

Unit 7: The 20th Century

In this unit, you will read about events that happened in the 20th century. These include a drought, the Great Depression, and World Wars I and II. You will learn about the invention of aircraft, the destruction of the boll weevil, the lend-lease program, and the Savannah and Brunswick shipyards.

KEY TERMS

Agricultural Adjustment Act: A federal law passed in 1933, ruled unconstitutional, and then modified and passed again in 1938. It set quotas on farm produce in an attempt to keep farmers in business during the Great Depression. (H8d)

Bell Aircraft: A corporation that manufactured aircraft and was active during World War II. (H9b)

Boll Weevil: A beetle that feeds on flowers and cotton buds. Not native to the United States, it proved disastrous to cotton producers in the American Southeast, including those in Georgia, during the Great Depression. (H8a)

Civilian Conservation Corps: A Great Depression-era work relief program that put young American men to work in rural areas. (H8d)

Drought: A period of little or no rainfall. A widespread drought in the United States during the 1930s created a dust bowl in parts of the Midwest and West. (H8a)

The Great Depression: A sustained period of American economic decline. It lasted from 1929 until the mid-1940s. U.S. entry into World War II led to the end of the Great Depression. (H8b)

Holocaust: The mass murder of Jews and other groups by Nazis during World War II. (H9c)

Lend-Lease: The Lend-Lease Act in 1941 let the United States aid the Allies in World War II. It was signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and it allowed the United States to provide aid to Great Britain. (H9a)

New Deal: A series of laws enacted by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt during the Great Depression, aimed at rebuilding the American economy. (H8d)

Pearl Harbor: A naval base in Hawaii that was attacked by Japan on December 7, 1941, prompting the United States' entry into World War II. (H9a)

Franklin Delano Roosevelt: President of the United States from 1933 until his death in 1945. He governed the nation during both the Great Depression and World War II. He first visited Brunswick, Georgia, in 1913 on business for the U.S. Navy. After contracting polio in 1921, he returned to the state, this time to visit Warm Springs, where he hoped the waters would restore him to health. He later purchased a home there and visited it often. (H9d)

Rural Electrification Act: An act signed into law by President Roosevelt in 1935 to bring electricity to rural areas throughout the United States. (H8d)

Richard Russell: Former governor of Georgia and United States senator. He was known for working to strengthen national defense as well as for opposing civil rights. (H9b)

Savannah and Brunswick Shipyards: Ports in Georgia where ships were built. Both were extremely important to the United States during World War II. (H9b)

Social Security: A government program established during the Great Depression. It provides an income to elderly people who can no longer work by giving them benefits based on what they paid into the system while working. (H8d)

Eugene Talmadge: A three-term governor of Georgia who served in the 1930s and 1940s. (H8c)

Carl Vinson: A Georgia native who served in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was the first to hold congressional office for a period of fifty years. He is known as “The Father of the Two-Ocean Navy.” (H9b)

World War II: The largest war in history. Conflict extended into Europe, Africa, Asia, and both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. (H9a)

Sample Items 11–12

Item 11

Which group of people was MOST affected by the boll weevil in the years between World War I and World War II?

- A. cotton farmers
- B. factory workers
- C. railroad workers
- D. government officials

Item 12

How was Georgia significant in the life of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt?

- A. Georgia politicians led the anti-Roosevelt opposition in Congress during the 1930s.
- B. President Roosevelt traveled to Warm Springs frequently to recover from complications of polio.
- C. Georgia’s Electoral College votes gave Roosevelt enough votes to win the presidential election in 1932.
- D. President Roosevelt tested his New Deal programs in the state before spreading them across the country.

Unit 8: Post-WWII Georgia

In this unit, you will learn about Georgia after World War II. You will study the rise of agriculture, the growth of businesses, and the importance of transportation. You will learn about the capital, Atlanta, and you will also read about the important sports teams in the state.

KEY TERMS

Agriculture: The science of farming. It is an important part of Georgia's economy. During the Civil War, cotton was the state's leading product and was shipped to ports around the world. Today, the state is the world's leading producer of pecans. It continues to produce cotton and is a major world supplier of peaches, peanuts, rye, and tobacco, as well as poultry and eggs. (H10a)

Ivan Allen, Jr.: The two-term mayor of Atlanta during the civil rights era of the 1960s. He opposed segregation and helped revitalize the city's economy. (H10b)

Ellis Arnall: The governor of Georgia from 1943 to 1947. He repealed the poll tax and ratified a new state constitution. At the time, he was the youngest governor serving in the United States. (H10c)

Atlanta: The capital of and largest city in Georgia, founded in 1837. It is the ninth-largest metropolitan area in the United States, and its economy is the eighth largest in the nation. That economy is largely supported by corporate giants that call the area home: Coca-Cola, Home Depot, CNN, TBS, Cox Enterprises, The Weather Channel, Delta Air Lines, and Georgia-Pacific, among many others. (H10b)

William B. Hartsfield: The two-time mayor of Atlanta who helped develop the city's airport into the major transportation hub it has become today. (H10b)

Sports: Professional athletics programs thrive in Georgia. The state is home to the Atlanta Braves (baseball), Atlanta Hawks (basketball), Atlanta Falcons (football), Atlanta Silverbacks (hockey), and a number of other teams and organizations. It also hosts golf's Masters Tournament and a number of motorsports races. (H10b)

KEY IDEA**Transportation in Georgia**

Georgia is a major transportation hub. The state capital, Atlanta, is one of the nation's leading railroad centers. The city also has one of the nation's largest airports, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International, which has been considered the busiest passenger airport in the world since 1998.

Georgia also has two of the nation's busiest deep-water ports at Savannah and Brunswick. Between the years 2000 and 2005, Savannah was the nation's fastest-growing seaport. The port at Brunswick is equally as important and was once known as "The Shrimp Capital of the World."

The state is also home to a number of important highways that connect Atlanta to other parts of the nation. Among them is I-75, which connects Michigan to Florida while going through a number of important cities.

Sample Items 13–14**Item 13**

How did changes in Georgia's agriculture during the second half of the 20th century affect the distribution of population in the state?

- A. New agricultural practices were developed, leading more people to move to rural areas.
- B. Many small farms were consolidated into larger farms, causing thousands of farmers to move to the cities.
- C. Government assistance in farming helped local growers, allowing them to continue living in rural areas.
- D. New cotton mills were built as a result of the increase in cotton production, forcing people to move near the mills.

Item 14

How did the development of Atlanta after World War II affect the growth of Georgia?

- A. Atlanta's growth turned the city into the economic center of the state.
- B. Atlanta's growth marked the end of the state being a leader in agriculture.
- C. As Atlanta grew, the rest of the state saw a decrease in the economy and an increase in poverty.
- D. As Atlanta grew, the rest of the state showed a decrease in population and an increase in the average age of the people.