

The Roaring '20s: Myth or Reality?
Women's roles in 1920s America
11th Grade Accelerated American History
Model Lesson for AHTC Summer Institute 2004
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Content Goal

Students will be able to identify to popular culture aspects of the “flapper age” and, using primary documents and artifacts, compare it to the lives of young women in a more traditional lifestyle.

Essential Questions

- Was the persona of the flapper an accurate portrayal of women in the 1920s?
- How “roaring” were the ‘20s in Champaign County?

Process (2-3 days)

1. Evaluate prior knowledge using true/false questions. Correct responses will be reviewed with the entire class.
2. Provide background information with a handout followed by class discussion.
3. Teacher will model the investigation of a primary document and demonstrate the use of a document analysis sheet.
4. Small group activity: Class will break into teacher-designated groups and evaluate significance of various primary documents using document analysis sheets.
5. Small groups will begin to complete graphic organizer with information found within primary sources.
6. Class will spend one period in the computer lab investigating additional primary sources to further respond to essential questions.
7. Small groups will reconvene, complete graphic organizers, and begin an outline in preparation for an individual, two-page essay answering the question: “Was the persona of the flapper an accurate portrayal of women in the 1920s?”

Assessment

- Evaluation of completed document analysis sheets.
- Evaluation of completed graphic organizer.

- Evaluation of the two-page essay.

Primary Documents and Handouts

- [Primary Documents and Artifacts](#)

Handouts

- [Background Information](#)
- [Graphic Organizer \(PDF Only\)](#)
- [True False Questions](#)
- [Document Analysis Sheet](#)

Primary Information Sources

- [Champaign County Forest Preserve District's Early American Museum](#)
- <http://photoswest.org>
- <http://www.authentichistory.com>
- <http://lcweb2.loc.gov>
- <http://memory.loc.gov>
- <http://www.rambova.com/fashion>