brought the rule of law in general into disrepute as police 'turned a blind eye'. Corruption grew.
- f. **End**: in 1933 the 21st Amendment abolished Prohibition (= 'proved' that it failed).

ALE - Prohibition was a success

- a. **Alcohol destroyed**: in 1929, 50 million litres of illegal alcohol were discovered and destroyed.

- b. **Legacy:** the actual consumption of alcohol fell, not just during prohibition, but for many years after - did not reach pre-1914 levels until 1971.
- c. **Eliot Ness and the Untouchables:** became famous as examples of the high standards police SHOULD achieve.

Organised Crime

Organised crime stepped in to take over from the breweries and spirits manufacturers:

- a. They ran the speakeasies, and bootlegging.
- b. They also ran protection rackets, prostitution and drug-running.
- c. They bribed trade union leaders, police, lawyers, judges and even Senators.
- d. The most famous gangster was Al Capone, who earned \$100,000 a year from beer sales alone, ran a private army of more than 700 mobsters, and is thought to have murdered more than 200 opponents.
- e. They fought with each other for control of their 'territory' - the most famous incident was the [St Valentine's Day Massacre](#) in 1929, when 'torpedoes' from Capone's gang shot dead 7 members of Bugs Moran's gang.

Women's Lives

How significant were the changes in women's lives in the 1920s?

Argument 1 - VERY significant:

- a. **Work:** Many women had taken over jobs traditionally reserved for men (such as manufacturing), and 1920-29 the number of working women increased by 25%; many went to be teachers and secretaries.
- b. **Vote:** In 1920 the 19th Amendment gave women the vote. The former suffrage campaigners formed themselves into the Woman's Joint Congressional Committee, which lobbied successfully for a Maternity and Infancy Protection Act (1921), equal nationality rights for married women (1922), and the Child Labor Amendment (1925).
- c. **Flappers:** dumped the old restrictive fashions, corsets etc. in favour of short skirts, short hair, and the flat-chested 'garconne' look. Many of them wore men's clothing. They smoked, drank, used make-up, played tennis, and danced wildly in jazz clubs. Some were openly lesbian, others were sexually active.

Argument 2 - NOT significant:

- a. **Work:** most working women were in low-paid jobs, and they were paid less than men for the same job. 10 million women were working in 1930 ... but this was still only a quarter of the females age 15 and over; the rest worked for free in the home and on the farm.
- b. **Vote:** Apart from exceptions such as Florence Kelley and Alice Paul, few suffrage campaigners went into politics; they gave up politics and returned to being housewives. Women campaigned in vain after 1920 for an Equal Rights Act.
- c. **Flappers:** The flappers scandalised many Americans - the Anti-Flirt Association tried to persuade young Americans to behave decently. Most girls, especially in rural America, still behaved 'decently', got married and had babies.

Entertainment

a. Films:

- movie actors such as Charlie Chaplin, Rudolf Valentino and Mary Pickford became 'stars'.
- in 1927, *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson, was the first 'talkie'.
- a well-known early two-colour film was *The Toll of the Sea* (1922) and two-colour films were common by the end of the 1920s; after 1932, films were produced in three-colour technicolour.
- Mickey Mouse was created by Walt Disney in 1928 (who released *Snow White* in colour in 1937).
- by 1930, 100 million Americans went to the movies every week.
- companies like United Artists and MGM produced hundreds of films a year.
- films taught people new fashions (e.g. smoking) and new ways to behave - many girls wanted to be like 'It' girl, Clara Bow.

b. Jazz:

- Jazz was first played in New Orleans by black musicians such as Louis Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton. After 1917, racist violence forced many of them to leave New Orleans, so they went north to play in the night clubs of towns like Chicago and New York.
- The invention of radio and the phonograph (record player) made it available in people's homes. The first jazz record was made in 1917 by the Dixieland Jazz Band. They were called 'race records', because they were recorded by black musicians.
- Because it was often played in speakeasies, by black musicians, it was seen as wild and exciting - which soon made it very popular.
- Jazz music contributed to many of the social developments of the age - baggy trousers and short skirts, wild dancing such as the Black Bottom, and a new kind of convention-free poetry called 'jazz poetry' (poets such as TS Eliot and ee cummings). It was part of the Harlem Renaissance, and the growth of black pride (see below).

c. Dances:

- The Charleston was a fast dance developed in Black communities which was adopted by flappers, who danced it alone to challenge the 'drys' who wouldn't go out to clubs. (Both Joan Crawford and Ginger Rodgers began their movie careers by winning Charleston competitions.)
- The 'Black Bottom Stomp' was first recorded by Jelly Roll Morton and named after Black Bottom - a Black neighbourhood in Detroit. After 1926 it became the most popular dance.
- The dances scandalised many Americans, who thought they were immoral.

Race Relations

How far were the 1920s a time of racism and discrimination for Black Americans?

HACKLE – the 1920s was a time of racism

- Hostility to immigrants:** and the Red Scare' - see [this page for more information](#).
- American Government:** refused to pass laws banning lynchings or giving Black Americans the vote.
- Jim Crow Laws:** the name for laws passed in the southern states which prevented Black Americans from mixing with whites ('segregation'), denied them equality of education and civil rights, and prevented them from voting.
- Ku Klux Klan:** an organisation to maintain WASPs supremacy, which had 5 million members by 1925. Many supporters were poor whites, who did not want Black Americans to be their equals/fear they would take their jobs, but many were racism wealthy white Americans. They wore white sheets and hoods, and marched with burning crosses. They spoke with each other in a secret language which they called 'Klonversations'. They attacked, tortured and killed Black Americans, but also Jews and Catholics and 'immoral' people such as alcoholics.
- Lynchings:** mobs of white people often hanged ('lynched') Blacks Americans whom they suspected of a crime (usually the police turned a blind eye).
- Even in the north:** Black Americans ended up with the low-paid menial jobs, such as janitors, bootblacks, cooks, houseboys, baggage handlers, waiters, doormen, dishwashers and washroom attendants. In 1919, white Americans in Chicago rampaged through Black neighbourhoods after a drowning black man clinging to a log had drifted into a whites-only swimming area.

RHINO – The 1920s was a time of Black renaissance

- Role models:** some Black Americans became famous - the sprinter Jesse Owens, the baseball player Jackie Robinson, the dancer Josephine Baker. They were an inspiration to other Black Americans.
- Harlem Renaissance:** a cultural flowering in the New York Black neighbourhood of Harlem, based on jazz, but also excellent Black architects, novelists, poets and painters. Many of these believed in 'Artistic Action' - winning equality by *proving* they were equal.
- Identity:** in 1925 Alain Locke wrote *The New Negro*, who had to smash the old image of 'Uncle Tom' and 'Sambo', and develop a new identity, 'uplift' the race and fight for equality. There were Black newspapers and magazines. This was the time when the phrase was coined: 'Black is Beautiful'.
- NAACP:** Set up in 1909, it campaigned for civil rights.
- One-and-a-half million** Black Americans migrated from the south to the north. Although many of them ended up in low-paid jobs, some of them formed a new Black middle class, and were educated at university.

Positives

- **Social:** Cinema: by 1930, 100 million Americans went to the movies every week., Charlie Chaplin and Clara Bow (the 'It' girl); the first 'talkie' (*The Jazz Singer* with Al Jolson); colour films; Disney cartoons (*Mickey Mouse*)/ Jazz: The first jazz record the Dixieland Jazz Band, 1917, Louis Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton./ Dances: Charleston and 'Black Bottom' (by Jelly Roll Morton, named after a Black Detroit neighbourhood).
- **Women:** Working women increased 25% during the 1920s, esp. as teachers and secretaries/ Vote: In 1920 the 19th Amendment women got the vote; Flappers represented the fashion of women who did not depend upon men to support them. They therefore represented a new independence, social and sexual freedom. They wore short skirts and hair, flat-chested 'garconne' look, men's clothes, smoked, drank, used make-up, danced wildly in jazz clubs and were sexually active. Most women married eventually, however, and when they did tended to live as modern labour-saving a home life as possible and perhaps even continued to work.
- **Black Americans:** Famous Black Americans such as the sprinter Jesse Owens, the baseball player Jackie Robinson, the dancer Josephine Baker./ Harlem Renaissance of jazz musicians, Black architects, novelists, poets and painters who believed in 'Artistic Action'./ NAACP campaigned for Black Rights. W.E.B. du Bois (1868-1963) helped to set up the Niagra movement and later the NAACP (the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People). Highly educated, he took degrees at Nashville and Harvard before teaching in Atlanta University and later becoming editor of the NAACP's newspaper, Crisis. His goal was integration and civil rights for African Americans. More famous but perhaps less respected, Marcus Garvey (1887-1940) arrived in the US from Jamaica in 1915 and sought to promote a black separatist movement that focussed less on getting rights from white governments and more on establishing black self-help organisations and businesses. Garvey argued that African-Americans should look to build a country of their own, and established a 'back to Africa' campaign, in which Liberia could become the black persons' home country. He set up the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) but was eventually arrested and deported back to Jamaica for fraud in 1927. At first, Du Bois welcomed Garvey but later withdrew his support, particularly after it was revealed that Garvey had met with members of the KKK.

Negatives

- **Prohibition:** 19th Amendment (1919), the Volstead Act declared any drink more than 5% proof 'alcoholic'/ In 1929, 50m litres of illegal alcohol discovered and destroyed/ 200,000 speakeasies (illegal bars), moonshine (illegally-made alcohol), bootlegging (smuggling alcohol to sell). **Reasons for Prohibition [A CRIME]:** Anti-Saloon League/ Christian Temperance Union/ Rural Americans were shocked by flappers and speakeasies/ Isolationists hated buying German beer/ Madness, crime, poverty and illness were seen as caused by alcohol – 'signing the pledge'./ *Easy Street*, a comic film by Charlie Chaplin, showed how drink damaged people. It failed because of **DAMAGE: Drinking continued; Availability** of alcohol; It **Made criminals of ordinary Americans** and thereby damaged respect for the law and encouraged law breaking; **adverse affects** of alcohol were greater because less controlled - illegal moonshine was potentially lethal (e.g. *Soda Pop Moon* and *Jackass Brandy*); **Gangsters flourished** and led to the growth of violence and corruption. Finally, it **Ended** in 1933 when the 18th Amendment was overturned by the 21st Amendment, proving that the American experiment with prohibition had utterly failed.
- **Organised Crime:** Gangsters ran speakeasies, bootlegging, protection rackets, prostitution and drug-running, and bribed police, judges and Senators./ Al Capone had an army of 700 mobsters, and murdered more than 200 opponents – the most famous incident was the St Valentine's Day massacre of 1929, when 'torpedoes' from Capone's gang shot dead 7 members of Bugs Moran's gang/ Eliot Ness and his 'Untouchables'.

- **Racism:** Immigration laws (Quotas, the Red Scare and the Sacco-Vanzetti case)/ Ku Klux Klan: 5m by 1925, white sheets and hoods, burning crosses, 'Klonversations', lynched Black Americans, but also Jews, Catholics, alcoholics etc./ 'Jim Crow Laws' in the southern states enforced segregation and denied the vote. Segregation occurred everywhere in the south, from restaurants to toilets, cinemas, schools and transport. Black schools were given less money for books and building repairs. Jim Crow laws included literacy tests that were administered unfairly against black people so that they would lose their vote. Social pressure was also important – with black people told that they would lose their jobs if they registered to vote. Violence was also threatened. **In the north** there were no Jim Crow laws but black people found themselves living in separate neighbourhoods anyway as 'white flight' led to black people occupying the worst parts of town. Once again, schools became de facto segregated. Northern cities – such as Detroit, Chicago and New York came to have their own ghettos. Harlem, for example, became increasingly dominated by black population (33% in 1910; 70% by 1930). The Ku Klux Klan was re-founded by Walter Simmons after the 1915 film 'Birth of a Nation' celebrated their role in the South following the civil war. They carried out lynching attacks and terrified black Americans, particularly in the south. The KKK wanted America to be a WASP nation (White, Anglo-Saxon Protestants) and therefore targeted Catholics, Jews and other immigrants from non-Anglo-Saxon countries, as well as blacks. They also targeted anyone associated with left-wing political groups, such as the Communist Party. The influence of the Klan went deep into Southern society, involving judges and law enforcement agencies, making it hard for anyone to bring charges against them.
- **Religious fundamentalism and social attitudes in rural areas** – experience of the change was fuelled by radios (10 million had been sold by 1929); brought people in rural areas news and information as well as music and advertising; motoring meant that people could move around more freely. However, many in rural areas reacted negatively to change – Ohio passed laws about the length of dresses; smoking was banned in North Dakota in 1925. Fundamentalists – objected to any teaching that conflicted with the 'truth' of God's word in the bible; William Jennings Bryan campaigned to ban any teaching of evolution in schools; in 1925 the State of Tennessee passed a law that banned the teaching of anything that contradicted the Bible's creation story. This law was tested by the American Civil Liberties Union who funded the defence of John Scopes, a biology teacher in Dayton Tennessee who deliberately taught evolution so there would be such a court case. Scopes lost the case and the Tennessee law was not repealed until 1967.