

Change in the Twenties

Trace how rights, culture, and prosperity reshaped postwar America.

8.4e "After World War I, the United States entered a period of economic prosperity and cultural change. This period is known as the Roaring Twenties. During this time, new opportunities for women were gained..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two opportunities for women. Circle two examples of Black cultural expression. Mark one continuing challenge with 1.

Voices of a Changing Decade

- ① During the 1920s, many Americans spent more on cars, radios, and movies. Assembly lines produced goods quickly, and advertising encouraged purchases. Cities became centers of entertainment. Music, dancing, consumer spending, and new fashions gave the Roaring Twenties its energetic reputation. Yet prosperity was uneven: many families did not share in the new wealth.
- ② Women had won the long campaign for voting rights when the Nineteenth Amendment was ratified in 1920. This amendment said that citizens could not be denied the right to vote because of sex. It gave women across the nation a stronger voice in elections, although many women of color still faced unfair barriers created by racist laws and practices. Some women also entered offices, colleges, and paid jobs in greater numbers. New fashions and behavior challenged older expectations about how women should look and act.
- ③ At the same time, African American artists, writers, and musicians built a cultural movement called the Harlem Renaissance. In Harlem, a New York City neighborhood, people shared poetry, paintings, plays, and jazz with wider audiences. Figures such as Langston Hughes used art to express Black experiences and pride. This celebration occurred amid serious racism and violence, including the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. The Harlem Renaissance did not end discrimination, but it helped African Americans distinguish themselves, strengthen community, and influence American culture.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did assembly lines and advertising help create economic prosperity during the Roaring Twenties?

2 What was the historical significance of the Nineteenth Amendment?

3 How did the Harlem Renaissance help African Americans celebrate their culture? Use two details from the passage.

4 What evidence shows that the Roaring Twenties brought both change and continued inequality?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly three sentences explaining how women and African Americans reshaped American public life during the Roaring Twenties. Include one detail about women in the second sentence and one detail about African American culture in the third sentence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two opportunities for women. Circle two examples of Black cultural expression. Mark one continuing challenge with 1. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did assembly lines and advertising help create economic prosperity during the Roaring Twenties?	Assembly lines produced goods quickly, and advertising encouraged people to buy those goods.
2	What was the historical significance of the Nineteenth Amendment?	It prohibited denying citizens the right to vote because of sex and gave women a stronger voice in elections.
3	How did the Harlem Renaissance help African Americans celebrate their culture? Use two details from the passage.	Artists, writers, and musicians shared poetry, paintings, plays, and jazz. Their work expressed Black experiences and pride and reached wider audiences.
4	What evidence shows that the Roaring Twenties brought both change and continued inequality?	Women gained voting rights and greater access to jobs and colleges, but many women of color faced racist barriers. African Americans celebrated culture during the Harlem Renaissance, but racism and violence, including the Tulsa Race Massacre, continued.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

During the Roaring Twenties, women and African Americans reshaped American public life by demanding wider voices and sharing new cultural expression. The Nineteenth Amendment gave women a stronger voice in elections. Harlem Renaissance artists shared poetry and jazz, showing Black pride and influencing American culture.

Accept equivalent evidence-based responses. Question 4 should recognize gains alongside inequality. The application must connect women's opportunities and Black cultural expression to public life, following its three-sentence structure.