

The Great Depression and the New Deal – Intro Paragraph Prewriting Activity

**Get Chromebook, open up
your draft of the essay, wait
for next instructions**

INSTRUCTIONS

During this activity, keep typing, do not stop, if you are thinking keep your fingers on the keyboard, just keep typing out your thoughts on the topic wherever they may go

Question #1

Type out the following quote and respond to the questions that follow

“The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” – President Franklin D. Roosevelt, First Inaugural Address, 1933.

- To what historical crisis is President FDR responding to?
- What fears did Americans have in 1933?

Question #2

- What is the New Deal?
 - Describe the basic idea of the “New Deal” in a sentence.
 - What were the primary goals of Roosevelt’s policy?

Question #3

- Did the New Deal work? Did it achieve its intended goals?
 - In what ways did the New Deal fix the problems facing the nation?
 - In what ways did the New Deal fail to fully achieve its goals ?

INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE and ADVICE

- Historical Context
 - What is the topic and time period that the essay covers?
 - How does the topic fit into the larger story of U.S. History?
 - Like a TV show begins the episode with “Previously On...”
- Setup of Arguments / Organization
 - Introduces the various topics that will be covered in the body paragraphs
 - Acts as a roadmap or an overview of the essay’s structure
 - Does not give away all facts and ideas, but rather hints at what you will write about later in the essay
- Claim
 - Overall essay argument
 - Your position, historical argument, or thesis

CONCLUSION PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE and ADVICE

- **RESTATE**
 - Remind the reader what your overall claim is
 - Try to rephrase or reframe your argument, do not write your claim again word for word
- **RECAP**
 - Quick summary of the main points you addressed in each body paragraph
- **RELATE**
 - Connect and link your argument and essay to American History
 - Ask yourself, why is it important for people to know about this topic
 - How might the argument your present be a continuation of ideas or events we have learned about prior in American History
 - How might your argument hint at what is to come in American History