



Name _____

Jazz Speaks Out

Directions: Read the song lyric excerpts from the 1920s below. Then answer the questions using complete sentences.

Excerpt A - "You Can't Prohibit Love" (1928)

"They can take away the bottle, but they can't take away the fun.
We'll keep dancing in the moonlight 'til the rising of the sun."

Excerpt B - "Moonshine Blues" (1923)

"I get the moonshine blues, it's the only drink I choose.
If they say I can't have liquor, well that's news I just refuse."

1. What do the lyrics in Excerpt A suggest about how people reacted socially to the alcohol ban?
2. In Excerpt B, what emotions/attitudes does the singer express toward Prohibition?
3. Identify one piece of evidence from either lyric that shows people resisted or ignored Prohibition laws.
4. What do these lyrics suggest about whether Prohibition was popular among all Americans?
5. How can music be a useful source for understanding history?