

Unit 6. Interwar Period (1918-1939)

1. Causes that led to WW2

1. Which were the main causes that led to WW2? (choose more than 1 option)

- An economic crisis that worsened the unemployment and poverty in many countries in Europe that had fought the WW1.
- The fear of the proletariat of a communist revolution in many countries in Europe.
- The fear of the bourgeoisie of a proletariat revolution in many countries in Europe.
- The rise of nationalism and totalitarianism in countries with serious economic crisis and little parliamentary tradition.

2. The crash of 1929

2. The Roaring Twenties is ...

- the period between 1929 and 1939 in which the American way of life, the belief in individual effort and initiative as a source of success and a new form of leisure and entertainment emerged.
- The period between 1918 and 1929 in which the American way of life, the belief in individual effort and initiative as a source of success and a new form of leisure and entertainment emerged.

3. Why was consumerism so generalised? (Choose more than one option)

- Industrial production had increased due to the new systems of productivity (Fordism and Taylorism)
- Only wealthy people purchased industrial products after the WW1.
- It was possible to hire-purchase, so people could pay products in regular amounts.
- Banks loaned money to buy houses or cars.
- Advertisement awoke new needs and stimulated the purchase of electrical appliances, as irons, vacuum cleaners or cars.
- United States had become the leading economic power after the WW1 and controlled international markets.

4. Which were the main causes of the Wall Street Crash in 1929? (choose more than 1 option)

- salaries increased less than industrial goods.
- Overproduction caused stock accumulation in agriculture, but not in industrial goods.
- Overproduction caused stock accumulation in agriculture and in industrial goods.
- The fall in salaries made that many people could not pay off their loans or mortgages.
- Not everyone could buy shares.
- Shares' real value was much lower than their price.
- The immediate cause was that everyone wanted to buy shares, and their value plummeted.
- The immediate cause was that everyone wanted to sell their shares, and their value plummeted.

5. What were the economic consequences of the Wall Street Crash? (choose more than 1 option)

- People and businesses withdrew their money from the banks or didn't pay off their loans, so many banks were forced to close.
- People and businesses withdrew their money from the banks or didn't pay off their loans, so new banks set up.
- Many businesses and factories closed.
- Many businesses and factories opened because they offered cheaper products.
- Unemployment increased.
- Consumption declined.
- Many families fell into poverty.
- Many countries in Europe, especially the most industrialised, faced an economic recession.

6. What were the political consequences of the Wall Street Crash? (Choose more than 1 option)

- In many countries, liberalism was substituted for state interventionism to ensure economic recovery.
- In many countries, governments began regulating businesses, banks and salaries.
- In US, Franklin D. Roosevelt introduced the New Deal, a programme that protected freedom of trade and market, without government's intervention.
- The New Deal was based on J.M. Keynes' ideas and advocated state intervention in the economy.