

# Sacco and

# Vanzetti



1919 - 1927



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# Sacco and Vanzetti

A one shot movie

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# Movie Mission

**Aim:** To create a **one shot movie** that explains the story of Italian immigrants **Sacco** and **Vanzetti**.

Each scene could be planned by a small group OR you may wish to create competing movies within the class.

**Starter:** show examples of famous one shot movie scenes

YouTube ...

**1: The Longest Day: Pegasus Bridge Scene**

**2: Dunkirk: The Atonement**

**An alternative ...** to create a class movie shooting board - here students take responsibility for drawing out one scene with short written description then combine them all into one Google slide/ document.

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# The Cast

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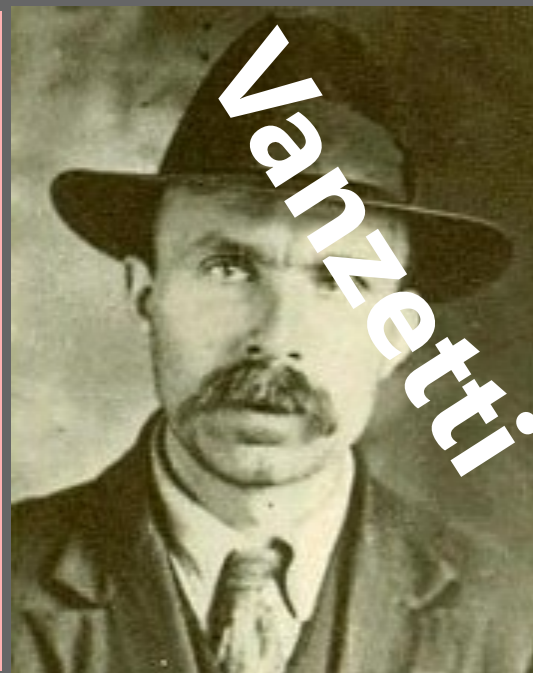
Cut out ( cast - choose - random blind ) pick the following roles cast members



**Nicola  
Sacco**

Accused  
Crime = Murder?

Italian Immigrant  
Arrived 1908  
Self Confessed Anarchist



**Bartolomeo  
Vanzetti**

Accused  
Crime = Murder?

Italian Immigrant  
Arrived 1908  
Self Confessed Anarchist

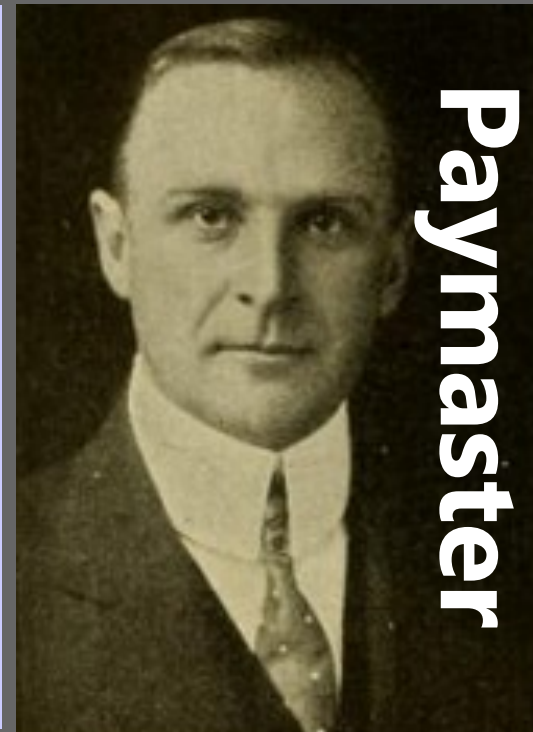


**Alessandro  
Berardelli**

Victim + Witness

Shoe Factory  
Employee

Security Guard

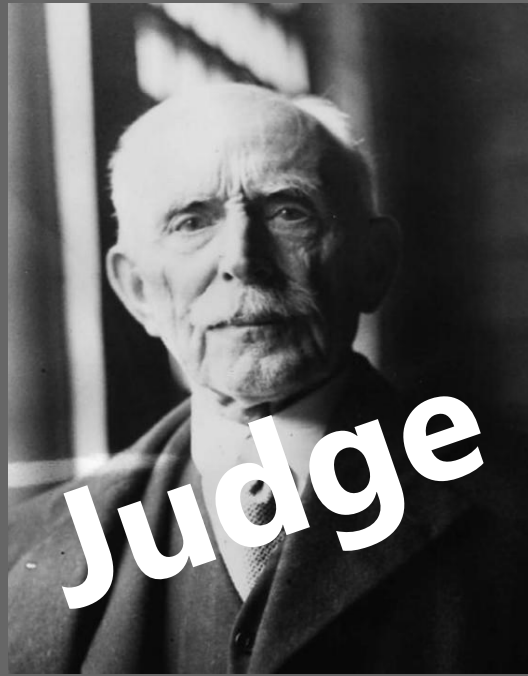


**Frederick  
Parmenter**

Victim

Shoe Factory  
Employee

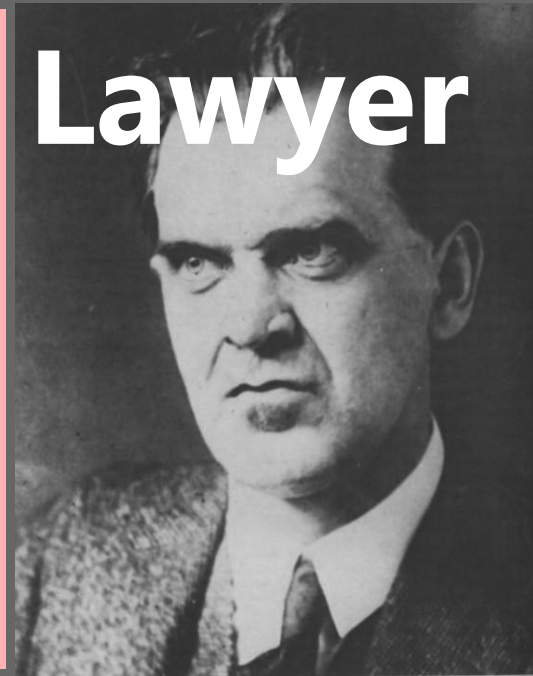
Company Paymaster



**Judge Webster  
Thayer**

Trial Judge

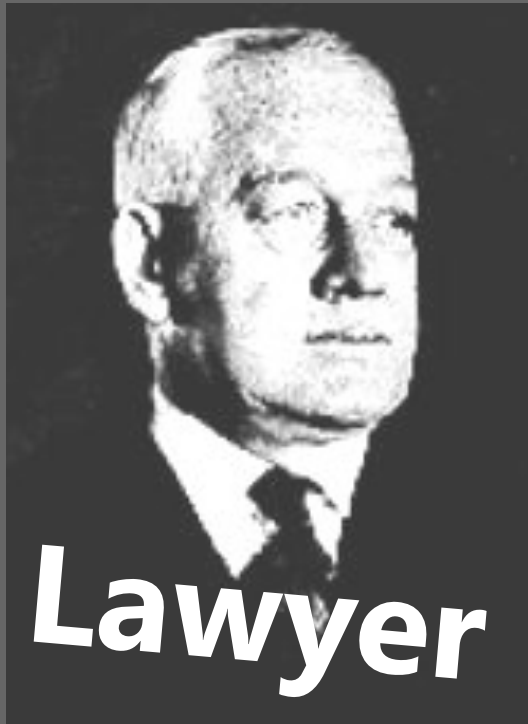
*"Did you see what  
I did to those  
Anarchist bastards?"*



**Fred H  
Moore**

Defending  
Attorney for  
Sacco and Vanzetti

Socialist



**Frederick  
Katzmann**

Prosecution  
Attorney for the  
State of Massachusetts



**Felix  
Frankfurter**

Supreme  
Court

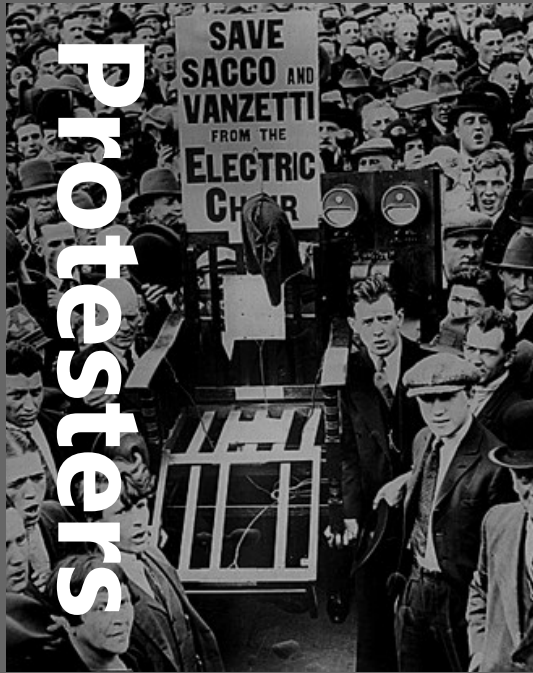
Appeals Judge



**International Media**

*You will report on the trial as perceived in Europe.*

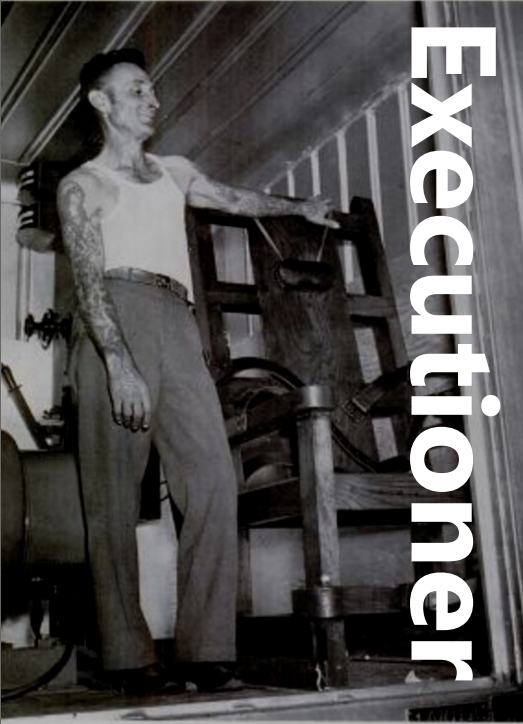
*Interview a protester.*



**Protester**

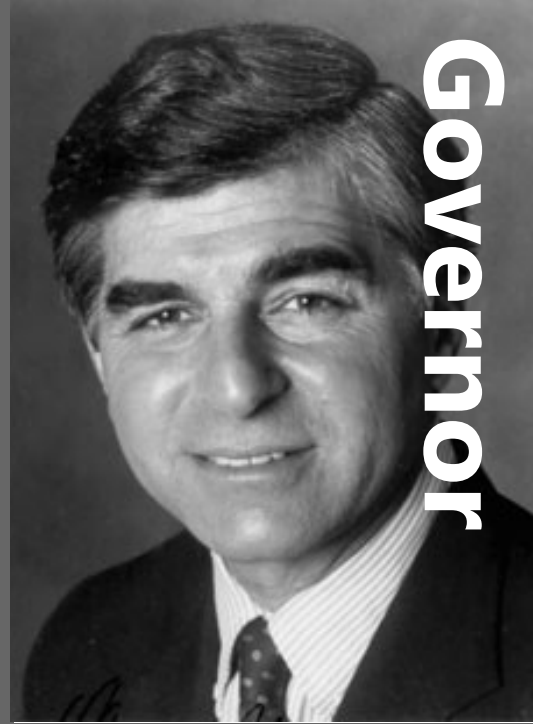
You are protesting the treatment of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Give an interview to the reporter.



**State of Massachusetts Executioner**

You oversee the execution on the electric chair



**Michael Dukakis**

Governor of Massachusetts

1977

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# The Scenes

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**Choose an Executive Director.**

You are the movie glue. Shoot the movie and understand how the scenes connect. You may choose use the A4 act cards to introduce each scene.

**Act 1**

**The Red Scare**  
Create a jump scare?

**Directed by:**  
Executive Director

**Act 2**

**The Crime**  
**Directed by:**  
Guard and Paymaster  
**Cast**

Guard and Paymaster

**Act 3**

**The Dying Witness**  
**Directed by**  
Guard  
**Cast**

Guard

**Act 4**

**The Arrest**  
**Directed by**  
Sacco and Vanzetti  
**Cast**

Sacco and Vanzetti

**Act 5**

**The Prosecution**  
**Directed by**  
Prosecution Attorney  
**Cast**

Attorney + Judge

**Act 6**

**The Defence**  
**Directed by**  
Defence Attorney  
**Cast**

Attorney + Judge

**Act 7**

**The Press Coverage**  
**Directed by**  
Reporter + Protester  
**Cast**

Reporter + Protester

**Act 8**

**The Verdict**  
**Directed by**  
Judge  
**Cast**

Judge, Sacco, Vanzetti

**Act 9**

**The Appeal**  
**Directed by**  
Supreme Court  
**Cast**

SC Judge + S and V

**Act 10**

**The Execution**  
**Directed by**  
Executioner  
**Cast**

Executioner + S and V

**Act 11**

**The Apology**  
**Directed by**  
Governor  
**Cast**

Governor

**Choose a Special Effects Editor.**

You will edit the movie.

- Add special effects?
- Add sound effects?
- Add soundtrack?
- Add subtitles?
- Blend scene transitions?

**Tips ...**

- Get creative!
- Dress for the part.
- Use props.
- Keep scenes short.

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Act 1

1919

The Red

Scare



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**Act 2**

**1920**  
**The**  
**Crime**



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**Act 3**

**1920**  
**Dying**  
**Witness**



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**Act 4**

**1920**  
**The**  
**Arrest**



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**Act 5**

**1921**

**Prosecution**

**Evidence**



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**Act 6**

**1921**

**Defence**

**Evidence**



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**Act 7**

**1921**

**The Press**

**Coverage**





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**Act 8**

**1921**  
**The**  
**Verdict**



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**Act 9**

**1927**  
**The**  
**Appeal**



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**Act 10**

**1927**

**The**

**Execution**

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**Act 11**

**1977**

**The**

**Apology**

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# Sacco and Vanzetti




1919 - 1927 a summary

# Bartolomeo Vanzetti - villain or victim?



 **Mission:** to analyse, evaluate and compare historical sources to try and decide if Vanzetti was guilty.



**A**

*"This is what I say: I would not wish to a dog or to a snake, to the most low and misfortunate creature of the earth - I would not wish to any of them what I have had to suffer for things that I am not guilty of. But my conviction is that I have suffered for things that I am guilty of. I am suffering because I am a radical and indeed I am a radical; I have suffered because I was an Italian, and indeed I am an Italian; I have suffered more for my family and for my beloved than for myself; but I am so convinced to be right that if you could execute me two times, and if I could be reborn two other times, I would live again to do what I have done already."*

**The final statement of Bartolomeo Vanzetti before his execution, April 9, 1927.**

'Vanzetti testified that he told some lies when initially questioned because the country was in the grip of the Red Scare, and he feared for his own safety and that of his anarchist comrades. Vanzetti stuck with his original story about why he was in Bridgewater (where the murder of the Paymaster took place) : he testified that he had gone there to collect anarchist literature, but could not name the names or addresses of people or places he would be collecting the literature from.'

**B**

**Edited summary of evidence presented at Vanzetti's trial in 1927.**

By any reckoning, the case against Vanzetti was considerably weaker than the case against Sacco. Even the prosecution may have had some doubts about Vanzetti's guilt: the assistant prosecutor wept when the jury announced Vanzetti "guilt." Sacco seemed to many - more incensed about Vanzetti's conviction than his own and Vanzetti (unlike Sacco) continued to passionately state his innocence until his execution. In 1943, Carlo Tresca, perhaps the best-connected anarchist leader of the time (and originally chosen to be Sacco's + Vanzetti's defense lawyer) said: "*Sacco was guilty, but Vanzetti was not.*"

**C**

**Famoustrials.com**



**D**

# Source skills option = analyse, compare, interpret and evaluate.

Q1

What is the main point or message of source A?

Q2

Provide a sub-point or message from source A

Q3

How similar are the MAIN messages from sources B and C? Not similar: somewhat similar: very similar ( Explain answer)

Q4

How similar are the sub-messages from sources B and C? Not similar: somewhat similar: very similar ( Explain answer)

Q5

What is the main message of source D?

Q6

Give an example from source B, C or D that corroborates ( supports ) source A.


Q7

Give an example from source B, C or D that does NOT corroborate ( support ) source A.

Q8

How reliable is source A? Circle a score then explain your reason ( Not Reliable 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Reliable )

# Source Focus - The last words of Bartolomeo Vanzetti

 Skill = source analysis and evaluation

What does Vanzetti admit to?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sum up his final statement  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*"This is what I say: I would not wish to a dog or to a snake, to the most low and misfortunate creature of the earth - I would not wish to any of them what I have had to suffer for things that I am not guilty of. But my conviction is that I have suffered for things that I am guilty of. I am suffering because I am a radical and indeed I am a radical; I have suffered because I was an Italian, and indeed I am an Italian; I have suffered more for my family and for my beloved than for myself; but I am so convinced to be right that if you could execute me two times, and if I could be reborn two other times, I would live again to do what I have done already."*

The final statement of Bartolomeo Vanzetti before his execution,  
April 9, 1927.

Do you believe him?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Reliability score 1 - 10?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Primary, secondary or tertiary source?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Sacco and Vanzetti

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You can access the entire teaching pack plus THOUSANDS more history resources with the [Full Site Pass.](#)

If you have any questions about the resources you can message me ~

phil@ichistory.com

[www.icHistory.com](http://www.icHistory.com)

