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**Chapter 9.2 – Life During the Great Depression**

Directions: Read “Struggling to Get By” and “The Dust Bowl” on pages 237-238. Then, complete the following chart about problems caused by the Depression, as well as how Americans coped with those problems.

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| **Problem** | **American’s Reaction** |
| Homelessness |  |
| American  Unemployment |  |
| Immigrant Unemployment |  |

1. The textbook talks about the “repatriation” of immigrants during the 1930s. What word might be used today instead of “repatriation?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**The Hobo Life - Charlie Bull’s Story**

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| **Background:** By the 1930s, passenger railroads could take you almost anywhere in the country. But the people who most often needed to travel were the unemployed who hoped to find work elsewhere. Many of them risked their lives to stow away on freight trains, as this old freight-hopper Charlie Bull recalls:  “You could ride on top of a freight car, and then you just had to be careful. If a train is going 60 or 70 miles per hour and hits a curve and you’re walkin’ and your backs to the curve and you don’t see it comin’. . . A little tiny turn can throw you right off the train. A lot of people have been killed like that.” | **Why do you think Charlie Bull become a hobo?**  **What might be the dangers of this lifestyle?**  **Which unemployed Americans might be most likely to become a hobo?** |

**Song: “Brother Can You Spare a Dime?”**

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| They used to tell me I was building a dream, and so I followed the mob, When there was earth to plow, or guns to bear, I was always there right on the job. They used to tell me I was building a dream, with peace and glory ahead, Why should I be standing in line, just waiting for bread?  Once I built a railroad, I made it run, made it race against time. Once I built a railroad; now it’s done. Brother, can you spare a dime? Once I built a tower, up to the sun, brick, and rivet, and lime; Once I built a tower, now it’s done. Brother, can you spare a dime?  Once in khaki suits, gee we looked swell, Full of that Yankee Doodly Dum, Half a million boots went slogging through Hell, And I was the kid with the drum!  Say, don’t you remember, they called me Al; it was Al all the time. Why don’t you remember, I’m your pal? Buddy, can you spare a dime?  Once in khaki suits, gee we looked swell, Full of that Yankee Doodly Dum, Half a million boots went slogging through Hell, And I was the kid with the drum!  Say, don’t you remember, they called me Al; it was Al all the time. Say, don’t you remember, I’m your pal? Buddy, can you spare a dime? | **Throughout this song, the singer uses the term “they.” To whom do you think the singer is referring when he says “They used to tell me. . .”**    **Think back to our lesson about the railroad. Why do you think the singer is bringing up his experience on the railroads?**  **What event is the singer participating in here?**  **What is the TONE of the singer throughout this song? Why do you think that’s the tone being expressed?** |

**Video: Rural America Suffers**

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| How did the Depression impact farmers?    Why else did Farmers suffer during this time?    What happened to bankrupted farmers?    How did the Agricultural industry change during this time? |