

Gangland Growth Answer Key

1. The 18th Amendment and Prohibition laws created the illegal alcohol market that allowed Capone to gain power.
2. Selling and transporting illegal alcohol, running breweries, supplying speakeasies.
3. Violence, threats, bribery of police and officials, controlling territory.
4. Criminal groups filled the demand for alcohol, became wealthy, and built powerful crime networks.
5. Enforcement was difficult because many citizens ignored the law, corruption was common, and police lacked enough resources.

(Any response that shows accurate understanding of these ideas should be accepted.)

Teacher's Guide

Before the Activity

- Explain why Prohibition was passed and review key terms: speakeasy, bootlegging, organized crime.

Differentiation Tips

- Provide annotation prompts: circle causes, underline effects.
- Offer vocabulary support for English learners.

Engagement Strategies

- Quick discussion: "Why do you think so many people still wanted alcohol?"
- Small group debate on whether Capone was a "businessman" or "criminal mastermind."
- Connect to modern examples of illegal markets and demand-driven crime.

Extension Idea

- Research how Capone was eventually brought down (income tax charges).