**1920’s VOCABULARY**

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - President Harding’s idea for the US to return to life as it had been before World War I.

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – 1920 – 1933 – alcohol was illegal

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amendment – banned the sale, manufacture, and transportation of alcohol

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amendment – ended prohibition

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - person against organized government

6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – people who want government ownership of all property.

7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - period during the 1920’s where people feared communism; communists and anarchists were arrested and foreigners were deported

8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - wanting to preserve America for native-born white Americans and limit immigration.

9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – limited immigration. This law discriminated against people in Southern and Eastern Europe by limiting immigration from these countries more than Northern and Western Europe.

10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - rebirth of African American culture in Harlem; African American musicians, artists, and writers settled in Harlem.

11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - buying on credit. You could buy a product for a small down payment, take it home and then make monthly payments with interest.

12. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - state of growth, with rising profits and full employment.

13. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – a time of great economic activity and growth.

14. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - when the stock market is doing well; the steady rise in stock prices.

15. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – when the stock market is NOT doing well; the steady decrease in stock prices.

16. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) - buy a stock for a 10% down payment from a broker.

17. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - a sudden and steep drop in the price of stocks, eventually becoming worthless.

“Goodbye WWI…..Hello Roaring 20’s !”

**Read the following introduction to the Roaring 20’s:**

The “Roaring Twenties” was a decade in which nothing big happened—there were no major catastrophes or large events—at least until the stock market crash of 1929—yet it is one of the most significant decades in U.S. history because of the great changes that came about in American society. The Twenties were known by various images and names: the Jazz Age, the age of the Lost Generation, flaming youth, flappers, radio and movies, bathtub gin, the speakeasy, organized crime, confession magazines, Hemingway and Fitzgerald, Charles Lindbergh, Babe Ruth, Bobby Jones, the Great Crash, Sacco and Vanzetti, Al Smith, cosmetics, Freud, the “new” woman, the Harlem Renaissance, consumerism—all these images and more are part of the fabulous Twenties! The 1920s provided something of a roller coaster ride for the American people. The euphoria surrounding the end of World War I was clouded by the great flu epidemic of 1919, the Red Scare of that year, and the frustration and bitterness left over from the fight over the ratification of the Treaty of Versailles. The progress made toward reform under progressive Presidents Roosevelt and Wilson slowed to a crawl, as many Americans began to feel the need for a break from the moral intensity of the Progressive Era.

The 1920 election resulted in a Republican landslide. Harding/Coolidge received 16,152,200 popular votes and 404 electoral votes compared with Cox/Roosevelt totals of 9,147,353 popular votes and 127 electoral votes. Most memorable about the election of 1920 is that for the first time women had the right to vote. Though the Twenties was a decade of enormous social change, myths about the era sometimes exaggerate the reality of that strange and often troubling time. While consumerism boomed and many new inventions—radios and telephones, for example—became everyday items for many Americans, it was also a time of much bitterness, conflict, and disappointment. The economic boom left many in the dust, America’s traditional openness to immigration was severely cut back, and racial tensions rose. Prohibition, the “noble experiment,” caused ordinary citizens to resort to criminal behavior, even as government often winked and looked the other way.

Following the Great War, as the only major Western nation not devastated by that conflict, Americans felt pretty good about themselves. The continued economic growth, political conservatism, and general absence of concerns over foreign affairs led Americans to think of themselves as “having it made.” Proof of America’s spirit and achievements seemed to be personified by Charles Lindbergh as he made his historic flight from New York to Paris in 1927. But the 1920s also saw deep divisions in the country despite the “roaring” atmosphere brought about by bathtub gin, speakeasies, flappers, women voting, jazz, sports, and all the rest. Then at the end of that self-satisfied, raucous, and somewhat grumpy decade, when the expectations of many Americans knew no bounds, the stock market crashed and the Great Depression hit. During the 1920s everybody seemed to be buying everything, and businesses set out to meet the demands of consumers, producing new products in record-breaking quantities. Cars, radios, appliances, ready-made clothes, gadgets, and other consumer products found their way into more and more American homes and garages. Americans also started buying stocks in greater numbers, providing capital to already booming companies. All the signs pointed upward, and starry-eyed men and women began to believe that it was going to be a one-way trip, possibly forever.

Henry Ford’s assembly line not only revolutionized production, it democratized the ownership of the automobile. Ford showed that handsome profits could be made on small margin and high volume. By 1925 his famous Model T sold for less than $300, a modest price by the standards of the 1920s. Americans had never had it so good. (Many, of course, would not have it so good again for a long time. The Twenties were also known as a time of revolution in manners and morals, when young men, and especially young women, threw off many of the social restrictions of the Victorian era and began conducting themselves in ways that scandalized the older generations. Young women liberated themselves in everything from hairstyles and clothing to deportment and public behavior, smoking cigarettes and drinking from flasks of illegal bootleg whiskey and bathtub gin. The ’20s were known as the jazz age and saw the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan, divisions between town and country that went beyond mere style, the Harlem Renaissance, an enormous growth in production of items such as automobiles once seen as luxuries, and a general feeling of near euphoria, as if for the middle and wealthy classes, at least, things would just keep going up. The Twenties were in another sense a reactionary decade—a reaction against Victorian ideas of morality that saw young men and women openly defy what their parents still viewed as proper behavior for relationships between the sexes. Young people went wild, in the eyes of some, though studies have suggested that there was more talk than action. It was also a rebellious age, in which women continued the process of breaking out of older social patterns as they had begun to do during World War I. They changed their dress styles, cut their hair short, smoked in public, and were not above taking a nip from a flask of Prohibition whiskey.

•**PREDICT: Based on your reading and knowledge, what are some things you think we’ll be learning about in this unit? LIST AT LEAST THREE PREDICTIONS BELOW:**

**Based on the Reading:**  Fill in how the following changed during the 1920’s. LIST as many examples as you can find from the reading…

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Automobile**  **http://etc.usf.edu/clipart/72800/72819/72819_automobile_lg.gif** | **http://train2drive.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/woman-figure-symbol-hi.pngWomen** | **GE Monitor Top refrigeratorAppliances** |
|  |  | **What’s *installment buying*?** |

**The Roaring Twenties: AKA The Jazz Age**

**Politics and Prosperity in America**

**(The Boom before the Bust)**

**A return to isolationism after WWI**

1. What types of changes were brought about in the 1920’s?

•

•

•

2. What are SOCIAL changes?

* People’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The way people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with one another
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as a whole

3. What is economic change?

* Changes in the production\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of goods and services

4. What is political change?

* Change in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The way people think about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Change in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Let’s Look at some of the Social Changes**

**Movies**:

5. How did movies change in the 1920’s?

* From silent movies to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Some famous silent movie stars include: Charlie Chaplin, Clara Bow, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. What was the first “talkie”?

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Singer
* Even Mickey Mouse started talking during this time period!
* He made his talking debut in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Music

7. What was the new kind of music and what was different about it?

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* A faster paced style
* The first original music of the United States

8. Who founded this music?

* Started \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. Who were two famous musicians of the time?

* Louis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Bessie \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dance:

10. What was the new dance that kept pace with the new music?

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* A dance that kept pace with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ music

**Women and Fashion**:

Define \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: a young woman who rebelled against traditional fashion

11. What changed about women in the 1920’s?

* The Trend: the skirts and dresses grew \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and sleeker, along with their hair! Short hair, short skirts and wanted to dance
* Women were nicknamed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: this signified the new independence of women

13. How did these young women offend the older generation?

*  She offended the older generation because she defied conventions of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (aka traditional behavior)

14. What aspects of flappers are shown in the drawing? List them all below…

**Harlem Renaissance**:

15. What was the Harlem Renaissance?

* Rebirth of \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_ Culture
  + Through intellect and production of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, art, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_*\_\_, African-Americans could challenge racism and \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_ to promote racial and social integration.

17. Who was a poet of the Harlem Renaissance?

* Poet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hughes
* One of his most famous poems was titled Dreams

18. What was the message of his poem *Dreams*?

***Dreams***

***By Langston Hughes***  Message:

Hold fast to dreams

For if dreams die

Life is a broken-winged bird

That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams

For when dreams go

Life is a barren field

Frozen with snow

19. Who was an artist of the Harlem Renaissance?

* The artist Williams H. \_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*
* Johnson painted thousands of pictures, many of which are now on display in the \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* in Washington DC

21. Who was a famous singer of the Harlem Renaissance?

* Singer \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_ Holiday
* (Yes she was a girl)
* One of her most famous songs: *Strange Fruit*

**STRANGE FRUIT**

Southern trees bear a strange fruit

Blood on the leaves

Blood at the root

Black bodies swinging in the southern breeze

Strange fruit hanging from the poplar trees

Pastoral scene of the gallant South

The bulging eyes and the twisted mouth

The scent of magnolia sweet and fresh

Then the sudden smell of burning flesh

Here is a fruit for the crows to pluck

For the rain to gather

For the wind to suck

For the sun to rot

For the tree to drop

Here is a strange and bitter crop

Lyrics by: Lewis Anderson

Originally sung by: Billie Holiday

22. What is she referring to as “strange fruit” in the song?

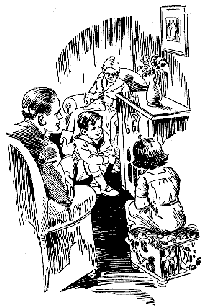
**The Golden Age of Sports**

23. Who were some of the sports greats in the 1920’s and their sports?

*  BASEBALL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 60 home runs in 1927, played most of his career for the New York Yankees
*  GOLF: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Started “The Masters”, competition that still exists today for golf
*  TENNIS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
*  COLLEGE FOOTBALL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, the “galloping ghost”, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rockne,
*  SWIMMING: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, swims the English channel in 1927,

**Radio**

24. When was the first radio broadcast?

* The first radio station was KDKA Broadcast and it had its first broadcast on November 20, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

25. Why was the radio important?

* Radio provided for the whole \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_
* Entertainment, \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_ and \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_

**Fads of the 1920s**

***Define fad: an activity or fashion that is very popular for a short time***

26. What were some of the new fads of the 1920’s?

* Marathon Dancing: \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_, the last couple standing wins! These could usually last for \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_!
* Flagpole \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_: Record: Shipwreck Kelly, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sat for almost 13 hours!!

**Literature**:

Famous authors from this time period include:

*  Ernest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: A passionate young author who used history and experience to write his books, including A Farwell to Arms (about WWI), The Old Man and the Sea
*  F.Scott \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: A young author who best captured the mood of the Roaring Twenties, including The Great Gatsby, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

***Political Changes of the 1920s***

**Women’s Rights**

**Protests:** In front of the White House *(remember this from out Progressive Era)*

Alice Paul: led protests outside the White House, arrested for \_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_, increased peoples \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* of women’s rights

27. What was the 19th Amendment?

* *“The right of the citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on the account of* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”***
* Women are now guaranteed the RIGHT TO VOTE!!!

**Prohibition**

28. What was the 18th Amendment?

* “The manufacture, \_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_*\_\_ of intoxicating liquors within the United States…is hereby prohibited”
* Closing the saloons: Usually \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* agents
* Why not the local police?
  + Because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would pay off \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, public officials, and judges to look the other way. This is why the FBI had to step in. They are a national police enforcement group out of Washington D.C.

29. What kind of illegal activities occurred during Prohibition at speakeasies?

* Raids on Speakeasies: Served illegal \_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_ and provided illegal \_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_
* Define \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: nickname for the illegal bars of the 1920’s
* Define \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: the people who were smuggling alcohol, nickname came about because the early smugglers hid alcohol in boots
* Organized Crime: \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_: Most famous gangster of the 1920’s, became rich and powerful from \_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_
  + Was sent to jail for tax evasion because the FBI couldn’t catch him with his other illegal activities

30. What was the 21st Amendment? *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

* The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_”
  + This means we got rid of the prohibition law, alcohol is now legal

**Anti-Foreign Sentiments**

31. What was the Red Scare?

* Fear that \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_ would take over the United States
* Immigration: The Immigration \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* was passed into law in 1921
* This law \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_ new immigrants to 3% of the nationality already in the United States

32. How did the Red Scare affect the Sacco and Vanzetti trial?

* Two Italian immigrants accused and convicted of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and sentenced to death. They both swear they did not commit a crime.
* Many believed their conviction was the result of \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_ sentiment during the 1920’s
* Problem was the men were convicted with very little evidence. This court case led to a rise in \_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Re-Emergence of the KKK**

33. Who was the KKK against?

* The Klan in the 1920’s: membership grew to an estimated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Now this group \_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_ not only against African-Americans but added \_\_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* and \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_ to its hate list
* Tactics: Used \_\_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_\_\_ and violence, lynching, and \_\_*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*\_ crosses as a warning

**Economic Changes in the 1920s**

34. How did advertising change in the 1920s?

* Old and new: magazines, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, billboards, and advertising on the radio, advertising before \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Today’s advertising was born in the 1920s. New tactics, including \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people

*Automobile*

35. How did the automobile affect society in the 1920s?

* Model T built by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ motor company 1909-1927
* Affordable to the average American
* Cars produced: 1920 – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; 1929- \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* By late 1900s: one car for every \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Americans
* Promoted other industries like \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, steel, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Created new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ facilities
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had to be built
* Now we need to build \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stations for cars to refuel

36. What is installment buying or buying “on credit”?

* When you buy on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you put down \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ payment, and then pay the rest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ until the loan is paid off
* Homeowners wanted all of the new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and appliances that were available. If they didn’t have the cash for it, they could buy it using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and pay it off later with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* New purchases included: the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, electric iron, toaster, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, stove, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ machines

Stock Market Crash – October 1929 – The End of the 1920s

37. What caused the stock market to crash?

* The stock market crashed when there was a sudden and steep drop in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of stocks. Stockbrokers were calling in their \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so people were trying to make money. This caused the price of stocks to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ steadily and eventually become \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Blue Skies**

During the 1920’s radio and movies were popular forms of entertainment. Up until this point in history, movies had been silent, the technology for adding sound did not exist. A “talkie” was the nickname given to the first movies that had sound.

This song was one of the songs that appeared in the first full length "talkie," "The Jazz Singer" in 1927. It is also one of the most popular songs of the 1920’s and has been remade by many artists over the years.

**Written by Irving Berlin (1926)**

I was blue, just as blue as I could be

Ev'ry day was a cloudy day for me

Then good luck came a-knocking at my door

Skies were gray but they're not gray anymore

Blue skies

Smiling at me

Nothing but blue skies

Do I see

Bluebirds

Singing a song

Nothing but bluebirds

All day long

Never saw the sun shining so bright

Never saw things going so right

Noticing the days hurrying by

When you're in love, my how they fly

Blue days

All of them gone

Nothing but blue skies

From now on

Verse [2]

I should care if the wind blows east or west

I should fret if the worst looks like the best

I should mind if they say it can't be true

I should smile, that's exactly what I do

How do these lyrics and the mood of the music relate to what you have learned about life in the 1920’s? Give me at least 3 specific examples: