

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

The Eighteenth Amendment

Introduction:

The Eighteenth Amendment prohibited Americans from making, selling, and transporting alcohol. Groups such as the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Anti-Saloon League fought against alcohol and the problems that it seemingly caused. They won the battle, but only for a short time. This is the only amendment to be repealed, or revoked.

The text of this amendment begins, "After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited."

Questions:

1. What did the Eighteenth Amendment prohibit?
2. What year was the Eighteenth Amendment ratified?
3. What does "prohibit" mean?
4. What does "temperance" mean?
5. Why did members of the Temperance Movement want to prohibit alcohol?
6. What act was used to enforce the 18th Amendment?
7. Why do you think it was difficult to enforce Prohibition?
8. What is the difference between "wets" and "drys"?
9. What amendment repealed the Eighteenth Amendment?
10. Do you think the Founders would approve of the Eighteenth Amendment? Why, or why not?