

# ROARING TWENTIES

Do the exercises in yellow,

AFTER YOU FINISH, I will ask you:

- How are the Roaring Twenties different?
- What are the major ways that they change the USA?



The Roaring Twenties was when the USA becomes "THE COOL KID" in class...  
if class = the world

The Roaring Twenties, of course, means the 1920s. Roaring is like a slang term for super fun and crazy. There are lots of changes in culture, but they start with reforms and economic growth. Reforms are political changes.



The biggest political changes increased democracy for the people. They came through amendments to the Constitution.

The 16<sup>th</sup> amendment made an income tax. They didn't have income taxes before. Now, the government can use tax money to help the poor.

The 17<sup>th</sup> amendment made the direct election of senators. Before, the senators were chosen. Now, they were voted for. This is direct democracy.

The 18<sup>th</sup> amendment was a little crazy. It made ALCOHOL ILLEGAL! This is called Prohibition. For 10 years, alcohol was illegal in the USA. Why? They thought it was harmful for people.

The 19<sup>th</sup> amendment was the most important. It was the Women's Suffrage amendment. It gave women the right to vote. Women couldn't vote before. But they helped so much during World War I when the men went to fight that they won the right to vote.

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# WOMEN WORK



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## Complete

1. Political reform came through \_\_\_\_\_ to the Constitution.
2. The 16<sup>th</sup> amendment made an \_\_\_\_\_ tax so they could help poor people.
3. The 17<sup>th</sup> amendment made the \_\_\_\_\_ election of US Senators a requirement for popular democracy.
4. The 18<sup>th</sup> amendment was called \_\_\_\_\_.  
It made \_\_\_\_\_ illegal in the United States.
5. The 19<sup>th</sup> amendment gave the right to vote to \_\_\_\_\_. This is called women's \_\_\_\_\_.

The United States economy grew and grew. People invested a lot of money in the stock market. Everyone was buying stocks. When you buy stocks, you can make a lot of money. So, everyone was spending money and making money. It seemed like it would never end.

## Complete

1. The US economy grew because people were buying \_\_\_\_\_ on the stock market.
2. Everyone was making money and they thought it would never end.



Technology was growing really fast, too.

Thomas Edison invented the light bulb and the movie camera. So, now you had pictures and movies.

Radio had already been invented. But now you had radio shows and people could afford to buy a radio.

Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone. You could call anyone you wanted.

Cities built trolleys and street cars. Everyone was connected. Times were good! It's like with the internet now.

The United States grew more powerful, and so did its culture. The big reason that the culture grew was the new MASS MEDIA tools. This thing mass media is like a new thing back then. Think about what we call social media. We have facebook, right. Can anyone use facebook? Yeah. Even your mom. So it is MASS. So what is media? Media is like videos, pictures, stories, news...

So mass media is like newspapers, radio, and movies. They didn't have mass media like that before. The technology and media wasn't available. Now, it was.



Radio shows were just like TV shows now. Everyone wanted to tune in and listen.



## Movies

Movies didn't have sound but they were so popular. People, when they saw movies for the first time, couldn't believe they were real.



Newspapers really controlled things. Like, if a newspaper wanted the US to go to war, they could make headlines that made people angry. If they didn't want war, they could make headlines against war.



Radio was important because it was the primary source of entertainment. It was also important because it is used by the president to give information to the people later during the Great Depression.



President Roosevelt

Actually, America makes its first new style. Now, America is the coolest country in the world. You can argue with me about it, but it's true. Everyone listens to American rap and watches American movies. Now, America makes its own music. It is called Jazz.

Jazz became the first American music style. It came from African-American traditions mixed with other American styles. It became very popular everywhere.





Movies were old-fashioned and had no sound or special effects, but people loved them. There were many different kinds of films including comedies and dramas. At this time, we start to have our first SUPERSTARS, famous actors like **Charlie Chaplin**, who are as famous as kings and presidents.



Newspapers and magazines were important because they kept everyone connected. Anyone could afford a newspaper. And, they spread cultural trends, which are called fads.

Come on ladies!

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## Complete

1. We call facebook \_\_\_\_\_ media.
2. The the 1920s saw the rise of \_\_\_\_\_, which describes radio, newspapers, and movies.
3. Why were movies important?
4. Why was radio important? (2 ways)
5. Why were newspapers important?





What kinds of media are important today?

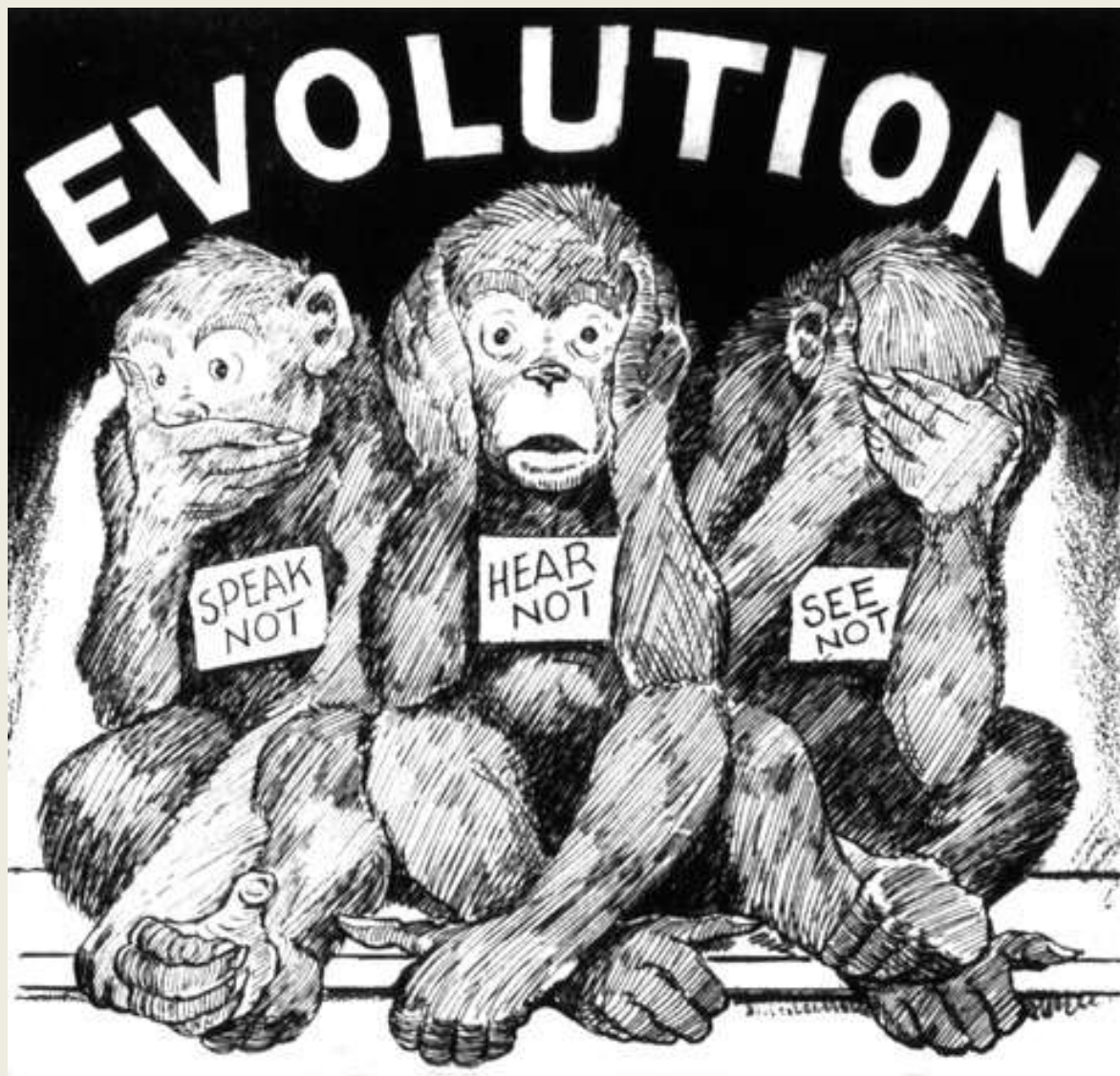
What kinds of media were important back then?

Can you think of the difference between social and mass media?

There were many challenges to tradition during the 1920s. You know how when things change, old people get worried. It was kind of like that.

One people who got really nervous are the religious people. They really didn't like the idea of evolution. When they wanted to teach evolution in school, there was a big court case about it. It was called the Scopes Monkey Trial.

The religious people won this battle. Evolution was illegal to teach in school.





"WHAT WOULD THEIR VERDICT BE?"

— *The Daily Star* (Montreal).

Also, remember how I said that they made alcohol illegal. This was called Prohibition. Do you think people followed the law? No way. So, now people were openly breaking the law. They were challenging the law by doing illegal things.









Women changed their role, too. The traditional role for women was to shut up and do what your husband says. Grow your hair long, don't go out without a man, etc.

These women in the cities called Flappers challenged that. They did whatever they wanted. They just liked to party and drink and they cut their hair short.



## Complete

1. Who are flappers?
2. What is jazz music?
3. What is Prohibition?
4. How did people break the law?
5. How did Flappers challenge tradition ideas about women?

Two really bad things happened during Prohibition.

First, they stopped letting immigrants in the country. They made some acts, including the Chinese-Exclusion Act, that stopped letting immigrants enter.

People became very much against immigrants.





Also, the KKK became very strong in the South. They terrorized and lynched black people. When you lynch someone, you hang them.



Complete

What bad thing happened in the South?

What happened with immigration in the 1920s?



## Summarize

1. What political reforms changed the USA? (List them)
2. What new mass media forms became popular?
3. What is the American music style of the 1920s?
4. What are the women who challenge tradition called?
5. What is women's suffrage?

6. What is Prohibition?
7. What two bad things happened in the 1920s?
8. Why did the economy become strong in the 1920s?
9. What is the Scopes Monkey Trial?
10. Who is Charlie Chaplin?
11. What people invented jazz? (black or white)



