RADLEY COLLEGE Entrance Scholarships



HUMANITIES

Monday 21st February 2005

Time allowed: 90 minutes

Answer both sections. Spend about 45 minutes on each section.

Write your answers to the History and the Geography sections on separate sheets of paper.

SECTION A - HISTORY

The Great Depression

A From Encyclopædia Britannica

"Wall Street Lays an Egg," a headline in *Variety* announced in October 1929.

In that understated sentence the entertainment newspaper was saying that the New York stock market had collapsed. Beginning on October 24 remembered as Black Thursday - and culminating in an even blacker Tuesday, October 29, the value of shares dropped more than 26 billion dollars. Before the end of November 1929 the nationwide loss exceeded 100 billion dollars. Over the next few years America, and the rest of the world, slowly sank into the Great Depression.

B From 'The USA: A Divided Union?' by Neil DeMarco

Spectacular as it was, the Wall Street Crash was not the real cause of the Great Depression - it simply made the economic problems worse. One basic reason for the slump was over-production. During the prosperous 1920s, consumers had been keen to buy all sorts of goods - especially the newly mass-produced ones such as vacuum cleaners, refrigerators and cars. By the end of the 1920s consumers had bought all the goods they wanted or could afford. Companies were forced to cut back on production, cut prices and cut back on the number of workers. By the summer of 1929, warehouses began to fill with unsold goods, and company profits began to fall dramatically.

C A photograph of Fred Bell, a wealthy businessman forced to sell apples after the Wall Street Crash



D From a Biography of Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The Wall Street Crash in October 1929 created the worst depression in American history. President Herbert Hoover (a Republican) was slow to provide federal aid to farmers and stubbornly refused to give help to the unemployed. Hoover vetoed (*cancelled*) a proposal that would have created a federal unemployment agency and also opposed a plan to create a public works programme.

Roosevelt was seen as a great success as governor of New York state because he had introduced local schemes to aid the unemployed and restore public confidence. He was the obvious choice as the Democratic presidential candidate in 1932. Although Roosevelt was unsure about what he would do about the economic depression, he easily beat his unpopular Republican rival, Herbert Hoover.

On becoming President, Roosevelt gave a famous speech in which he said "We have nothing to fear but fear itself". In his 'New Deal' programme he gave federal government help to all sectors of the economy, and America slowly recovered from the Great Depression.

Questions:

1. Study Source A.

What can you learn from this source about the Wall Street Crash?

(4)

2. Study Sources B and C.

How useful are these sources about the causes of the Great Depression in America?

Give reasons for your answer. (6)

3. Use all the Sources and your own knowledge.

"The Great Depression in America was caused by a lack of leadership by President Hoover".

How far do you agree with this point of view? (15)

(25 marks)

SECTION B - GEOGRAPHY

Answer any THREE sections. All carry equal marks. Credit will be given for detailed examples.

Section 1

- i. Why are some parts of the world more prone than others to earthquakes?
- ii. Outline the effects, both beneficial and disadvantageous, of volcanic eruptions on man.

Section 2

- i. Explain why some parts of Britain's coastline are protected by man-made structures. How does their effectiveness vary?
- ii. Using examples from the United Kingdom explain how rock type affects the landscape.

Section 3

- i. Explain why the climate of North West Scotland differs from that of East Anglia.
- ii. How does altitude affect temperature? What effect does this variation have on man's economic activities?

Section 4

- i. Explain why there are different levels of service provision in towns and villages.
- ii. Outline the main influences on the settlement pattern in any part of the United Kingdom that you have studied? How has the pattern changed in the last fifty years?

Section 5

- i. Outline the distribution of EITHER cereal production OR dairy farming in the United Kingdom. How has the pattern changed over the past fifty years?
- ii. Outline the factors affecting the location in the United Kingdom of any manufacturing industry that you have studied.

Section 6

- i. Why are some derelict industrial sites more attractive to developers than others?
- ii. Why is development of tropical rain forests difficult? Illustrate your answer with examples of both successful projects and those which have experienced problems.