Appendix T
Study Guide: An Era of Pessimism

Introduction
(p. 532)

1. The events which led to the outbreak of ______________________ also ushered in the era of __________________________ American literature. America declined to enter the war for __________________ years after the Central Powers, led by __________________ and ______________________ and the Allies, led by __________________, and ______________________ had gone to war.

2. America, fearing extensive losses of its __________________, an invasion by __________________, and __________________ spy activity within the country, entered the war in __________________ by declaring war against __________________.

3. A mood of __________________ pervaded American writing as a result of the effects of the Great War, which was also called the ______________________. After the war the nation returned to an official policy of ______________________.

Post-War Upheavals
(pp. 533-36)

1. The social upheaval during this period was caused by the war itself, the increased ______________________ of Americans, and the rise of modern ______________________.

2. With its policy of isolation, America entered a period characterized by ______________________, ______________________, and ______________________ irresponsibility during the decade following the war, a decade known as the ______________________ or the ______________________.

3. Some examples of the disregard for established moral standards during this period included the dance known as the ______________________, the manufacture of illegal liquor by the ______________________, the lawlessness of gang leaders such as ______________________, and the decline in ______________________.

4. This period was also a period of economic ______________________ in which many people made their fortunes by investing in the ______________________ and in ______________________.
5. On October 29, 1929, which is called ________________, the bottom fell out of the ________________. In the years following this event, some signs of economic turmoil included the failure of ________________ and ________________, the rise in ________________, the appearance of ________________ and ________________ lines, the creation of ________________ agencies through President Franklin Roosevelt’s ________________ programs, and the reduction of the annual income of a third of families to less than ________________.

6. Because of the prosperity of the previous decade, Americans felt the worst effects of the worldwide ________________. The country did not experience prosperity again until the decade of the ________________.

7. America ignored many warnings in the 1930s and soon the war machine of ________________ was bringing widespread destruction. The totalitarian governments of ________________, ________________, and ________________, which had signed the Tripartite Act, threatened the survival of the free world.

8. The event which caused America to join the war was the bombing of ________________ by ________________ on December 7, ________________. Even though by the time the war ended in ________________, the effort had cost the country greatly both in finances and in manpower, America assumed the role of ________________ of the free world and generously helped ________________ and ________________, former enemies who became trusted allies.

The leaders’ error in judgment, however, was in placing trust in the ________________.

9. Some examples of the social revolution that resulted from World War II include the introduction of ________________ into the work force, the stimulation of the ________________ movements of minorities, and the encouragement of the ________________ revolution.

10. The dropping of the ________________, its replacement by the more powerful ________________, and the acquisition of these weapons by other nations have led to the fear of ________________ war, a fear that is pervasive in modern society.

11. Wars such as the ones in ________________ and ________________ are examples of man’s inability to bring about world peace, even through organizations such as the ________________. As a result of his powerlessness and loss of faith in God and the Bible, modern man has adopted either an attitude of ________________ or has embraced an irrational hope which has often given way to despair.

**Intellectual Agitation**

(pp. 536-39)

1. The basis of modern American thought is the acceptance of an un-Biblical view of man’s ________________ and ________________. A correct Biblical view is that although man is the ________________ of God’s creation, he also possesses a ________________ nature and is totally dependent on God’s ________________ for salvation; however, modern American thinkers have regarded man merely as an ________________ or have reverenced him as ________________.

2. Darwin’s theory of evolution, which sees man as a higher form of ________________ and denies the existence of an ________________ soul as well as man’s ________________ apart from earthly accomplishments and descendants, was largely responsible for the modern debasement of man.
3. ________________, who based his theories on Darwinian principles, taught that man's behavior is motivated wholly by sexual desires and that his ________________ is only the result of social conditioning. These ideas, which led to the belief that man cannot control his actions and is therefore not responsible for them, were especially popular during the morally irresponsible _________________.

4. The acceptance of Freudianism has influenced modern writers in their use of sexual frankness and in their exploration of their characters' minds and natures and has especially influenced modern ________________ fiction, which utilizes the technique of free association.

5. The theory that dominated the Depression years of the ________________ was ________________, which originated in the writings of ________________, the "Father of ________________." He taught that all of history was a series of ________________, and that a truly classless society would exist after ________________ was toppled. Even though many writers and intellectuals were influenced by Marxism, they were soon disillusioned by the loss of ________________ inherent in the system, and recent happenings in ________________ have pointed out the total bankruptcy of the system.

6. ________________, a modern secular movement which is actually a substitute ________________, teaches that man does not need God. The first major document of this movement, the ________________ of 1933, called for a new, more relevant religion. Its fifteen articles included the ideas that ________________, ________________, and ________________.

7. In the ________________, which appeared forty years after the first document, the writers made the statement, "No ________________ will save us; ________________ must save ________________." The document teaches that such practices as ________________, ________________, and ________________ should not be condemned and that international problems can be solved through the ________________ movement.

8. The pervasiveness of ________________ is obvious in modern social legislation, the media, the educational philosophy influenced by ________________, and in much modern literature.

Religious Turmoil
(pp. 539-44)

1. An example of the remaining influence of religious groups at the time America entered World War I and the period immediately following was the enactment of the ________________ Amendment in 1917 making ________________ a national law.

2. Although the law was effective when it became final three years later, it soon became ineffective due to ________________ by the liquor industry, the activities of smugglers who brought liquor in from other countries, and ________________ who made brew in their own stills. ________________ organizations lost much influence when the law was repealed.

3. Besides the fate of Prohibition and the false teachings of Freudianism, ________________, and ________________, other causes for the decline of religious life in America included a growing unconcern for ________________ matters, an increasing hunger for ________________, the growing influence of ________________ during the early twentieth century, and the development of ________________ which appealed to many people who were disillusioned with organized religion.
4. Evidences of the influence of Roman Catholicism in modern American society include the election of [blank] to the office of [blank] in 1928, the extensive private school system which has influenced education, and the impact on the religious scene through the [blank] movement.

5. Some of the more popular cults and radical sects which have developed in an attempt to fill the spiritual void of modern Americans include the [blank], [blank], [blank], and the [blank] movement.

6. Theological [blank], which seeks to accommodate traditional [blank] to a godless, modern view of the world and to elevate the mind of [blank] over the mind of [blank], has steadily undermined America’s religious heritage.

7. Many Americans accepted the liberal view due to the teachings of men such as [blank], a liberal Baptist minister from New York City. However, liberalism’s coldness led to the growth of two countermovements. [blank], which began in Europe under the leadership of [blank] and was strongly influential in America in the [blank], teaches that the Bible is God’s Word only insofar as it speaks to an individual; the heretical [blank] school, popular since the 1960s, retains the values of Christianity while accepting [blank] and [blank] as valid beliefs also.

8. As conservative religious groups fought to preserve basic truths, they became known in the 1920s as [blank]. The most influential spokesman during this period was [blank], a professor at Princeton University.

9. Although religious novels have been popular during the modern age, they reflect the view of the [blank] rather than the view of the fundamentalists. One example of a popular religious novel is [blank], which was written by Lloyd Douglas and which espouses the social-gospel position.

10. In [blank], a satirical novel based on the author’s firsthand research, Sinclair Lewis, the first American to win the [blank] in literature, bitterly attacks the hypocrisy of modern religion through his characterization of his immoral protagonist.

**Literary Ferment**

(pp. 544-48)

1. Most modern writers have been influenced by the spirit of their age and most have abandoned traditional forms and [blank]. For example, short-lived experimental groups such as the [blank] of the 1910s and the [blank] of the 1950s have influenced modern poetry; the narrative technique of [blank] and the popularity of the [blank] have influenced modern fiction.

2. In his attempt to imitate [blank], the modern writer in many instances portrays actions that are vile and blasphemous. Thus the spirit of the age, characterized by disbelief in [blank], cynical [blank], and the resulting [blank] dominates modern literature.

3. Modern writers have created a “crisis of belief” by [blank] against past values. According to one modern critic, the crisis involves “Despair,” “[blank],” the adopting of “[blank] religions,” a “Retreat into the [blank],” and an “[blank] Policy” which substitutes personal belief for absolute knowledge.
4. Some modern American writers were influenced by their near-death experiences during _______________ and also by contact with like-minded writers and European literary attitudes. The most important decades for the development of modern literature were the _______________ and the _______________. This literature differs from previous American literature in _______________ and content, basic _______________ assumptions, and literary _______________.

5. Writers who chose to become expatriates and settle in _______________ were given the name _______________. Writers fled to other countries as well to escape the _______________ and _______________ of a country whose spirit they found destructive to the _______________ imagination.

6. _______________, the Baltimore journalist who defined _______________ as "the haunting fear that somewhere, somebody might be happy" and ridiculed the _______________ in Tennessee, attacked anyone who advocated any moral restraints.

7. One form of revolt among the writers of the 1920s was _______________, an indulgence in unconventional _______________. This movement, whose writers displayed a hatred for traditional morality, was centered in _______________, New York.

8. Another group of writers during this period revolted by displaying political _______________ because of their hatred of the system of _______________. Many of these writers progressed from socialism to _______________.

9. Although writers such as _______________ and _______________ did resist the trend of rebellion against past values, many writers followed the rebellious example set for them.

10. The poem which best exemplifies the spirit of the decade is _______________ by _______________, a poet who came to accept _______________ as the answer to man's problems. In this poem the speaker describes modern society as both a _______________ and _______________ wasteland. Unlike most modern writers, Eliot rejected the idea that only the _______________ held eternal value.

11. Many writers of the 1930s, who concentrated on social issues, approached the problems in America either as _______________, who emphasized strong _______________ forces within society, or as _______________, who advocated the removal of conflicts between the economic classes.

12. One of the most famous of the 1930s novels of social awareness is _______________ by _______________, an author who received both the _______________ and _______________ prizes.

13. Steinbeck's novel, which describes the _______________, a family of _______________ who are forced to flee the agricultural disaster known as the _______________, presents the subjective morality of the modern age and the crusading spirit of social reform of the 1930s.

14. Two forms of futility which appear in literature since World War I are a fearful _______________ and an abandonment to _______________.

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