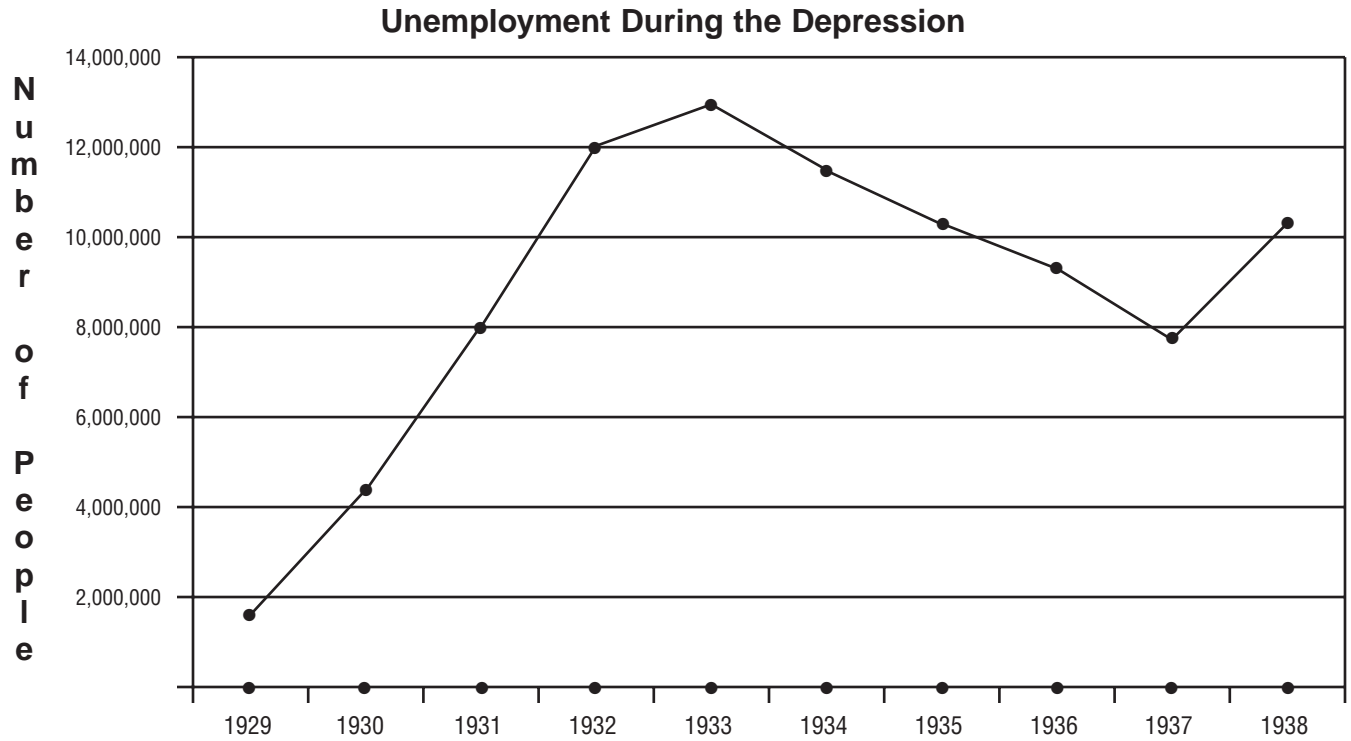


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Startling Statistics

Use the line graph below to help answer the questions at the bottom of the page.



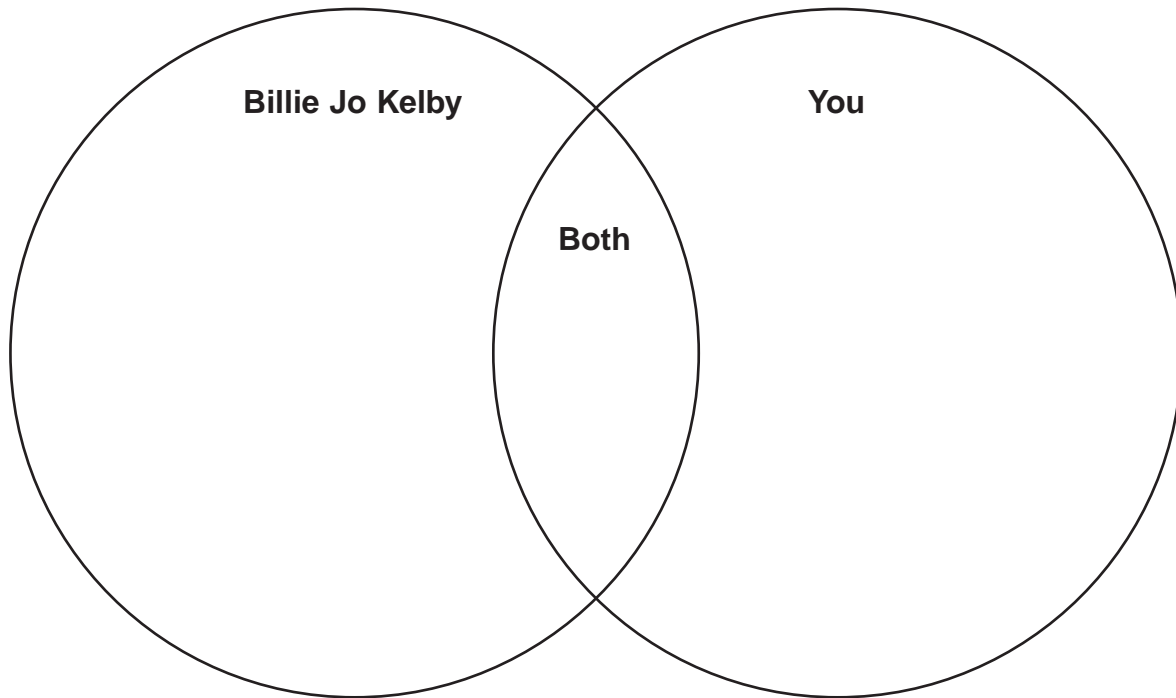
1. What is the title of the graph? In what year were the greatest number of people unemployed? In what year during the Depression was the number of unemployed people the lowest? What event signaled the beginning of the Depression? When did it occur? _____
2. In which two years were there approximately the same number of unemployed people? About how many people were unemployed in those years? _____
3. What is the average rate of unemployment for the years shown on the graph? _____
4. How many Americans were unemployed in 1936? 1937? 1938? _____
5. What do you think was happening in 1937 to cause the number of unemployed to decrease? What do you think caused unemployment to increase in 1938? Use a separate piece of paper or the back of this page to give your answer.
6. Use the information from the graph above to create a bar graph on a separate piece of paper. In your opinion, which graph best displays the information?

Bonus: In what year did President Roosevelt begin his New Deal? Did it have an immediate effect on unemployment? _____

Extension: Research various New Deal programs and the years in which they took effect. Compare the years of the programs to information on the graph. Can you draw any conclusions about which programs were most effective in ending unemployment?

Compare and Contrast

Compare and contrast yourself with Billie Jo. How are you alike and how are you different? What types of experiences do you share? How are your experiences different? Think of your community, your family life, your economic status, and your friends. List your similarities and differences below.



Select someone in your family or in your neighborhood whom you could interview about the Great Depression. This may be someone who is old enough to remember the Depression years or someone who has heard the stories of another who lived through the experience. Below are some suggestions for interview questions. You may add to this list. After the interview, draw a Venn diagram like the one above on the back of this paper. Compare and contrast your experiences with those of the person you interviewed.

Interview Questions:

1. How old were you during the Depression?
2. What do you remember about the Depression?
3. Describe your home and family circumstances.
4. Did you know anyone who lost his or her job?
5. What did you usually eat in one day?
6. What are some lessons our country learned from the Depression?
7. What surprised you the most about your experiences?
8. Tell about a very happy and a very sad time during the Depression. What good things came from your experience?
9. Do you remember what the newspaper and the radio said about the Depression?
10. When faced with a problem, what did you and others do to handle the problem?