

**Task**

For each of the alphabet agencies, produce a top trumps card in order to evaluate the success of the agency and its impact on the people of the USA.

Once you have read the information, it is up to you to decide which categories to give each card, as different agencies affected different types of people, or had an impact on different parts of the economy. Try to think of at least one category which benefitted from the agency and at least one where the agency did not make any improvements.

Here are some suggestions for your categories:

- farmers
- industry
- the unemployed
- the poor and needy
- black people
- women
- housing
- children
- long-term future of the USA.

**The Farm Security Administration (FSA) 1937**

**Information**

This replaced the Resettlement Administration. It gave loans to sharecroppers and tenant farmers to buy their own land. The FSA also set up labour camps to help migrant farm workers to live and work in better conditions.

However farmers still faced considerable difficulties in the 1930s and some wanted ownership of their own farms more quickly than the scheme allowed.

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**Overall score:**

### The Works Progress Administration (WPA) 1935

#### Information

This created jobs for two million people a year building roads, public buildings, schools, bridge, tunnels, sewers and a windbreak of trees to stop further loss of soil in the dustbowl.

Seven percent of the money was also used to create projects for artist, actors and musicians. The National Youth Administration was a WPA for young people.

Critics said that the money was not distributed fairly across the states - the South received 75% less than the West.

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Overall score:

### The Wagner Act 1935

#### Information

Senator Robert Wagner introduced this act to help workers who wanted to join a trade union. The Act said that employers were not allowed to fire people who belonged to trade unions and so conditions for workers slowly started to improve.

Big businesses and industry owners, however, argued that the act was limiting their freedom and ability to generate profit, therefore slowing economic growth.

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Overall score:

**The Social Security Act (SSA) 1935**

**Information**

This gave a state pension to everyone over the age of 65 and money to disabled people and mothers with dependent children. Individual states ran unemployment insurance policies with help from the federal government.

Many criticised the Social Security system however for not providing pensions to enough people, particularly unskilled black and women laborers.

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**Overall score:**

**The Resettlement Administration (RA) 1935**

**Information**

This agency aimed to help sharecroppers, farm workers and tenant farmers. It moved 500,000 families to better land and resettled them in new houses. Often they were moved westward toward California.

The organisation was opposed by a many Californians, who did not want poor migrants from the dustbowl to settle close to their homes.

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**Overall score:**