

U.S. History Lesson Plans for the week of 4/26/10 – 4/30/10

Monday 4/26/10

Warm-up: How might shifting from war to peace affect the economy, the movement of people from place to place and the kinds of technology developed?

Activities:

1. What problems did Americans returning veterans face?
Housing shortages
2. Demobilization converting from war to consumer items
3. Lack of consumer goods so prices and wages were out of back.
4. Prosperity GNP rose rapidly 100 billion in 1940 to 300 billion in 1950 to 500 billion in 1960
5. Real income rose by 20% and discretionary income started to accumulate.
All the money laying around caused business to go after it. They used:
TV commercials
6. G.I.s returning home had to be dealt with. They needed:
Jobs G.I. Bill gave mortgages and education
Education
Housing
7. The new world of business changed during the 1950's
 - a. Large business formed called conglomerations
 - b. White collar work
 - c. Companies taught their employees the company line and management techniques
 - d. Climbing the corporate ladder (white males)
 - e. Women were left out of the world of work
 - f. Service sector expands greatly Gov't jobs (teaching, social workers, civil servants private sector jobs clerical, tellers, telephone operators, insurance, transportation, retail, hospitality, and recreation.
8. Farming becomes big business
Family-run to corporate
Lifestyles on the farms change (TV)
More acres in production lower the cost of production
Chemicals increase production
9. America goes on the move with automobiles
Drive-ins for movies and eating
Curb service
Highways are built (Highway Act 1956 puts 32 billion into construction) by Eisenhower
Migration of white middle class from cities to suburbs (Levittown)
Race issues
California becomes the largest state
Warm climates attract
1/5 of population changed residences during the 1950's

What made TV attractive to advertisers?

How did Americans show their attachment to the automobile after the war?

Describe what Levittown looked like?

Read pages 606 to 615 and do questions on page 615

Tuesday 4/27/10

Warm-up: In 1951 TIME magazine said of college students: "The most startling thing about the younger generation is its silence." Discuss the meaning of the quotation and the information it gives about the 1950s.

Activities:

1. What were the population movements like after the war?

Cities to Suburbs

East to West

Colder to Warmer climates

Apartments Single-family homes

2. Make a chart that shows the positive and negative aspects of each of these moves
3. What is the American dream? Look at the picture on page 608. Does this exemplify the American Dream?
4. What is conformity? Why do people deplore it? The values that were being encouraged during the 1950's are:

Belonging

Togetherness

Informality

Cooperation

Group participation

Religious fervor (In God We Trust on money, Billy Graham, Fulton Sheen,

Norman Vincent Peele have TV programs

Family

5. What is the Baby Boom?

Fertility rate peaks in 1957 123 births per 1,000

Baby being born in US every 7 seconds

This helped fuel the economy

6. Kids rule

Advertising and TV cater to kids good triumphing over evil

Schools not only provide learning but social activity (music, scouting, little league)

Toy manufacturers flourished (Mattel, Hasbro, Parker Brothers

Children were healthier Vaccines for polio (Salk), antibiotics (Streptomycin)

Raising children became scientific (Dr Spock) encourages mothers to stay home

7. Women stop working outside of the home in record numbers

Marriage age drops of 20.1

Fewer women went to college

Women should be cute and perky (Doris Day, Debbie Reynolds, and Sandra Dee

School curriculum encourage homemaking for girls

8. Betty Freidan book *The Feminine Mystique* points out that all stay at home mothers are not happy. She co founds NOW and starts the women's movement.
9. Women do enter the work force but not for professional advancement but for helping to pay for extra things

What happened after the war to make a home in the suburbs affordable for many Americans?

How did TV promote and maintain postwar consumerism?

Who did not share in the lifestyle of postwar suburbia and why?

Wednesday 4/28/10

Read pages 616 – 625 and do questions on pages 624, 625 and the questions that follow:

1. Why do you think that rock music developed rapidly?
2. What happened to rock music since the 1950's and what is it currently like.
3. Why were the poor invisible during the 1950's?
4. Explain how various groups of people young/old, rural/urban became caught up in the cycle of poverty
5. What are the reasons for poverty in the 1950's include these things in your answer movement of people, political change, and social attitudes
6. How is democracy affected when its citizens lack hope?

Thursday 4/29/10

Do chapter review on pages 626 – 627

Friday 4/30/10

Chapter 18 test