Group members: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**New Deal Debate: Success or Failure?**

1. Skim chapter 23 and your notes in order to take notes on evidence that would support your claim. This is done individually for 20 minutes.
2. In groups of 5 or 6, you will be assigned the following roles:

* **Group Leader**: your job is to present your opening and closing statements and help guide other group members.
* The other 5 members will choose to be a **person from that time period**. Be specific about who you are. It should make sense with your stance. You will give testimony to support your group’s argument.
  + Examples: A mother, an unemployed father, an African American, a Native American, an employee worker (CCC, WPA, etc.), a farmer, a sharecropper, a banker, a child, a member of NAM, a homeowner, a member of Liberty League, a retired worker, a retired agricultural or domestic worker, a widow, an environmental advocate, a labor union member, a Mexican or Asian migrant worker, an artist, etc.
  + Famous people: Mary McLeod Bethune, Father Coughlin, Francis Townsend, Frances Perkins, Huey Long, John Collier

1. Write your testimony or opening/closing statements.

* **Opening statement**: Start with a hook to catch the audience’s attention. Let your stance be known early on: was the New Deal a success or failure? Give several reasons/evidence that support your opinion. Introduce each of the testimonials by telling the audience who they are*. This should be about a paragraph in length.*
* **Testimonies**: Write from the perspective of the person you chose. Tell your story of how the New Deal affected you in a positive or negative way. Make sure to include facts and details that are historically accurate. (You may also add a bit of fictional character and fun here!) *Each testimony should be 1-2 paragraphs in length.*
* **Closing Statement**: Sum up your argument for your group. What were the main points made by each of the testimonials? End by suggesting a call to action. What should the government’s role be following the end of the Great Depression? If it was a success, explain why. What made it so successful and how might we continue that success? If you believe that the New Deal was a failure, how should the government improve up on it for the future? (Remember, if you are on the “failure” side you should consider whether or not you are conservative or liberal). *This should be about a paragraph in length.*
* **The whole argument for your group should take 5-10 minutes.**

1. Prepare to present your argument to the class. The “success” side will begin by presenting their arguments. The “failure” side will then have the opportunity to ask questions and challenge the points of the other side. People on each side can only speak up to 2 times (whether it is asking questions/challenging the other side or addressing their questions/challenges). Next the “failure” side will share and the same rules will apply for the debate.
2. The winning team will receive EXTRA CREDIT! The winning team will be decided based on how well they argued their side (opening/closing statements and testimonials) and how well they challenged and responded to the other side during the debate.