Unit 5 Glossary (Post WWI and Roaring Twenties)

**19th Amendment**- The first step in the process to create equal rights for women was to seek suffrage, or the right to vote. In the 1840s women spoke in public meetings calling for equal rights for women. Suffrage was extended to women in the Wyoming territory in 1869, and when it became a state in 1890 it was the first which allowed women the vote. Three other states which joined the United States in the 1890s likewise granted suffrage to women. These were Colorado, Idaho, and Utah. Yet, the 19th Amendment which extended the right to vote to women in federal or state elections was not ratified until 1920.

**Anarchists**- A person who believes in a state of society without government or law.

**Bootlegger**- Someone who sells alcoholic liquor unlawfully made, sold, or transported, without registration or payment of taxes. The word apparently came into general use in the Midwest in the 1880s to denote the practice of concealing flasks of illicit liquor in boot tops when going to trade with Indians. The term became part of the American vocabulary when the [Eighteenth Amendment](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/181228/Eighteenth-Amendment) to the U.S. Constitution effected the national [prohibition](http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/478408/prohibition) of alcohol from 1920 until its repeal in 1933.

**Communism**- A political movement based upon the writings of Marx that considers history in terms of class conflict and revolutionary struggle, resulting eventually in the victory of the proletariat and the establishment of a socialist order based on public ownership of the means of production.

**Glenn Curtiss**- (1878-1930) A century ago, Glenn Hammond Curtiss, who would one day be considered “The Father of Naval Aviation” and “Founder of the American Aircraft Industry”, was manufacturing motorcycles in his hometown of Hammondsport, New York. 1907 was a significant year for Glenn Curtiss. On January 24th he became the “fastest man in the world” when he rode his V-8 powered motorcycle at a sustained speed of 136.4 MPH to establish a land speed record that stood until 1911 for cars and 1930 for motorcycles. Today, Glenn H. Curtiss is remembered as the inventor of the “Hydroaeroplane” (or seaplane- US patent #1, 170, 965). His development of this type of aircraft began almost immediately in the fall of 1908 and by the winter of 1911, the Curtiss seaplane had become a reality.

**Clarence Darrow**- (1857-1938) The most renowned defense attorney of his time, Clarence Darrow was born in Ohio to a working-class family. He was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1878. He and his family moved to Chicago in 1887 to further his law career. He defended Eugene V. Debs in 1894 against charges of criminal conspiracy in relation to the American Railway Union strikes. His attraction to social concerns prompted him to argue criminal conspiracy cases and cases involving union violence and labor rights. He opposed the death penalty and supported racial equality. In 1925, he defended John T. Scopes who was charged by fundamentalists for violating a Tennessee statute against teaching evolution in the schools. His closing arguments are models of expository speaking.

**Double Standard**- Any code or set of principles containing different provisions for one group of people than for another, especially an unwritten code of sexual behavior permitting men more freedom than women.

**Economic Opportunity**- The 1920s earned the nickname, the "Roaring Twenties" through the decade's real and sustained prosperity, dizzying technological advancements, and lively culture. The decade marked the flourishing of the modern [mass-production](http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/detroit/d38.htm), mass-consumption economy, which delivered large profits to investors while also raising the living standard of the urban middle and working class. For the large minority of Americans who made their livelihoods in agriculture, however, the decade roared only with the agony of [prolonged depression](http://us.history.wisc.edu/hist102/photos/assets/photos/1148.jpg).

**Flapper**- A "new breed" of young [Western](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_world) women in the 1920s who wore short skirts, [bobbed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_cut) their hair, listened to [jazz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jazz#1920s_and_1930s), and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior. Flappers were seen as brash for wearing excessive makeup, [drinking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distilled_beverage), treating [sex in a casual manner](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casual_sex), [smoking](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smoking), driving [automobiles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automobile), and otherwise flouting social and sexual norms. Flappers had their origins in the liberal period of the [Roaring Twenties](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roaring_Twenties), the social, political turbulence and increased transatlantic cultural exchange that followed the end of [World War I](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I), as well as the export of [American](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) jazz culture to Europe.

**Fundamentalism**- A form of Protestant Christianity that upholds belief in the strict and literal interpretation of the Bible.

**Marcus Garvey**- (1887-1940) A Jamaican Black man from the West Indies was the first to forcefully speak about the concept of African nationalism; of black people returning to Africa, the continent of their forefathers, in order to build a great nation of their own. His writings and ideas would inspire many leaders of the civil rights movement during the second half of the twentieth century.

**Warren G. Harding**- (1865-1823) A political leader of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, who served as president from 1921 to 1923. As [Republican party](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Republican%20party) candidate in the campaign of 1920, he described his goal as a return to “normalcy” after the ambitious foreign and domestic policies of the outgoing Democratic president, Woodrow [Wilson](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Wilson). Harding strongly opposed the participation of the United States in the [League of Nations](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/League%20of%20Nations). As Harding's presidency went on, the corruption of some of the officials he appointed became increasingly evident. Harding died in office before the worst of the [Harding scandals](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Harding%20scandals) came to light.

**Harlem Renaissance-**A combination of factors in the first quarter of the 20th century led to a rebirth in African-American culture collectively known as the Harlem Renaissance. At that time, Harlem in New York City was one of the largest black communities in the world and contained one of its most vibrant and creative cultures. African-American authors and poets, artists, musicians, and movie stars found greater freedom of expression and greater support from white sponsors during the era than existed previously. Out of the movement sprang the philosophy of the “New Negro” which provided an outlet for intellectuals opposing continued racial segregation and suppression.

**Henry Ford**- (1863-1947) Henry Ford helped create a mobile society by mass producing and marketing the Model T automobile, making it an indispensable part of American life. Through his efforts, the automotive industry became a world-wide phenomenon. Born on a farm near Detroit, Michigan, Ford worked on the farm, at a shipbuilding firm, and for a company which serviced steam engines. During the winters he experimented on building his own internal-combustion engines. He drove his first home-built automobile in 1896. The Ford Motor Company was founded in 1903 and he developed the Model T by 1908. Ford used mass production to reduce the price of the Model T, and he worked to perfect the assembly line. He retained complete company control and used it to amass billions of dollars.

**Installment**- In the 1920's many retailers began using a promotion that advertised the ability for the customer to buy now and pay later. This became known as an installment plan. Many stores use a program like this today.

**Isolationism**- A policy of remaining apart from the affairs or interests of other groups, especially the political affairs of other countries.

**Charles Lindbergh**- (1902-1974) Born in Detroit to a political family, Charles Lindbergh studied mechanical engineering and flying, gaining a reputation as a mechanic and pilot. He completed the U.S. Army Air Cadet program in 1925 and was made second lieutenant. He set a record in aviation history when he flew the specially built monoplane, The Spirit of St. Louis, nonstop from New York to Paris on May 20-21, 1927. Afterward he served as a technical advisor to commercial airlines, testing new aircraft and developing viable routes. He favored neutrality before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, then he supported the war cause, testing military aircraft and sharing technical knowledge. His interest in nature led him to support conservation efforts and he directed the World Wildlife Fund.

**Nativism**- A sociopolitical policy, especially in the United States in the 19th century, favoring the interests of established inhabitants over those of immigrants. (Fear of immigrants.)

**Georgia O’Keefe**- (1887-1986) Born in Wisconsin, O’Keeffe became the most noted representational expressionist painter in America. Her most famous work concentrated on scenes of the southwest but she also painted scenes highlighting the industrialization of the northeast in the 1920s. She married artist-photographer Alfred Stieglitz in 1924. He coordinated her first solo show and supported her throughout her career until his death in 1946. She spent summers in New Mexico, at Taos, the artist colony favored by D. H. Lawrence, and then at nearby Ghost Ranch. There she painted, capturing the beauty of the desert in her unique expressive style.

**Prohibition**- Enforced by the 18th Amendment emerged from the Progressive Era’s push for moral, social, and political reform. Temperance leagues began working to reduce alcoholism and social problems resulting from alcoholism as early as the 1820s. The Women’s Christian Temperance Union was founded in 1874. Laws to ban alcohol were adopted in states as early as 1846. These states were considered “dry.” In 1919 following the ratification of the 18th Amendment it became illegal to manufacture, sell, or transport alcoholic beverages. This amendment was the first legislation to ban alcohol at the national scale and it had negative consequences. The ability to sell grapes and barley was reduced, and this hurt farmers. Enforcement was difficult and many were openly defiant of prohibition. Gangs could make millions of dollars dealing in illegal liquor so crime actually increased. The amendment was repealed in 1933. Tax collected on the sale of liquor then became an important source of revenue

**Quota System**- A system, originally determined by legislation in 1921, of limiting by nationality the number of immigrants who may enter the U.S. each year.

**Red Scare**- (1919-1920) Paranoia regarding the threat of Bolsheviks to the United States was called the Red Scare. In the late 1910s citizens of the United States were concerned about political unrest in Europe. Capitalists believed that the Russian Revolution and rise of the Bolshevik power in 1917 threatened their world. The Bolsheviks called for workers to revolt. This threat, in the minds of Americans, did not disappear at the end of World War I, and strikes by workers contributed to the popular belief that a giant conspiracy was at work to destroy the U.S. government as it had overthrown Russia’s. Radicals, immigrant laborers, and anyone who appeared to threaten the U.S. government were charged with crimes. They were often deported or executed depending on court verdicts.

**Roaring Twenties**- The decade of the 1920’s were called “roaring” because of the exuberant, freewheeling popular [culture](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/culture) of the decade. The Roaring Twenties was a time when many people defied [Prohibition](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Prohibition), indulged in new styles of dancing and dressing, and rejected many traditional moral standards.

**Sacco and Vanzetti**- Two anarchists, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, who were convicted of a robbery and two murders in [Massachusetts](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Massachusetts) in 1921 and sentenced to death. Sacco and Vanzetti were born in [Italy](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Italy) but had been living in the United States for years when they were tried. Several faulty procedures took place in the trial. Many people have thought that Sacco and Vanzetti were convicted because of their political views and not because of the evidence against them. Their supporters obtained several delays of their execution, but a special committee appointed by the governor of Massachusetts upheld the original jury's verdict, and they were put to death in 1927. [Liberals](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Liberals) and [radicals](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/radicals) all over the world were outraged by the execution and riots ensued. In 1977, Massachusetts Governor [Michael Dukakis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Dukakis) issued a proclamation that Sacco and Vanzetti had been unfairly tried and convicted and that "any disgrace should be forever removed from their names." The case is still officially open.

**Scopes Trial**- (1925) A highly publicized trial when John Scopes, a Biology teacher in Tennessee, violated state law by teaching evolution in high school. Scopes was prosecuted by William Jennings Bryan and defended by Clarence Darrow. Scopes was convicted (found guilty) but the verdict was later reversed.

**Speakeasies**- Also called a blind pig is an establishment that illegally sells [alcoholic beverages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alcoholic_beverage). Such establishments came into prominence in the United States during the [Prohibition era](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prohibition_in_the_United_States) (1920–1933). During that time, the sale, manufacture, and transportation ([bootlegging](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rum-running)) of alcoholic beverages was illegal throughout the United States. Speakeasies largely disappeared after Prohibition was lifted in 1933.

**Teapot Dome Scandal**- When Warren G. Harding assumed the presidency in 1921, he brought a group of friends and political advisors from Ohio to work with him. Their corrupt dealings marred his administration. The worst scandal was that associated with Teapot Dome, Wyoming, an area rich in oil reserves. Harding’s Secretary of the Interior, Albert B. Fall, leased the reserves to oilmen who paid him kickbacks worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The scandal involved other members of the administration, and investigations and trials continued for nearly a decade.

**Urban Sprawl**- The unplanned, uncontrolled spreading of urban development into areas adjoining the edge of a city.

**Ida B. Wells**- (1862-1931) A fearless anti-lynching crusader, suffragist, women’s rights advocate, journalist, and speaker. Ida B. Wells-Barnett was one of the most outstanding women of the late nineteenth century. She was a militant thinker and writer who essays, pamphlets, and books provide a theoretical analysis of lynching; she was a reformer whose insistence on economic and political resistance to oppression laid the foundation for the modern civil rights movement; and she was an accomplished diarist and autobiographer whose personal narratives offer an insight into the formation of African American female identity in the late nineteenth century.