**Aim:**

**Topic: The New Deal (1933-1944)**

**Document #1 – FDR takes office**

*“We have nothing to fear but fear itself”* – excerpt from Inaugural Address, March 15, 1933

Franklin Delano Roosevelt beat **incumbent** Herbert Hoover in a landslide election in 1932 to become the32nd president of the United States. When he took office, he followed through on his campaign promise create a “**New Deal”** for America – it would be a new involvement of the American government in the economy to spend more to help the poor and to create jobs. He brought together a large team of advisors to help him create this deal. His New Deal legislation (laws) was based on 3 R’s: “Relief, Recovery and Reform.”

**1) What do you think FDR meant by “we have nothing to fear but fear itself?”**

**2) How would the New Deal change the American government and the economy?**

**3) Predict: What will the 3 R’s do for America?**

**Task: In pairs, read each Section of the New Deal and its programs.**

**For each part of the New Deal answer:**

**1) How does FDR believe this “R” of the New Deal help the economy**

**2) Do you agree or disagree with FDR’s plan?**

**New Deal Part I: Relief:** these were short-term measures designed to provide immediate help poor people who lost money, homes, jobs during the Great Depression.

Program:

* **Civilian Conservation Corps** **(1933)**: – This provided relief by giving young people jobs, such as planting trees, cleaning up forests and draining swamps.
* **Public Woks Administration (1935)**: This provided relief by giving people public works projects such as building/maintaining schools, courthouses, roads, post offices and bridges.
* **Tennessee Valley Administration (1933):**  This was the biggest of the government work projects; having people work on the Tennessee River (such as working on dams, bridges, canals.) and the area surrounding it (such as irrigation canals, farmland, housing, building factories). The Tennessee River ran through 7 states.

**1) How does FDR believe this “R” of the New Deal help the economy**

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**New Deal Part II: Recovery:** these were measures that were designed to stimulate production and restore the economy by increasing production incentives and rebuilding people’s ability to buy products.

* **Agricultural Adjustment Act (1933):** This promoted recovery by helping farmers by setting limits on crop production.
* **National Recovery Administration (1933):** This promoted recovery by drawing up codes for businesses which set prices, limits on production, a reduced work week and a minimum wage.
* **Wagner Act (1935):** Protected labor unions and gave them better negotiating power.

**1) How does FDR believe this “R” of the New Deal help the economy**

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**New Deal Part III: Reform :** these were measures that were designed to correct problems in the economy so that the economy could never collapse again.

* **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (F.D.I.C.) (1933):** This sought to provide reform by insuring bank deposits so that people would not worry about losing their savings in the event of a bank failure.
* **Bank Holiday (1933):** During the mass closings of banks, Roosevelt temporarily closed all banks so people could not go to them to take their money out.
* **Social Security Act (1935-1937):** This gave Americans money if they were unemployed and money when they retired.
* **Securities and Exchange Commission (1935):** This administration works with the Federal Bureau of Investigation **(FBI) to** monitor illegal stock trading activity and to make sure that companies listed on the stock exchange provide reliable and accurate earnings and overviews of themselves.

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**FDR’s Fireside Chats:**

In order to help promote confidence, President Roosevelt gave weekly “Fireside Chats,” where he would talk to the nation on the radio from a fireplace in the White House. Every week people would tune in to listen to FDR’s words of encouragement.

**Task: Read the excerpts and answer: how would these provide encouragement to people?**

“*I do not promise you that every bank will be reopened or that individual losses will not be suffered, but there will be no losses that possibly could be avoided; and there would have been more and greater losses and had we continued to drift [down our past path]. I can even promise you salvation for some at least of the sorely pressed banks. We shall be engaged not merely in reopening sound banks but in the creation of sound banks through reorganization.” – FDR Fireside Chat, 3/12/33*