

Scheme of Learning: The USA 1910-29

Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
The Economic Boom	Immigration	Race and Religion	Crime and Corruption	Lives of Women	Popular Entertainment	End of the Economic Boom

Topic Overview:

America was seen as the land of ‘freedom and opportunity’ during the 1910s and 1920s. As such, millions of immigrants flocked to America in order to achieve the American Dream. However, as the levels of immigration continued to rise, many Americans became hostile to immigration, seeking to limit the types and numbers of immigrants entering America. Furthermore, the Russian Revolution of 1917 caused Americans to become fearful of communism and anarchism, causing the government to target immigrants suspected of being radical.

Lesson Sequence:

- Why did America experience rising immigration in the 1910s and 1920s? Before we can look at the impact of immigration on the USA, we need to understand why immigrants flocked to the USA in the first place. These can be broadly divided into “push” factors (reasons why immigrants want to leave their home country, for example war) and “pull” factors (reasons why the USA was attractive to immigrants, for example higher wages).
- Why were Americans so fearful of communism? Students must have a firm grasp on the differences between communist dictatorship (Soviet Union) and capitalist democracy (USA) before they can understand why Americans became so fearful of communism during the ‘Red Scare’. This lesson looks at what made the two systems so different.
- How did the US government restrict immigration 1910-29? As anti-immigrant feelings rose across the USA, the government sought to bring immigration under control, targeting both the numbers of immigrants but also specific immigrant groups they associated with social and political issues (namely Italian, Russian and Irish immigrants). These laws ranged from quotas to literacy tests.
- How to answer Q2 on the USA 1910-29 paper: Here we look at how to answer Q2 on the 1910-29 paper successfully.
- How significant was the threat posed by communists and anarchists in the 1910s and 1920s? Many Americans were hysterically afraid of communism and anarchism, but how worried did they really need to be? Here we look at events such as the Seattle Strikes and Palmer Raids that illustrate how serious (and at times exaggerated) the threat from radicals was in the USA.
- How to answer Q3 on the USA 1910-29 paper: Here we look at how to answer Q3 on the 1910-29 paper successfully.
- What does the case of Sacco and Vanzetti tell us about attitudes to immigration? To understand the impact of anti-immigrant hysteria on the USA, one must look at the case of Sacco and Vanzetti where, despite little real evidence, two Italian anarchists were executed on suspicion of murder and robbery. Many believe this verdict was a result of prejudice in the USA.
- Assessment: Knowledge test and Q2/Q3.

Sequence of Lessons:

1	Why did America experience rising immigration in the 1910s and 1920s?
2	Why were Americans so fearful of communism?
3	How did the US government restrict immigration 1910-29?
4	How to answer Q2 on the USA 1910-29 paper.
5	How significant was the threat posed by communists and anarchists in the 1910s and 1920s?
6	How to answer Question 5 on the USA 1910-29 paper.
7	How to answer Q3 on the USA 1910-29 paper,
8	What does the case of Sacco and Vanzetti tell us about attitudes to immigration?
9	Assessment: Knowledge test and Q2/Q3.

Topic Resources:

Knowledge Map:	USA 1910-29	Any other Resources:	EDUQAS USA 1910-29 Textbook
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Assessment:

Knowledge:	10
Application of Knowledge:	Q2 and Q3 from the USA 1910-29 exam paper

Supportive Reading:

Any supported reading listed here	EDUQAS USA 1910-29 Textbook
	Library of Congress: Immigration and Relocation in US History