

Topic 10.2

Postwar Prosperity in the United States



During the postwar era, Americans enjoyed a high quality of living as the American economy boomed. A rapidly growing population of consumers bought new homes in the suburbs, cars, televisions, and thousands of other products.

1. Despite the Cold War, the United States enjoyed a period of great _____ and economic growth.
2. The booming U.S economy became a symbol of the power of _____ and democratic freedom in the ongoing war against Communism.
3. In the postwar decades, the American economic system _____ as American businesses invested into markets around the globe.
4. With the Cold War looming, government _____ spending increased creating many jobs in defense industries.
5. Foreigners flocked to invest in American industry and to buy U.S. government _____.
6. Emerging untouched from the horrendous destruction of the _____, the United States produced 70% of the world's manufactured goods by 1950.
7. Here in the United States, a growing population demanded _____, cars, refrigerators, and thousands of other products.
8. Many Americans grew more affluent and moved from cities to the _____.

9. The building of the interstate _____ system also spurred economic growth as tens of thousands of jobs were added in the auto, trucking, and other related industries.
10. Americans also moved to the _____, or the in the South and Southwest of the United States.
11. _____ in the Sunbelt were plentiful, and the availability of air conditioning and water for irrigation helped make the movement to these states possible.
12. As the American economy boomed, fears of the Cold War persisted in America. During this time, many Americans were accused of being _____.
13. The fear of nuclear war caused many families to build _____, where they could hide in the event of a nuclear bomb.
14. Schools conducted air-raid drills in which children were taught to _____ under their desks.
15. Although these measures would not have protected children in a nuclear attack, the drills reflected the widespread _____ of nuclear war.

