Visual Review

A NEW ERA, 1920–1930

A New Economy for a New Era

Wireless America
Radio revolutionizes communication.

Car Culture
Mass production techniques allow for the growth of the automobile industry and transforms leisure and consumption.

Advertising for Mass Consumption
Advertising incorporates new psychological theories and promotes mass consumption within American society.

Popular Entertainment: Movies, Sports, and Celebrity
Interest in popular entertainment rises to unprecedented levels.

The New Skepticism
Many intellectuals grow alienated from American values.

The New Woman of the 1920s
The flapper embodies a new female identity.

Ethnic and Racial Divides

Immigration Restriction
Congress places restrictions on immigration based on national origin.

The Ku Klux Klan
Anti-immigrant sentiment revives the Ku Klux Klan.

African American Renaissance and Repression
African Americans build a vibrant culture constructing a new identity as racial violence erupts around the country.

Black International Movements
Pan-Africanism unites people of color around the world.

A National Culture

Religion and Society
Old religious patterns fray with Protestant denominations splitting into two groups.

Prohibition
Cultural divisions are exemplified by the prohibition of alcohol.

Post World War I Politics and Foreign Policy

Government and Business in the 1920s
The Harding administration is beset with corruption and scandal.

Coolidge Prosperity
Under President Calvin Coolidge, the U.S. economy grows while income disparities increase.

The Election of 1928
Republican Herbert Hoover is elected President over the first Roman Catholic to run for president, Democrat Al Smith.

Independent Internationalism in the 1920s
Government and business leaders maintain a keen interest in foreign affairs.

The United States and Instability in the Western Hemisphere
The United States maintains preeminence in the Western Hemisphere, while curtailing interventions.

The Crash

The End of the Boom
The economy crashes with little government regulation and intervention.

The Great Depression
Stock prices decline sharply, leading to economic depression.