

Prohibition – Part 3: alcohol consumption

<http://blog.ac-versailles.fr/myenglishclassdoisneau/index.php/post/1074325>

Instructions:

1. After watching the video, read the questions carefully and choose the best answer **(A, B, C, or D)**.
2. Take notes and be ready to explain the historical causes of the consumption of alcohol in the US.

1. What is the main change described in the passage?

- A) People began drinking less alcohol overall.
 - B) Beer and wine were replaced by stronger distilled spirits.
 - C) Farmers stopped growing grain.
 - D) The government banned whiskey production.
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2. What does the word “fermenting” most closely mean in this context?

- A) Mixing fruit juices
 - B) Allowing food to decay
 - C) Turning sugars into alcohol through a natural process
 - D) Boiling grains to remove alcohol
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3. According to the passage, what made whiskey suddenly more available?

- A) Increased grain farming and distillation techniques
 - B) Government subsidies for alcohol production
 - C) Imports from Europe
 - D) New laws promoting whiskey sales
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4. How strong were the traditional beers people used to drink?

- A) About 2% alcohol
 - B) Around 10% alcohol
 - C) The same as modern beers
 - D) Completely non-alcoholic
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5. What was the cultural shift mentioned in the video?

- A) People became more aware of the dangers of stronger alcohol.
 - B) Farmers began drinking less frequently.
 - C) Society encouraged complete abstinence.
 - D) Alcohol became too expensive for common people.
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6. The phrase “Wait a minute, there’s something really wrong here” implies that:

- A) People immediately stopped drinking whiskey.
 - B) Society realized the negative impact of stronger spirits.
 - C) Distilling whiskey became illegal.
 - D) Farmers were forced to quit their jobs.
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7. By 1830, how much whiskey did the average American over 15 drink each year?

- A) 15 bottles
 - B) 45 bottles
 - C) 88 bottles
 - D) 120 bottles
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8. Compared to 21st-century Americans, people in 1830 drank:

- A) About the same amount
 - B) Twice as much
 - C) Three times as much
 - D) Less than half as much
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9. What does the passage say about how much Americans spent on alcohol?

- A) More than the government’s total annual expenditures
 - B) Less than what they spent on food
 - C) About the same as their rent
 - D) Only a small part of their income
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10. Which statement best summarizes the problem described?

- A) The government’s poor control over alcohol imports
 - B) The sudden rise in consumption of much stronger drinks
 - C) The invention of new distillation machines
 - D) A moral panic caused by religious leaders
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11. (Inference) Why might the cultural shift have taken time to occur?

- A) People didn’t immediately realize whiskey was much stronger than beer.
 - B) Whiskey was cheaper and easier to make.
 - C) Beer disappeared from the market.
 - D) Alcohol was banned during that period.
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Now, make a list of new words: