

Activity for Conversation Sessions

Time: 3 sessions**• First session**

1. The class will be divided into 2 groups.
2. They have to compare the Great Crash with the present crisis we are experiencing.

• Second session

3. When they finish the comparison they will suggest concrete solutions for our crisis, offering at least two concrete measures.

• Third session

4. Oral exposition of the comparison and the solutions.

Guidelines to mark the differences:

1. Causes
2. Repercussions
3. The New Deal/new solutions

Evaluation:

1. Group work 20%
2. Comprehensibility of contents 40%
3. Oral quality: correctness and communication ability 40%

Vocabulary. Explain/define the following concepts/persons/ institutions

- Black Thursday
- Roosevelt
- New Deal
- Welfare State

Readings

John Steinbeck wrote *The Grapes of Wrath* in 1939. The novel tells the story of a family of Oklahoma that migrates to California in search of better living conditions. It describes the situation of poverty, unemployment and lack of expectations in the USA during the Great Depression.

Should you choose to read it, agree on a group conclusion/s and present it to the rest of the class.

Think critically

Nowadays our economic system is not completely based on a free market: the State intervenes in economic matters in order to correct its distortions. Taking into account that one of the reasons for the 1929 crash was the lack of an effective public control on the economic activity, why in your opinion the current crisis has taken place?

Mark the differences with the 1929 crack in the causes and the solutions taken by Governments in both cases. Present in no more than 7 minutes, your group conclusions to the rest of the class; all members of the group have to take part in the presentation.