**Chapter review**

**Short-answer questions**

1. Why and how did the economy boom during the 1920s?

1. What were the major changes in social life in the 1920s and 1930s?

1. What caused the Wall Street Crash and what was its impact?

1. How did President Roosevelt help restore economic stability?

1. What was the response to the government prohibition on alcohol?

**Analyse the historian’s views**

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. explained his sadness at the failure of Prohibition in a letter written in 1932:

*When Prohibition was introduced, I hoped that it would be widely supported by public opinion and the day would soon come when the evil effects of alcohol would be recognized. I have slowly and reluctantly come to believe that this has not been the result. Instead, drinking has generally increased; the speakeasy has replaced the saloon; a vast army of lawbreakers has appeared; many of our best citizens have openly ignored Prohibition; respect for the law has been greatly lessened; and crime has increased to a level never seen before.*

1. What were Rockefeller’s hopes when Prohibition was introduced?

1. List four things that he says actually occurred.

Extended-response question

*Nothing is more destructive of respect for the government than passing laws which cannot be enforced.*

Albert Einstein

To what extent is this Einstein quote true of Prohibition in America from 1920 to 1933?

* This is a controversial statement to make you think about the role of government decisions. Is it true that we respect governments who make good decisions? Is it true that decisions that cannot be enforced, or cannot be imposed successfully, make us lose respect for a government?
* This question needs to be answered regarding the United States government’s decision on Prohibition in the 1920s. Use examples from this context based on the information in this chapter.
* When and how did the government make the decision on Prohibition? Why did the government think this was an important decision to make? How would it benefit American society? For example, discuss the hopes of the temperance groups who wanted prohibition introduced.
* What were the responses or reactions to the decision? For example, discuss the rise of gangsters, crime, violence and speakeasies.
* Why did Prohibition end? For example, use the statistics about the cost of the Prohibition laws plus the United States Senate debates in Analysis activity 5.6. Then add when and how Prohibition laws were ended.
* Summarise your argument by stating whether you agree or disagree with Albert Einstein’s comment about government decisions.