**FDR’s Fireside Chats**

After listening to a portion of the FDR’s [1st Fireside Chat](http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5199), determine the main points that FDR is making. Answer the following questions:

1. What were the key elements of the bank holiday he has announced?
2. Explain specific examples of how he explains the banking system.
3. Give examples of simple, yet powerful imagery and language that he employs.
4. Analyze the overall effectiveness of the speech.
5. Why would this speech have been so effective in 1933?

Read FDR’s [2nd Fireside Chat](http://docs.fdrlibrary.marist.edu/050733.html) to get a sense of how different it is to read the speech, rather than to listen to FDR's words.

1. Work collaboratively to understand the major issues that FDR is addressing in this speech.
2. Make a chart of the principle contents—what are the different programs that he is proposing?
3. Comment on those parts of the speech that you believe would have been more effective in a radio broadcast -- to a 1933 audience. (Base your analysis on your own experience with Fireside Chat 1.)
4. Which format do you think would have been more effective in 1933—and why?
5. Explain your own experiences listening to political speeches in your lifetime. What speeches were effective, how did they “reach” you?

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