

Name _____

Dry Law DBQ Answer Key

Students must:

- Refer to multiple documents (at least two)
- Provide evidence-based claims showing understanding of the complexity of Prohibition

Expected ideas may include:

- Prohibition aimed to reduce alcohol use and improve public morals
- Supporters hoped for stronger families and safer communities
- Illegal alcohol trade grew, leading to violence, bribery, and organized crime
- The law was difficult to enforce because many Americans ignored the ban
- Democracy allows changes when policies create more problems than they solve
- The 21st Amendment repealed Prohibition, showing resistance was widespread

Any well-reasoned answer with correct evidence should be accepted.

Teacher's Guide

Before the DBQ

- Review what primary sources are and how to cite them
- Introduce vocabulary: repeal, enforcement, speakeasy, organized crime

Engagement Strategies

- Quick brainstorm: "What makes a law successful?"
- Role-play: two students argue for/against Prohibition using source quotes
- Anchor chart: list positive vs. negative outcomes as a class

Extension Ideas

- Compare Prohibition's repeal to changes in modern substance laws
- Add an extra primary source such as a political cartoon for visual analysis
- Expand into a full DBQ essay for advanced learners