SIMHISTORY LIVE DEBATE · PRINTABLE PLAYBOOK

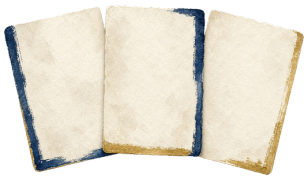
The New Deal Playbook

Resolved: The New Deal helped end the Great Depression.

CON: THE NEW DEAL PROLONGED IT

Name _____ Period _____ Position _____

4 · Claim & Support Drills 6 QUESTIONS



Pick the best answer. Circle one letter.

1. Which evidence best supports this claim? "After six years of the New Deal, the Depression was not over."

(A) GDP grew 12.9% in 1936.

(B) Unemployment never fell below 14% in the 1930s on the standard count.

(C) The WPA built thousands of schools.

(D) Roosevelt went off the gold standard in 1933.

2. Which claim does this evidence support? "Wages in 11 key industries averaged 25% above where they otherwise would have been."

(A) Workers were better off in every way.

(B) Taxes doubled in the 1930s.

(C) NRA rules kept wages too high, so businesses hired fewer workers.

(D) Deposit insurance stopped bank runs.

3. **A Pro player says: "GDP grew about 9% a year under the New Deal." Which is Con's strongest answer?**

(A) Growth is bad for the economy.

(B) Growth from a very deep hole is expected; output per person in 1937 was still below 1929, and then it crashed again.

(C) GDP numbers are always fake.

(D) Roosevelt was rich.

4. **Why should Con be careful with this evidence? "Without the New Deal the Depression would have ended in 1936 instead of 1943."**

(A) It comes from a university.

(B) It is an estimate from an economic model, not something measured, so say "economists estimate."

(C) 1936 is before the war.

(D) It is too short.

5. **Which evidence best supports this claim? "New Deal policies scared off business investment."**

(A) Tax laws changed in 1932, 1934, 1935 and 1936, and economists say the uncertainty must have been enormous.

(B) Unemployment fell between 1933 and 1937.

(C) The CCC planted millions of trees.

(D) The Supreme Court struck down the NRA.

6. Which statement is a claim, not evidence?

(A) Harding cut the federal budget nearly in half between 1920 and 1922.

(B) The NRA was struck down in 1935.

(C) The New Deal prolonged the Great Depression.

(D) Unemployment was 2.4% in 1923.



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