

Unit 7; Period 7 Part 2 - Important Dates and Chronological Review

Keep in mind that memorizing dates is not required, however sometimes significant years do pop up on tests. Those dates in bold are years that have popped up in the past. Far more important is reviewing general chronology. You are expected to understand chronology, so use this list to help you review sequencing. **Add notes/comments on major themes as you review to make the timeline complete, and highlight any information that you do not yet have in long term memory.**

World War I

- 1914 World War begins in Europe following the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and entangling alliances among several nations
- 1915 German declared the seas around the British Isles a "war zone" and subs sank luxury liner **Lusitania** killing more than 1,000 people (128 were American). **Woodrow Wilson** rejected the suggestion that U.S. end neutrality. Instead he sent a warning to Germany to stop its unrestricted submarine warfare. Yeah... that worked. **William Jennings Bryan** (Wilson's Secretary of State and former candidate) was a pacifist who favored U.S. neutrality and he resigned after Wilson took steps toward war preparations.
- 1916 Wilson runs for re-election with the slogan, "He kept us out of war." He is reelected.
U.S. troops invaded **Mexico** again.
The **Gore-McLemore Resolution** prohibited Americans from travelling on armed or contraband-carrying ships. It fails when Wilson doesn't support it.
The French ship (luxury liner), **Sussex**, is attacked by German U-boats. Wilson threatened to cut off all ties with Germany, so Germany changed its policy (**Sussex Pledge**) until later in 1917 when they felt confident victory required unrestricted warfare.
National Defense Act increased the size of the Army and National Guard, and authorized \$500 million investment for Navy.
- 1917 Germany returned to unrestricted submarine warfare against merchant ships
The **Zimmerman Telegram** was intercepted by British intelligence. Sent Germany to Mexico asking for Mexico to join in the war effort with promises of regaining lands lost in the Mexican-American War and Texas War for Independence. This is the event that finally pushes America into the war officially.
The Russian Revolution caused Russia to back out of war. Bolshevik Revolution led to communism and soon after the formation of the Soviet Union under Vladimir Lenin. The communists side with Germany.
Selective Service Act created a military draft, the **Espionage Act** made it illegal to interfere with the draft or encourage treason, the **War Industries Board** was created to set prices and discourage use of unnecessary products during wartime (this would continue after the war), and the **War Revenue Act** graduated the personal income tax, corporate income tax, excess profits tax, and increased excise taxes on alcohol, tobacco, and luxury items.
- 1918 Wilson wrote his **Fourteen Points** which outlined plan for peace after the war, including the creation of the **League of Nations**.
The **Sedition Act** made it illegal to criticize war efforts.
Troops entered France and fought with the Allies. An **Armistice** is declared for the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month... later became Veterans Day.
- 1919 The **Paris Peace Conference** at Versailles led to the **Treaty of Versailles** in which Germany accepted the blame for the war. Germany is also forced to give up territory, Alsace-Lorraine, and all other colonies. They were forced to accept war reparations in excess of 35 billion dollars (which crippled Germany along with loss of land and resources). **Adolf Hitler**, who fought in WWI, declared the **Treaty of Versailles** was a betrayal, not a treaty and definitely not a defeat. The Treaty went against much of **Wilson's Fourteen Points**, as Europe was focused on punishing Germany not setting up future peace. This set the stage for WWII.
- 1919 The **American Legion** was founded to promote veterans benefits and to hunt communists in the **Red Scare**.
The U.S. Communist Party was founded.
Wilson suffered a stroke after tirelessly traveling the country trying to raise support for the League and Treaty. His last months in office are spent in bed with his wife communicating for him and running things (the first female president?). Vice President refuses to take over.
Schenk v. U.S. upheld the 1st Amendment restrictions during war.
18th Amendment and **Volstead Act** outlawed alcohol.
The **Seattle General Strike** struck fear into the heart of America. Not a good time to be involved in organized labor since labor movements = communist revolution... red scare.
Chicago race riot
- 1920 **A. Mitchell Palmer** (Attorney General) led raids (**Palmer Raids**) to protect America from communists.
Thousands are arrested, some held without bail or counsel. 249 were deported to the USSR. Other were released.
The Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles as Wilson's rival, **Henry Cabot Lodge**, lobbied to keep America out of entangling alliances (European affairs).

The Roaring Twenties/The Jazz Age

- 1920 **19th Amendment** (Women's Suffrage)
Republican **Warren G. Harding** elected president under the slogan "**Return to Normalcy**"
The **first commercial radio broadcast** aired.
It was now official... the U.S. was an urban nation as more people lived in cities than rural communities.
Fitzgerald published **This Side of Paradise** which inspired the youth (including flappers) to bewildered and sometimes reckless abandon to life... "all gods dead, all wars fought, all faiths in man shaken."

- 1921 Federal Highway Act provided aid for state roads
Immigration quotas were established... **Emergency Quota Act of 1921**
Maternity and Infancy Protection Act passed in order to help women and children (healthcare/welfare)
Sacco & Vanzetti trial
- 1922 The economy recovered and post-war prosperity began... ending in 1929.
Washington Naval Conference produced several treaties including the **4-Power Treaty** (U.S., G.B., France, and Japan to respect Pacific holdings) and **5-Power Treaty** (naval ratios 5:5:3; U.S.:G.B.:Japan) and **9-Power Treaty** (9 nations recognized open door in China)
- ...*Meanwhile... Benito Mussolini and the Fascists came to power in Italy while Americans celebrate the victories of disarmament and diplomacy*...
- 1922 **Sinclair Lewis** published *Babbitt* (slave to consumerism) and **T.S. Eliot** published "The Waste Land"
Fordney-McCumber Tariff Law increased tariffs almost as high as the Payne-Aldrich Tariff of 1909 (Taft)
- 1923 Harding died and VP **Calvin Coolidge** took over.
KKK surges... reached all-time high membership.
Lucretia Mott Amendment (named after 19th century leader for suffrage... equal rights for women... becomes the **Equal Rights Amendment**... aka ERA) is demanded by women's movement. **Alice Paul** led the way to write it. It was never ratified.
Adkins vs Children's' Hospital declared federal minimum wage legislation for women was an unconstitutional infringement of liberty of contract, as protected by the due process clause of the Fifth Amendment. (later overturned in 1937)
- 1924 **Teapot Dome** scandal was exposed... Harding's Secretary of the Interior, **Albert B. Fall**, leased Navy petroleum reserves at Teapot Dome and two other locations to private oil companies at low rates without competitive bidding. (and received bribe/kickback from them for doing so). Up until the Watergate scandal in the early 1970s, this was seen as the worst government scandal in history.
National Origins Act set strict quotas on immigration of Eastern and Southern Europeans and all Asians.
Calvin Coolidge elected President.
Charles **Dawes' German Reparation Plan** established a schedule for German reparation payments with American banks loaning the money. (U.S. loans money to Germany so Germany can pay reparation to allies so allies can repay their loans to the U.S.)
- 1925 **Scopes Trial**...(aka... the Monkey trial) **Clarence Darrow** for the defense of **John Scopes** (teacher who taught evolution despite state law forbidding it) and **William Jennings Bryan** (former candidate – numerous times and Wilson's VP until he resigned because he was a pacifist) for the prosecution. This case illustrated the conflict of **modernism vs fundamentalism** ... science vs religion. Scopes was found guilty and fined \$100
Florida real estate boomed. (too bad a lot of it was swampland)
F. Scott Fitzgerald published *The Great Gatsby* (glamour and cruelty of an achievement oriented society)
Theodore Dreiser published *An American Tragedy* (pregnant girl murdered by her socially ambitious lover... similar theme to Gatsby)
Al Capone built a large gang in Chicago. Gang wars killed hundreds, controlled cities, and kept the booze flowing during the era of Prohibition.
Prohibition = Crime.
- 1926 U.S. troops occupy Nicaragua (it's a financial thing... age of Imperialism not exactly over)
Ernest Hemingway published *The Sun Also Rises*... disillusionment was high in much of the 20s literature, but none as much as Hemingway who actually fought in WWI.
Langston Hughes published *The Weary Blues*... **Harlem Renaissance** produced numerous talents
- 1927 **Nicola Sacco** and **Bartolomeo Vanzetti** were executed amid protest... convicted for a murder they probably didn't commit... targeted because they were undesirable immigrants who were also anarchists.
Charles Lindbergh flew solo across the Atlantic in *The Spirit of St. Louis* from New York to France... the first to do so... became instant superstar. (The Wright Brothers flew the first airplane in 1903)
Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs in one season.
The Jazz Singer, the first talking movie, was released. (the first story-sequence motion picture aired in .. began silent movie era)
Ford stopped producing the **Model T**... the car that revolutionized America during the 1920s.
Marcus Garvey was deported following conviction of mail fraud... but before he left the country, his **Black Star Line Co.** (he founded the **United Negro Improvement Association** to promote resettlement of Blacks to Africa) and Black pride movement inspired many and helped inspire the Nation of Islam decades later.
- 1928 The Stock Market hit an all-time high.
Herbert Hoover elected President.
Kellogg-Briand Pact was signed by 62 nations which condemned the use of war... tried to outlaw war. Yup... dumb.
- 1929 **Stock Market crashed** after a plummeting fall... this marked the end of the "Roaring Twenties" and the "Jazz Age" and marked the beginning of the world's worst economic depression.
Ernest Hemingway published *A Farewell To Arms* which is one of the best wartime novels ever. ☺
- 1930 **Hawley-Smoot Tariff** established ridiculously high protective tariffs... yup... dumb.
- 1931 Japan took Manchuria (China).

The Great Depression and the New Deal

- 1931 **Dust Bowl** forces massive migration west.
The Scottsboro Case resulted in 9 black men being falsely accused and charged with raping 2 white women.
Herbert Hoover declared a moratorium on WWI debts to help with financial crisis... too little too late.
- 1932 **Reconstruction Finance Corporation** provided loans to banks, insurance companies, railroads, and agricultural institutions... too little too late but not a bad idea...
Bonus Army marched on D.C. ... 15,000+ WWI veterans marched to demand their bonus check early (was to be paid in 1945). Hoover pushes them out... General MacArthur forcing vets out with military force... not pretty... made Hoover look bad as if turning on his own people.
Hoover... didn't like to see anyone asking for money/handout...
Franklin Delano Roosevelt elected President... promised Americans a "New Deal"
Henry Stimson (Secretary of State) declared that the U.S. will not recognize any territorial changes achieved by force in China. Japan is clearly unimpressed... they withdraw from the League (which did nothing to stop them) and continued its empire building. This was known as the **Stimson Doctrine**.
- 1933 Unemployment reached 13 million.
FDR takes office and began **100 Days** of "Alphabet Soup" **New Deal** Programs Bank Holiday (4 days... no transactions)
AAA, NRA, TVA, CCC, ... etc. alphabet soup (review your notes on various programs)
Meanwhile... Adolf Hitler rose to power in Germany with the Fascist Nazi Power
Batista rose to power in Cuba.
Joseph Stalin rose to power in USSR following Lenin's death.
20th Amendment shorted lame duck period... from March to January 20th and Congress to January 3rd.
21st Amendment repealed the 18th... *Happy Days are Here Again...* end of Prohibition.
- 1934 **Reciprocal Trade Agreement** was passed which reduced tariffs and increased trade.
Old Age Revolving Pension Plan granted annuity up to \$200 a month to citizens of 5 years standing and 60 years old or over if they earned no income. The money must be spent within a month.
Senator Huey Long formed **Share Our Wealth Society** which was a populist program aimed at taking money from the rich and redistributing it to the poor. He proposed doing this through inheritance taxes and increased income taxes on the rich. He was highly critical of FDR's New Deal ... didn't do enough.
Wheeler-Howard Act was passed restoring Indian lands to tribal ownership and forbidding further division of land into individual parcels (Remember Dawes?)
Father Charles Coughlin, an anti-communist, anti-capitalist, anti-Semitic radio preachers with a huge audience organized the **National Union for Social Justice** to combat the New Deal. Coughlin was pro FDR at first... but then criticized him as being too friendly to bankers (which he saw as being controlled by Jews)... he wanted the nationalization of several industries... and even supported some of Hitler and Mussolini's fascist agenda. The Vatican didn't support him, and FDR had his radio show cancelled.
- 1935 **Emergency Relief Appropriation Act** created a large scale public works program for the unemployed... created the **WPA**. (This was the GIANT program with lots of groups targeted including artists and African Americans)
Schechter vs U.S. invalidated the **National Industrial Relief Act** (NIRA); declared it unconstitutional.
National Labor Relations Act (aka **Wagner Act**) passed which granted workers the right to organize and collectively bargain... established the NLRB... **National Labor Relations Board**.
Social Security Act passed providing pensions to the elderly.
Huey Long was assassinated.
Congress of Industrial Workers was established (CIO) formed within the **American Federation of Labor** (AFL). They later split in 1938 then reunite in 1955.
Neutrality Act was passed declaring U.S. isolationism and prohibited sales/shipments to "belligerent" nations (nations at war)
Meanwhile... Italy invaded Ethiopia.
- 1936 **U.S. vs Butler** invalidated the AAA.
Pan-American Conference met and pledged mutual support if attacked (Western Hemisphere).
Another **Neutrality Act** passed... declared no loans to belligerents.
Joe DiMaggio signed with the NY Yankees.
United Auto Workers (UAW) organized a series of "**sit-down**" strikes where workers chained themselves inside plants and refused to work. They win and the strategy spreads.
FDR reelected... second term.
Meanwhile... civil war broke out in Spain.
- 1937 FDR plans **court-packing** scheme as he is frustrated with the Supreme Court striking down so many of his "Deals." Congress responds negatively to the grab for power and it doesn't work. However... Court more supportive after this.
Memorial Day Massacre broke out in Chicago as police opened fire on striking steelworkers who were peacefully picketing.
- 1937 **Farm Security Administration** is established to aid sharecroppers and those impacted by **Dust Bowl**.
A third **Neutrality Act** passed... stated that all foreign purchases must be paid in full... no credit.
Panay Gunboat Incident... Japan "accidentally" sunk the naval ship Panay and FDR responded by delivering his **Quarantine Speech** calling on the world (including the U.S.) to quarantine aggressor nations. Americans are furious and determined not to intervene in any way.

- 1938 **Fair Labor Standards Act** passed which forbade child labor, established minimum wage and maximum hours (40-hour workweek) and overtime. It also mandated equal pay for men/women. Unemployment down to 10.4 million from 13 million in 1931. Still bad... very bad. Mexico nationalized U.S. owned oil companies. **Munich Conference**... in which British Prime Minister **Neville Chamberlain** claimed they had achieved "Peace in our time" by appeasing Hitler. Oh sure... Hitler's word is gold.
- 1939 **Marian Anderson** (one of the most celebrated singers in the world), an African American, was refused by Daughters of the American Revolution to perform in their concert hall. **Eleanor Roosevelt** arranged for her to perform at the Lincoln Memorial. (and Eleanor resigned from DAR) Radios now have FM. **Nazi-Soviet Pact signed, Hitler invaded Poland, Soviets invade Finland, WWII began in Europe.**
- 1940 **Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies** formed. **America First Committee**, and isolationist group led by many influential Americans including Charles Lindbergh, spoke out against involvement. **Selective Training and Service Act** (first peacetime draft in America) passed. FDR reelected... third term. The first and only president to have more than two terms... broke George Washington's tradition - 22nd Amend. *Meanwhile... Winston Churchill became Prime Minister of G.B.*
- 1941 **A. Philip Randolph** planned a March on Washington but backs down after FDR agreed to desegregate war industries by creating the **Fair Employment Practices Committee**. **FDR's received warnings from the U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Joseph Grew, that Japan may be planning a surprise attack on the U.S. Nobody knows where but they suspect somewhere in Asia.** **FDR asked Congress to amend Neutrality Acts in order to arm merchant ships.** **Lend-Lease Act** repealed all Neutrality Acts and allowed U.S. to supply Allies. *Meanwhile... Germany attacked USSR* U.S. froze Japanese assets. FDR and Churchill sign the **Atlantic Charter**. **The Greer Incident**... German sub fired on U.S. destroyer, Greer, and FDR orders to "shoot on sight" when Axis subs or raiders appear.

World War II

- 1941 **December 7, 1941, "a day that will live in infamy" ... Japan bombed Pearl Harbor which awoke the American people out of their isolationist dream and thrust them into war. Congress declared war on Japan and then on Germany... officially joined Allies.**
- 1942 The Second **National War Labor Board** and **War Production Board** were established. **100,000+ Japanese-Americans were interned.** War Manpower Commission was established. **Bataan Death March** in the Philippines claimed many lives and inflames American hatred of the Japanese. **Coral Sea** and **Midway** naval battles boost morale. **Office of War Information** established. **Manhattan Project** began. Allies invaded northern Africa.
- 1943 Soviets defeated Germany at Battle of Stalingrad. Coal miners go on strike. **Office of War Mobilization** established. **Smith-Connolly War Labor Disputes Act** passed which gave the President the power to seize any strike-bound company deemed to be in the national interest and establish a 30-day cooling off period before striking. Allies invade Italy and Italy surrendered. Mussolini killed and dragged through the streets. **Teheran Conference** held and Stalin-Churchill-FDR meet for the first time... **the Big Three.** (go over your WWII conference notes)
- 1944 FDR released **Economic Bill of Rights** declared decent jobs, food-shelter-clothing, financial security during unemployment, illness, or old age. War Refugee Board established. Supreme Court upheld Japanese internment... **Korematsu**. **G.I. Bill of Rights** passed which offered financial assistance for college and mortgage subsidies for returning soldiers. **June 6, 1944 – D-Day invasion at Normandy, France led by General Eisenhower.** Dumbarton Oaks Conference set the stage for the **United Nations**. FDR reelected... fourth term. U.S. retakes the Philippines. This time liberating them from Japan.
- 1945 **Yalta Conference**... the Big Three planned the postwar division of conquered European and Asian countries. Allied victories at Iwo Jima and Okinawa. FDR died... **Harry Truman** took over. **United Nations** was founded. From the grave, Woodrow Wilson says, "It's about time." Germany surrendered and Hitler committed suicide. **Potsdam Conference**... planned to divide Germany... Stalin and Truman do not get along... Cold War beginning... **The first atomic bomb was tested in New Mexico... then the two remaining bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki ... after being threatened and warned. Japan surrendered after the second.** **WWII ended.**