Page 1 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Surviving the Dust Bowl*

1) In 1931, there was no better place to be a farmer than the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Page 2
2. With the outbreak of WWI, Washington wanted \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would win the war!
3. With so much bounty flowing from the Southern Plains, outsiders saw an opportunity to make a killing and began speculating on wheat. “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_” they were called.
4. As dust enveloped the atmosphere, it got into the eyes, the nose, the mouth — breathing became difficult. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_issued an urgent call for dust masks, especially for children.
5. One hundred million acres of the Southern Plains were turning into a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. A journalist traveling through the region called it the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Convinced that the storms were a freak accident, that the rains would soon return, residents could not imagine that they had entered a battle that would last a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
8. To the astonishment of residents, the dust kept coming. In 1932, the weather bureau reported 14 dust storms. The next year, the number climbed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
9. Page 6
10. The drought persisted, made worse by some of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on record.
11. The storms were coming with alarming frequency. Residents believed they could pinpoint a storm’s origins by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the dust.
12. Outside the Southern Plains, few grasped the full measure of the disaster. In Washington, the Dust Bowl was seen as just another trouble spot in the nationwide crisis of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
13. In the fall of 1934, with livestock feed depleted, the government began to buy and destroy thousands of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. Of all the government programs, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ slaughter would be the most wrenching.
15. 1935. After years of drought and dust, the land was now being destroyed by another kind of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Hundreds of thousands of starving jack rabbits came down from the hills, devouring everything in their path.
16. April 14, 1935 was the worst day of them all. The day no Dust Bowler would forget. The day they would call “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
17. Terrified residents tried to drive through blinding dust. One Kansas farmer, disoriented, drove his car off the road. Searchers found him the next day, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
18. After Black Sunday, others turning to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ found support for their worst fears.
19. An epidemic raged throughout the Plains. They called it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Many residents tried their own home remedies.
20. In 1935, one-third of the deaths in Ford County, Kansas, resulted from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Children were especially vulnerable.
21. By the end of 1935, with no substantial \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in four years, some residents were giving up.
22. Dust Bowlers watched as their neighbors and friends picked up and headed west in search of farm jobs in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
23. Throughout the country, word spread of a mass \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the Plains. In all, a quarter of the population would flee the region.
24. As people abandoned the Southern Plains, tight-knit rural communities began to unravel. Banks and businesses failed. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ shut their doors. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were boarded up.
25. A week after the infamous “Black Sunday,” McCarty created the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
26. On the parched Texas landscape, explosives expert Tex Thornton, proposed a novel solution to the region’s woes. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he claimed, would excite the atmosphere and induce rain.
27. Known as the father of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conservation, Hugh Bennett was the leader of a new breed of agricultural experts. He argued that conservation techniques could \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ farming to the Southern Plains.
28. The storm had already deposited 12 million pounds of dust on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ — four pounds for each person in the city — and was poised to descend on the nation’s capital.
29. Panicked by the flood of penniless refugees heading to the west coast, a government report warned that “for its own sake, the nation cannot allow \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
30. 1938. The massive conservation crusade had reduced the amount of blowing soil by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. But the drought dragged on.
31. In the spring of 1939, after the failure of seven wheat crops in eight years, Lawrence Svobida abandoned his farm and fled — convinced that the Dust Bowl was creating an American \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
32. Six months later, the skies finally opened. Nearly a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of dirt and dust was coming to an end.
33. With the return of the rain, dry fields soon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with golden wheat.
34. It’s just not in our blood to play a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ game.”