Document Based Essay: The Great Depression and The New Deal

Historical Context

Franklin D. Roosevelt is remembered as one of America's greatest presidents, the man who successfully guided the nation through both the Great Depression and World War II. His New Deal program profoundly changed our nation with agencies that provided both immediate assistance and long term solutions to our nation's economic problems. Although F.D.R. was loved by millions, his policies were also strongly opposed by others who did not agree with his actions or how he viewed the role of the national government.

Directions

The following question is based on the accompanying documents. As you analyze the documents and answer the scaffolding questions, take into account both the source of the document and the author's point of view.

Task

Using information from the documents and your knowledge of United States history, answer the questions that follow each document and then write an essay where you answer the following two questions.

- How effective were the responses of Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration to the problems of the Great Depression?
- How did they change the role of government?