

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Review Questions

Part 1: Boom to Bust

MISSION 5: "Up from the Dust"

A NOTE TO THE EDUCATOR:

The purpose of these questions is to check the students' understanding of the action of the game and the history embedded in that action. Since the outcome of gameplay can vary depending on the choices the student makes, the answers to the questions may also vary.

Some students might learn information from the game later than others, or not at all. If you choose to discuss responses as a whole group, information can be shared among all your students.

There may be more questions here than you want your students to answer in one sitting or in one evening. In that case, choose the questions you feel are most essential for their understanding of Part 1.

Feel free to copy the following pages of this activity for your students.

If you are not planning to have your students write the answers to the questions, you'll need to modify the directions.



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Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: After you play Part 1, read and answer these questions from the point of view of your characters, Ginny and Frank Dunn. You may not know all the answers, so do the best you can. Write in complete sentences and proofread your work.

1) Why can't Ginny and Frank visit their Aunt Ruth?

Their parents don't have enough money to send them to California.

2) During the farming game, did you end up with a good or a bad harvest? What were some of the factors that affected the harvest?

The harvest does not go well for the Dunns. Major weather changes and natural disasters, like drought, a fungus outbreak, and hail damages much of the crops. The stock market also continues to plummet, which hurts the price of wheat.

3) What is the town of Dalhart like? What are some of the things you saw and heard while traveling around?

Dalhart is a small town surrounded by farmland, but it has many places for people to socialize and gather. It has a library, theatre, school, and several shops. It also has a large grain mill where farmers can sell and store their harvest.

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4) Why won't banks loan Mr. Mitchell money?

He doesn't have any collateral, such as farmland, to qualify for a loan.

5) Why does Mr. Mitchell need to sell his wheat right away?

He needs to pay his family's rent and doesn't have enough money to pay for storing his harvest.

6) The farmers at the grain elevator do not agree about whether or not the government should provide relief to struggling families. In the space below, describe the opinions for each side:

For Government Relief: *Mr. Mitchell thinks the government should either lend money to farmers until there is no more drought, or buy all the wheat.*

Against Government Relief: *The other farmers don't think the government should help because it has never previously provided relief to farmers.*

7) Ginny's high school closes temporarily for what annual event? Why do you think the school closes for that reason?

The high school closes just before harvest and reopens after the new crops are planted. It probably closes because even the children help out with the harvest.

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8) What is usually the busiest time of year for the Ford car dealership in Dalhart? Why does it happen at that time of year?

July is its busiest time because all the farmers have cash from the harvest.

9) Whiling visiting Dalhart, you may have visited the some of the following locations. Describe what you saw next to ones you visited:

4-H Demonstration: *Ginny learns how to preserve vegetables.*

Drug Store: *A customer and some workers are arguing about banks and whether or not they are going to fail.*

Library: *Two librarians are talking about how Hoover vetoed a government relief bill. They seem to think Hoover is not right for the presidency.*

Movie Theatre: *The movie theatre has several posters up for coming attractions.*

High School: *The high school looks closed.*

Ford Dealership: *The dealership is slow, but sells most of its vehicles in July when farmers and workers are paid.*

10) What services does the Red Cross provide? For this question, your answer does not need to be a complete sentence.

Food & Clothing Drives