Answer Key: Looking Ahead

Warm-up

- Answers may vary but will likely include references to the dramatic increase in unemployment from 1930 to 1935.

Lesson

GRADE LEVEL & FOUNDATIONS

Part I: The End of an Era

Which of the following statements most accurately characterize the Age of Oil for many Americans, prior to October 29, 1929? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Many experienced an increase in pay at their jobs.
- ☐ New technologies made life easier and more convenient for many.
- ☐ People moving to cities experienced more opportunities.
- ☐ The 1920s in particular were a period of prosperity for many.

Part II: The Great Depression

Excerpt 1

1. A
2. An economic depression is **b)** *a period of extreme economic decline* Some challenges I think Americans might experience as a result of the economic depression are *(responses will vary)*

Answer Key: Looking Ahead

Excerpt 2

3. What were some of the challenges people faced as a result of the economic depression of the 1930s? *Check all that apply.*

- ☐ Unemployment increased
- ☐ The cost of products fell
- ☐ People's salaries decreased
- ☐ Businesses closed down
- ☐ Banks were not able to operate
- ☐ Farmers could not sell crops
- ☐ Local governments had no money

4. One of the most serious challenges that many people faced during the depression of the 1930s was **c)** *a high number of people without jobs*. One example of this was *the closing of a sawmill near Beaumont, which left 500 unemployed and without food.*

ADVANCED

Part I: The End of an Era

1. *(Example response)* For many Americans, the Age of Oil was a period of time characterized by economic growth related to industrialization. Many Americans moving to cities had new opportunities and access to entertainment and new technology including radios, cinema, and home appliances.

Part II: The Great Depression

Excerpt 1

1. The "era of growth and expansion" came to an end in the fall of 1929 due to the stock market crashed, which led to the collapse of the economy and a severe depression.
2. According to the text, most people had no idea that the stock market crash was the beginning of a depression.
3. *(Responses will vary but may include)* Unemployment economic hardship, lack of food and resources.

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Answer Key: Looking Ahead

Excerpt 2

4. Some of the challenges people faced as a result of the economic depression included falling price and wage levels, the loss of jobs, working hours decreased, businesses and banks closing their doors, relief agencies failing to keep up with needs, private and public agencies abandoning projects, farmers not being able to market their crops for a profit, and local government almost going bankrupt.

Excerpt 3

5. According to the excerpt, one of the most serious challenges facing people was unemployment. One example of this was the closing of a sawmill north of Beaumont which left 500 people unemployed and without food.

Exit Ticket

Responses may vary but will likely include the following information

For many Americans, the Age of Oil could be characterized as a period of . . .	In contrast, for the majority of Americans the Great Depression was a period of time characterized by . . .
Economic growth and opportunities as the nation industrialized and people moved into cities.	Hardships and struggles related to unemployment, bankruptcy, business and bank failures, and failing local governments.

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