

The Roaring Twenties

Part One



Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Thematic Icons



Economics



Geography



Historical concepts



Government

Icons



Flash activity (these activities are not editable)



Teacher notes included in the Notes page

For more instructions, see the *User Guide*.





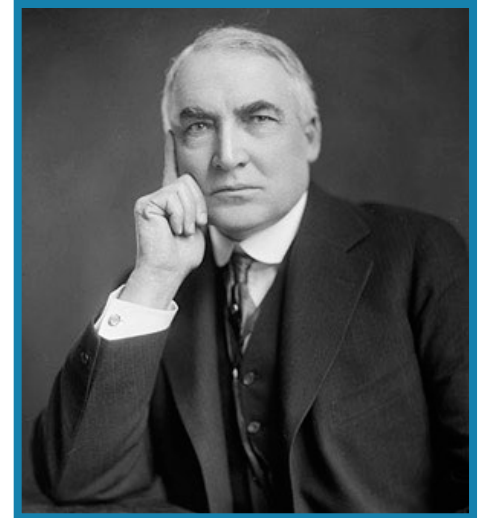
Timeline





Following World War I, the U.S. economy went into a **recession**. The war industry, which had fueled growth now dropped off, and men returning from the war flooded the job market just when there were fewer jobs to be filled.

Warren G. Harding was elected president in 1920 and moved away from **Progressivism**. He began to decrease public spending and cut taxes as a way of pulling the economy out of its slump.



Harding's administration was hit by scandal as members of his government sold off assets and took bribes.





A boom economy

By 1922, the economy was turning around. The **Fordney-McCumber Tariff**, the highest **tariff** in U.S. history, increased import taxes. Americans were encouraged to buy goods manufactured in the U.S., helping to create a boom.

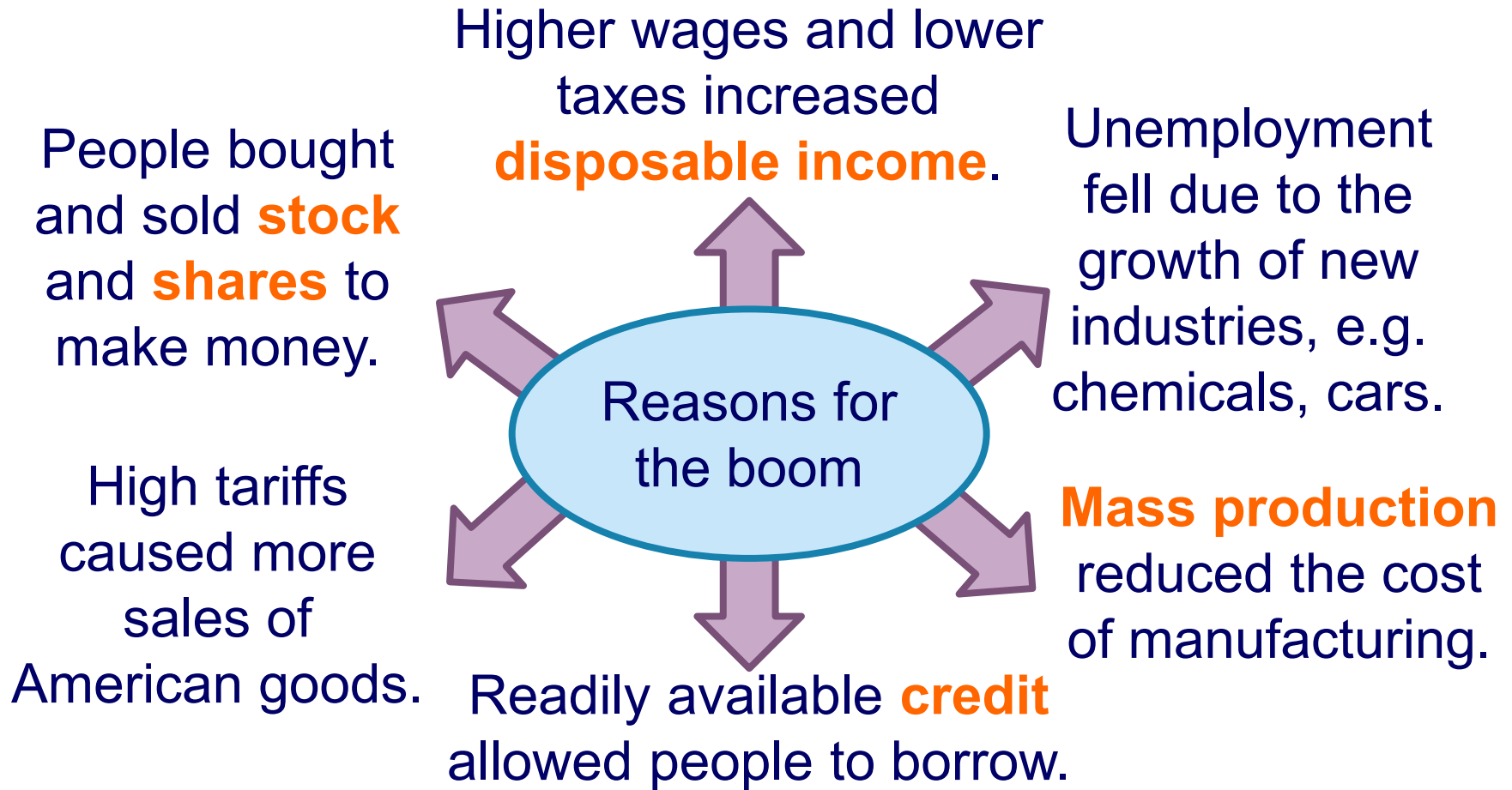


Harding's successor, **Calvin Coolidge**, was also strongly pro-business.

“The chief business of the American people is business. They are profoundly concerned with producing, buying, selling, investing and prospering in the world.”



There were numerous causes of the economic boom:



Did the boom last? What happened in 1929?



The **assembly line** broke down jobs into smaller tasks. People could then specialize in one task and be able to do it quickly. This meant that less skilled people could be hired. Producing standardized items in bulk — **mass production** — had a number of effects:

- cheaper production of goods
- an increasing number of people being employed in cities
- higher wages meant people had more disposable income and contributed to an increased feeling of prosperity.



How did each of these things contribute towards higher living standards?





Installment plans





