

Structured Academic Controversy: FDR's New Deal

President Roosevelt is best known for leading the country through the Great Depression. The New Deal was a set of policies designed to provide “relief, recovery, and reform” that would alleviate the suffering of millions of Americans.

During today's class, you will work in teams to discuss whether or not the New Deal was a success. Your goals for today should include looking at all the issues, seeing both sides, and finding common ground.

SAC QUESTION

During the SAC, you and your group will try to answer the following question:

Was the New Deal a Success or Failure?

Team A will argue: YES, the New Deal was a success.

Team B will argue: NO, the New Deal was a failure.

EVIDENCE

As you develop your arguments for the SAC, use as many of the following possible sources of evidence as you can from the New Deal document set.

PROCEDURE

- 30 minutes** With your teammate, read the documents in the New Deal Document Set. Find five pieces of evidence which support your side.
- 10 minutes** Team A presents. **BOTH PARTNERS MUST PRESENT!!!**
Team B writes down Team A's arguments and then repeats them back to Team A.
- 10 minutes** Team B presents. **BOTH PARTNERS MUST PRESENT!!!**
Team A down arguments of Team B and then repeats them back to Team B.
- 10 minutes** Everyone **CAN ABANDON** their positions. Group of 4 attempts to develop a consensus.

ORGANIZING THE EVIDENCE

Use this space to write your main points and the main points made by the other side.

The New Deal was a success: List the 5 main points/evidence that support this side.

1) From Document _____ :

2) From Document _____ :

3) From Document _____ :

4) From Document _____ :

5) From Document _____ :

The New Deal was a failure: List the 5 main points/evidence that support this side.

1) From Document _____ :

2) From Document _____ :

3) From Document _____ :

4) From Document _____ :

5) From Document _____ :

Coming to Consensus

STARTING NOW, YOU MAY ABANDON YOUR ASSIGNED POSITION AND ARGUE FOR EITHER SIDE.

Use the space below to outline your group's agreement. Your agreement should address evidence and arguments from both sides.