

08001

ERA 8: THE GREAT DEPRESSION AND WORLD WAR II (1929–1945)  
THEMES: AMERICAN DIVERSITY, AMERICAN IDENTITY

# AMELIA FOUND?

## COMPELLING QUESTIONS

Why were people like Amelia Earhart elevated to hero status during the Great Depression?

Why do people continue to be interested in finding Amelia Earhart?

## QUESTION FOCUS EXAMPLES FOR TASK 24

Amelia Earhart is a hero.



Amelia Earhart became iconic and was beloved when she was in overalls or in the latest fashion.

AMERICAN HERITAGE ARCHIVES

## TEACHER-TO-TEACHER

The Second Industrial Revolution and the Progressive Era seem to come together as the backdrop for this article. The aeronautical industry is still very young in the 1920s and 1930s when Amelia makes her way in the world, but the airplanes had certainly improved dramatically since the days of the Wright Brothers and Kitty Hawk. The article could be used to introduce the plane from its infancy, through The Great War, to the eve of WWII. Students could also use the Earhart article to access the “New Woman” of the 1920s and 1930s. Several of the documents speak to the obstacles facing Miss Earhart and American women. In addition, America’s fascination with heroes and heroines, particularly during the Great Depression, could also be explored. A further connection could be made to American foreign policy, isolationism or interventionism, as her flights demonstrated just how small the world really was by the 1930s.

**LITERATURE CONNECTION:** *The Life and Disappearance of Amelia Earhart* by Candace Fleming, *West with the Night* by Beryl Markham

## CONTENTS

- **Amelia Found?** ARTICLE
- **Super Heroes: A Modern Mythology** DOCUMENT
- **Earhart Photograph** IMAGE
- **Letter, Circa 1932, to Dr. Wiggam** DOCUMENT
- **Earhart and her Lockheed Electra “flying laboratory”** IMAGE
- **P.V.H. Weems' Letter to Amelia Earhart** DOCUMENT
- **George Putnam’s response to Commander Weems** DOCUMENT
- **Map of Amelia Earhart’s Final Flight Path** IMAGE
- **Miss Earhart Forced Down at Sea, Howland Isle Fears; Coast Guard Begins Search** IMAGE

## RECOMMENDED INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

**Task 16**

Speech

**Task 20**

Save The Last Word

**Task 23**

Identifying Claim and Evidence

**Task 24**

QFT (Question Focus Technique)

**Task 25**

Document Sourcing

**fourscore**  
make history