

Hard Times Florida

Read closely to summarize problems during the Great Depression.

SS.4.A.7.2 "Summarize challenges Floridians faced during the Great Depression."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each phrase that tells about a challenge Floridians faced during the Great Depression. Number the different kinds of challenges you find so you can use them in a summary.

Florida Faces the Depression

- ① In 1929, the Great Depression began, a long period when many people could not find work or earn enough money. Florida's tourism business slowed as families elsewhere stopped spending on trips. Hotels, restaurants, and shops lost customers. Workers were laid off. Without steady pay, some families could not afford rent, food, or other daily needs.
- ② Farmers faced another set of problems. Florida growers raised citrus, vegetables, and other crops, but prices dropped. A farmer might sell a crate of fruit for too little money to cover seeds, tools, and land costs. Some farm families lost their land when they could not pay debts or taxes. Workers who picked crops often had seasonal jobs and low pay, making hard times even harder.
- ③ Many Floridians looked for help. Soup kitchens and charities gave food to people who were hungry. New Deal programs provided some jobs building roads, parks, and public buildings. The Civilian Conservation Corps employed young men on conservation projects. These programs helped, but they did not end every problem quickly. Families still worried about jobs, housing, debt, and having enough food.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Summarize how fewer tourists created a challenge for Florida workers.

2 What were two money problems Florida farmers faced during the Great Depression?

3 What did a lack of steady pay make hard for some Florida families? Name two daily needs.

4 How did New Deal programs help Floridians, and what was one problem that remained?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a three-sentence summary of challenges Floridians faced during the Great Depression. Include at least three different challenges, and explain how one challenge made daily life hard.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each phrase that tells about a challenge Floridians faced during the Great Depression. Number the different kinds of challenges you find so you can use them in a summary. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Summarize how fewer tourists created a challenge for Florida workers.	When fewer families traveled to Florida, hotels, restaurants, and shops lost customers, and workers were laid off.
2	What were two money problems Florida farmers faced during the Great Depression?	Crop prices dropped, so farmers might not earn enough to cover costs. Some farm families lost land because they could not pay debts or taxes.
3	What did a lack of steady pay make hard for some Florida families? Name two daily needs.	It made it hard to afford daily needs such as rent and food.
4	How did New Deal programs help Floridians, and what was one problem that remained?	New Deal programs provided some jobs, including work on roads, parks, public buildings, and conservation projects. Families still worried about jobs, housing, debt, or enough food.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

During the Great Depression, fewer tourists came to Florida, so many hotel and shop workers lost jobs. Farmers earned low prices for crops and could lose land when they could not pay debts or taxes. Families struggled to pay for housing and food, while farmworkers had low-paying seasonal work.

Accept summaries that include at least three accurate challenges from the passage and explain one effect on daily life. Students may use different wording for job loss, low crop prices, debt, housing, or food problems.