

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Dust Bowl Disaster: How it Deepened the Great Depression

### Short Answer Key

1. Over-farming and poor soil conservation contributed to the Dust Bowl by depleting the topsoil and making it vulnerable to erosion. The removal of natural vegetation and the use of improper farming techniques exposed the soil to wind and water erosion, leading to the creation of dust storms.
2. Dust Bowl refugees faced numerous challenges during their migration, including overcrowded camps, discrimination, and a lack of basic necessities like food and clean water. They often encountered hostility and resentment in the places they sought refuge, as local communities struggled to accommodate the influx of newcomers.
3. The Dust Bowl had a significant economic impact on the United States during the Great Depression. It reduced food production due to crop failures, displaced agricultural workers, and put additional strain on social services and relief efforts in receiving states.
4. The federal government responded to the Dust Bowl crisis by establishing agencies like the Resettlement Administration and the Farm Security Administration. These agencies provided assistance to Dust Bowl refugees, offering loans for land purchase and establishing migrant camps. The goal was to improve living conditions for those affected by the disaster and help them find new opportunities.
5. The Dust Bowl taught important lessons about land management and agriculture. It highlighted the need for soil conservation practices, crop rotation, and sustainable farming methods to prevent soil erosion and degradation. These lessons continue to shape modern farming practices and the importance of environmental stewardship.

