

## 1920s Vocabulary

**FLAPPER** - outspoken woman with boyish manners and dress; wore the flapper which modeled their style based on the look of French prostitutes.

**SHEIK** - a sexy young man; term inspired by the sexy movie star Rudolph Valentino.

**FARM BOARD** - established by Congress in 1929 to buy surpluses and maintain prices; however, farmers continued to grow.

**TEAPOT DOME SCANDAL** - named after a reserve in Wyoming; set aside under the jurisdiction of the Navy Department for years, was the rich land with rich oil deposits; The scandal involved a member of Harding's cabinet, two oil speculators and large bribes to open the reserve for drilling.

**JAZZ** - a unique musical form new to the U.S. which began in the South around the turn of the twentieth century, then spread north; It involves West African rhythms, African-American spiritual blues, and European harmonies.

**HARLEM RENAISSANCE** - the flowering of African-American culture in Harlem, NYC.

**NEW NEGRO MOVEMENT** - African-American writers, artists, and musicians were attracted to Harlem from around the nation.

**BOOTLEGGING** - large scale manufacture and smuggling of alcohol which became the business of organized crime.

**IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION ACT/NATIONAL ORIGINS ACT** - laws produced in order to restrict immigrants from Asia and southern and central Europe.

**KLU KLUX KLAN** - white supremacist organization from the South, then went north and west whose goal was to protect White, Anglo-Saxon, Protestants (WASP) from Jews, Catholics, African Americans, and foreigners.

**AL SMITH** - the Democratic candidate and a Catholic, a product of the NYC machine against prohibition.

**GOVERNOR JAMES COX** - a democrat who urged the adoption of the League of Nations.

**UNITED NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION (UNIA)** - brought to Harlem in 1916 by Marcus Garvey for black separatism, economic self-sufficiency, and a back-to-Africa movement.

**MARCUS GARVEY** - Jamaican immigrant who advocated racial pride for blacks and developed political ideas of black nationalism.

**VOLSTEAD ACT** - a federal law enforcing the Prohibition amendment crusading by temperance forces.

**ISOLATIONISTS** - opted for little contact with Europe and believed immigrants to be radicals who might foment revolution.

**THE DAWES PLAN** - established a cycle of payments traveling from the U.S. to Germany and from Germany to the Allies.

**CONSUMERISM** - movement seeking to protect and inform consumers by requiring such practices as honest packaging and advertising, product guarantees, and improved safety standards.

**HENRY FORD** - American automobile manufacturer who developed a gasoline-powered automobile; founded the Ford Motor Co. in 1903 and mass produced the Model T.

WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN - American lawyer and politician who campaigned for presidency in 1896, 1900, and 1908 but was unsuccessful each time; famous for his "Cross of Gold" speech which advocated free silver and defended fundamentalism in the Scopes Monkey Trial of 1925.

RUDOLPH VALENTINO - Female fans swooned over this Italian-born motion picture actor during the 1920s.

GRETA GARBO - Swedish-born American actress popular for her reclusive nature.

JACK DEMPSEY - American prizefighting boxer who won the world heavy-weight title in 1919 bringing the sport of boxing to popular heights in the U.S.

FORDNEY-McCUMBER TARIFF ACT 1922 - a law which gave the president power to raise or lower duties by 50% in order to equalize production costs.

HERBERT HOOVER - 31st President of the United States; He wasn't willing to finance employment through federal intervention after the stock market crash; In the election of 1932 he lost the presidency to Franklin D. Roosevelt.

ASSEMBLY LINE - an arrangement of workers, machines, and equipment where a product is passed consecutively to each until completed.

OPEN SHOP - employed workers at a business or factory without regard to union membership.

CHARLES LINDBERGH - the first American aviator to make a solo transatlantic flight.

SIGMUND FREUD - an Austrian physician who believed that sex was not for pleasure but for health.

MARGARET SANGER - a fiery feminist who openly advocated the use of contraceptives and founded the Planned Parenthood Federation in 1929.

MODERNISM - examined the traditional belief according to contemporary, philosophy, and criticism.

FUNDAMENTALISM - an incorporation of science with religion in opposition to Liberalism and secularism.

SCOPES-MONKEY TRIAL - the prosecution of a high school biology teacher, John T. Scopes, who taught his students the theory of evolution which was forbidden because it contradicted the Bible.

CLARENCE DARROW - known for his highly publicized defenses; He was involved in the Leopold-Loeb murder case as well as the Scopes-Monkey Trial.

LEOPOLD-LOEB CASE - Two sons of rich families kidnapped and killed their cousin "in the interests of science."

PROHIBITION - a period when alcohol sale and manufacture was prohibited in the U.S.

ORGANIZED CRIME - criminal activities that occurred within a centrally formal structure and were very widespread.

SACCO AND VANZETTI CASE - murder case during the 1920s in which two Italian immigrants were charged with stealing and murdering two men at a Massachusetts shoe factory.

DISARMAMENT - laying-down of arms and the reduction of a nation's military forces.

**KELLOGG-BRIAND TREATY** - signed by 15 nations in Paris in 1928 which had its basis in the antiwar and disarmament conferences held in the aftermath of WWI.

**RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA (RCA)** - unveiled television to the American public at the 1939 New York World's Fair.

**UNITED MINE WORKERS (UMW)** - a labor union composed of coal miners and workers in coal-related industries.

**F. SCOTT FITZGERALD** - became an overnight celebrity when he published *This Side of Paradise* in 1920.

**ERNEST HEMINGWAY** - one of many writers who were affected by the war which he wrote about in books such as *A Farewell to Arms*.

**TREATY OF VERSAILLES** - a peace treaty signed at the end of WWI between Germany and the Allies.

**WOODROW WILSON** - 28th President of the United States; His administration was marked by WWI and Prohibition.

**WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION (WCTU)** - founded in Cleveland where 135 women met to discuss how to end the traffic in liquor.

**SPEAKEASY** - During the Prohibition in the U.S., it was a place for illegal sale and consumption of alcohol.

**AL CAPONE** - Italian American gangster who ruled the Chicago underworld and was sent to jail for tax evasion.

**WARREN G. HARDING** - 29th President of the United States whose administration was led to corruption; He died in office.