

Roaring Twenties

In the 1920s, the modern consumer society emerged in the USA, fuelled by strong economic growth and a high demand for new products such as refrigerators, vacuum cleaners and cars. This led to mass consumption, which was made possible by mechanization and assembly line production (Fließbandherstellung). But there were also cultural changes, and a new attitude to life emerged. However, this was largely limited to the wealthy classes. Jazz and swing came to Europe from the USA and the Charleston became a fashionable dance.

Roaring Twenties

- a) Watch the video "[Roaring 20s: Decade of Decadent Consumerism, Parties and More](#)" (4:21) about the life in the Roaring Twenties on your mobile device/computer. Don't forget to take notes, as you will need the information for the next task. If you have any questions, your teacher will be there to help you.



Roaring 20s: Decade of Decadent Consumerism, Parties and More

- b) Get into pairs to answer the questions below. Use your notes from task a). When you have answered the questions, switch partners and compare your answers with your new partner.
- ♦ What was the economy like in the Roaring Twenties?
 - ♦ What effects did the mass production of cars have?
 - ♦ What impact did the stock market crash of 1929 have in the USA?

Prohibition in the United States

- Use your mobile device to scan the QR Code and learn more about Prohibition by watching the video "[U.S. Prohibition \(1920-33\)](#)" (2:44).
- Afterwards create a [mind map](#) with the most important facts mentioned in the video. When you are done, get together in pairs (find a new partner) and discuss your results.



U.S. Prohibition (1920–1933)



Mind map

Stock market crash of 1929

- Watch the video "[Did Stock Brokers Jump off Buildings during the 1929 Stock Market Crash?](#)" (3:46) if you have difficulties understanding the speaker, switch on the subtitles. Create a vocabulary list (for example using an Excel file) with the words you don't know and look them up in the online dictionary. If you have any questions, your teacher will help you.
- Create five true/false questions that summarize the main points of the video. Then work in pairs (find a new partner) and answer your partner's questions. Finally, discuss the main message of the video in pairs.



Did Stock Brokers Jump off Buildings
during the 1929 Stock Market Crash?



Online dictionary