Document Based Questions

8th Grade

American History

Westwood Middle School

Carlos Leiva
Talk about CELEBRATING! People danced until they dropped, and one fell to the floor, dead! Of course, it wasn't Dance Planet. The radio became popular, and people tuned in everyday. The T.V. was not invented yet, so the radio was the next best thing. When they listened, people liked to listen to jazz, especially the king of jazz, Louis Armstrong. But never fear, people weren't couch potatoes, sitting next to the radio. Movies were also a big hit. This decade marked the start of the sound movies. So much happened in the 1920's, this is only a fraction of it all.

Read the short passages and give a complete answer to the question. Answers must be in complete sentences and remember to use main ideas.

**Fads of the 1920's**

Since the 1920s was a time of celebration, there were many fads. People loved to dance, especially the Charleston, Fox-trot, and the shimmy. Dance marathons were something everyone went to every weekend. The longest dance record ever recorded was a record of 3 weeks of dancing. Another fad of the 1920's was the radio. People "tuned" in every day to listen to music, as jazz, sports and live events. A favorite for listening to jazz was "the king of jazz", Louie Armstrong. The latest fashion fad was the flapper, a fad for women. The movie was also the latest thing. The start of 3-D movies was in the 1920's. The average American had a lot to look forward to, in the 1920's, that's for sure!

During the 1920’s what were the major entertainments that people had? Name some of the fads of the 1920’s and describe what was a flapper.
Inventions

An invention, which soon after became a popular fad, is the radio. Because of no invention of the TV, the radio was their TV. And, it really did do pretty much everything the TV does for us. If you tuned in at the right time, you could catch comedy shows, news, live events, jazz, variety shows, drama, opera, you name it, the radio had it! Discovered in the 1920's were penicillin and discovery of insulin for diabet. This decade had some major breakthroughs in medicine and science.

Do you think that you could have survived with just a radio at home if you were living during this time knowing what you know today? Why? From prior science knowledge name who discovered penicillin and insulin.

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Did You Know...

Here’s some of the little things you probably didn't know. The peanut butter and jelly sandwich became famous in 1922. The #1 book on the bestseller list was a Manners book by Emily Post. People said it was a good book because it was not snobby. Calvin Coolidge, a president of a few words, was so famous for saying so little that a White House dinner guest made a bet that she could get the president to say more than two words. She told the president of her wager. His reply, "You lose."

Beyond Belief: A True Story

In November of 1923, Lord Carnavon has just opened Pharaoh Tutankhamun's tomb, but was a superstition about the Pharaoh's curse. The superstition said that if someone opened and "disturbed" a mummified pharaoh, a curse would be placed on the finder of the coffin. Apparently, six months after Tutankhamen's tomb was opened, Lord Carnavon died of an insect bite while working in the tomb.

What continent was Lord Carnavon and his archeologist team on and do you think that if they had more modern medicine for insect bites Lord Carnavon would have lived? Or was it a curse?
Entertainment

The 1920’s was the decade of entertainment. Rin-Tin-Tin, the movie dog, used to be a starving German Shepherd dog during the Great War. He became most famous dog ever to star in the movies in 1923. The first radio broadcast ever came out in November of 1920. The first Miss America contest was held on September 8, 1921. Metro Goldwyn Mayer film making studio was founded. A new Pooh Bear story by A.A. Milne was a big hit for little children. Mickey Mouse became everyone’s favorite cartoon character in Steamboat Willie.

When was the first radio broadcast? What else came about from or was produced from Metro Goldwyn Mayer film making studios and the Mickey Mouse cartoon?

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National Events

The Supreme Court struck down a 1918 minimum-wage law for District of Columbia woman because with the vote, women were considered equal to men. This ruling canceled all state minimum wage laws. Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming becomes the first woman elected governor of a state. Bertha Knight Landes is the first woman elected governor of a sizable city, Seattle, Washington.

What do you think helped women and their history of struggle for equality during these national events accomplish? Did this help all women to be equal with all men?

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The Stock Market Crash of 1929

On October 24, 1929, later to be known as Black Thursday, the stock market began its downhill drop. After the first hour, the prices had gone down at an amazing speed. Some people thought that after that day, the prices would rise again just as it had done before. But it didn’t. Prices kept dropping, and on October 29, 1929, Black Tuesday, more than 16 million shares were sold, but by the end of the day, most stocks ended
below their previous value, and some stocks became totally worthless. Because of that, some people became homeless and penniless, all because of the Stock Market Crash. By November 13, the prices had hit rock bottom. The stock AT&T had gone from $304, to the price of $197. America had celebrated for eight years, but now, everything was wasted in just a few weeks, by the Stock Market. It was a sad ending to this glorious decade!

Why was this called the glorious decade? What happened to the banks and all of the people’s money in the banks and why was October 24, 1929 known as “Black Thursday”?

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Essay

Please look over the DBQ and all of the questions and answers. Study the Rubric and make you know what is needed for a well written essay. Please write a short essay that will summarize:

1) Why was this called the glorious decade?
2) What was “Black Thursday” and what happened?
3) How did this decade help with modernization?
# General Writing Rubric

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Accomplished</th>
<th>Exemplary</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction/Conclusion</strong></td>
<td>The writer does not encourage interest in the topic. A conclusion is not evident.</td>
<td>The writer encourages some interest in the topic. A conclusion is attempted.</td>
<td>The writer heightens interest in the topic, and has a concluding statement.</td>
<td>The topic is creatively introduced to heighten interest, and a conclusion is clear.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>The writer uses little organization and writing is not fluid.</td>
<td>The writer uses some organization and is somewhat fluid in their writing.</td>
<td>The writing is organized and fluid.</td>
<td>The writing is well organized with fluid transitions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>The writer provides little or no detail to support the topic.</td>
<td>The writer provides some details to support the topic.</td>
<td>The writer provides sufficient details to support the topic.</td>
<td>The writer provides interesting details that clearly support the topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Structural Quality</strong></td>
<td>The writer makes numerous errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and/or capitalization. Little use of paragraphs.</td>
<td>The writer makes several errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and/or capitalization. Some use of paragraphs.</td>
<td>The writer makes few errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling, and/or capitalization, and uses paragraph form.</td>
<td>The writer makes no grammatical, punctuation, spelling, and/or capitalization errors. Paragraphs are well constructed.</td>
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**Student Name:** ___________________________  

**Total =**
References

www.google.com

www.worldbookonline.com (from the district)

ABC CLIO American History

ABC CLIO Geography