Study Guide – The Roaring Twenties

Vocabulary:

*Harlem Renaissance* – A period of time in the 1920s where African Americans lived close to each other and talked, wrote, and composed songs about African Americans and the rights that they should have.

*Culture* – Culture is everything around you. It includes the language that people speak, the music people listen to, the religion people practice, the books people read, and the t.v. shows that people watch. It surrounds you.

Terms/People

*Louis Armstrong* – One of the first people to come up Jazz music. He was very famous because he helped change the type of music people listen to. He influenced future musicians.

*Babe Ruth* – The first major sports star. He helped make baseball popular, and changed what Americans like to do for fun.

*Langston Hughes* – A famous African American poet, writer, and artist who promoted the idea that African Americans should have equal Rights.

How does culture affect people's lives?

Culture affects people’s lives because it is all around us. It is everything from our music, language, religion, t.v. shows, books, and many other things.

How does culture change?

Culture evolves. That means that people are influenced or changed by everything around them. They take those influences and change it to create something new.

How did the Harlem Renaissance help African Americans?

The Harlem Renaissance helped African Americans during the 1920s. African American writers, artists, and musicians came to Harlem to write music, stories, and make art that made African Americans look good. The goal of the Harlem Renaissance was to make African Americans feel proud to be African Americans during a time that had Jim Crow Laws and segregation.

What was America's economy like in the decade after World War I?

America’s economy during the decade after World War I was really strong. It was strong because America’s cities were not destroyed by the war because no battle actually took place in the U.S. Because the cities were still standing and strong, the U.S. was one of the only developed countries in the world that was not destroyed so they had to help Europe rebuild. This caused a lot of factories to stay busy which gave people jobs and helped people make money. America’s economy was also good at this time because of all the
inventions that were developed in the U.S. Factories opened everywhere using massing production and specialization.

How did culture change for women during the 1920s?

Before the World War I and the 1920s, women were expected to stay home with the children. If they did get a job, they didn’t have many options. They could usually only become teachers, seamstresses, nurses, or maids. In addition, they were not allowed to vote. After World War I though, many women started demanding more rights. They wanted to be treated equally as men. Therefore, in 1919, the 19th Amendment of the Constitution was passed. This gave the women the right to vote. Also during this time, women started changing the way they dressed. These women were known as “flappers.” Many used the new style to show society that they were independent and didn’t need to rely on men.