

The Presidency (Or How I Learned To Stop Worrying And Love The System)

TTGT11 v.4.11: None More Black

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Subject: Current and past presidencies.

TOSS-UPS

1. He turned down an honorary degree from Oxford, possibly remembering the jokes made when Andrew Jackson accepted a similar degree from Harvard. He also met Pope Pius IX – an act made interesting by his membership in the Order of the Star Spangled Banner. However, despite joining the group to earn the nomination of the American Party, he earned only 8 electoral votes in the election of 1856. FTP, identify this Know Nothing 13th president, who became Chief Magistrate upon the death of Zachary Taylor.

Answer: Millard Fillmore

2. Some people claim that the idea was first put forward by Dolley Madison, while others say the first private version of this event happened during the Lincoln administration. The current tradition, however, began in 1878 after Congress barred children from the lawns around the capitol with the Turf Protection Act. Pat Nixon added the bunny in 1969, and the Fords added the most popular event, the race, in 1974. FTP, identify this family celebration held on the lawn of the White House the Monday after Easter.

Answer: White House Easter Egg Roll

3. After two terms in the House, he visited LBJ at his ranch to ask whether it was wise to give up a safe House seat for a run at the Senate – Johnson told him the difference between the Senate and the House was the difference between chicken salad and chicken shit. Defeated in his Senate bid, Nixon appointed him U.N. Ambassador, after which he became head of the Republican Party, U.S. liason to China, and director of the CIA. FTP, identify this broccoli hating 41st president.

Answer: George Herbert Walker Bush (Prompt on any partial answer)

4. It was established in 1875, but its first nominee, Peter Cooper, was soundly defeated in 1876. However, the party did send 15 representatives to Congress, and so it survived to merge with several urban trade unions in 1878. The election of 1880 was undoubtedly the party's zenith, as their call for the coinage of silver on par with gold, an adequate supply of money, the taxing of government bonds, and help for the farmer allowed their candidate to earn 300,000 votes. FTP, identify this party whose 1880 nomination of James Weaver was their last hurrah on the national stage.

Answer: Greenback Labor Party or Greenbacks

5. Born in Los Angeles, he grew up in Bloomington, Illinois, and earned his law degree from Northwestern in 1926. Briefly employed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, he was a legal assistant to the Secretary of the Navy during World War II and served as special assistant to the Secretary of State during the Truman administration. He was Truman's first pick to run in 1952, but when he demurred, Truman turned his attention elsewhere. His final hurrah would be as Kennedy's U.N. ambassador during the Cuban Missile crisis. FTP, identify this two-time presidential candidate, soundly beaten by Dwight Eisenhower in 1952 and 1956.

Answer: Adlai Ewing Stevenson

6. It was built under the auspices of Teddy Roosevelt in 1902, as he found the White House too small for all of the workers plus a family with six children. He held his first cabinet meeting in the new facility that same year. His successor, William Taft, relocated the president's office here in 1909 and changed the shape to oval. Air conditioning was added after a 1929 fire, and FDR relocated the Oval Office and built a swimming pool, which the Nixon administration turned into a press briefing room. FTP, identify this administrative wing of the White House, airing every Wednesday night on NBC.

Answer: The West Wing

7. He served as quartermaster general of the New York militia for the first year of the Civil War, and sued a Brooklyn streetcar company in a landmark case which would desegregate public transit in New York. In 1871 he became collector of the Port of New York, a job he lost in 1878 when a federal investigation found patronage and graft at the port. In fact, it wasn't until 1880 that he earned his first – and only – elected office. FTP, identify this 21st president, who succeeded to the office on the death of James Garfield.

Answer: Chester A. Arthur

8. Many factors went into its establishment. A long trip could not be considered due to the president's health; communication was an issue, as the president liked to keep in constant contact with the White House war room; and the presidential yacht could not be used for fear of German submarines. With this in mind, the National Park Service was directed in 1942 to study locations close to Washington that would allow Franklin Roosevelt to get away from the oppressive heat of the Washington summer, and he christened their selection "Shangri-La." FTP, identify this presidential retreat renamed by Dwight Eisenhower.

Answer: Camp David (Prompt on Shangri-La before it comes up in the question)

9. Under his administration, civil aviation was placed under the direction of the commerce department, and the first transcontinental commercial air route was established. He twice vetoed the McNary-Haugen Bill because he feared it would lead to agricultural price fixing. Congress couldn't override those vetoes, but did override his veto of the Veterans Bonus Act which led to a mess for his successor, Herbert Hoover. FTP, identify this not-really-all-that-silent 30th president.

Answer: Calvin Coolidge

10. Vaguely required by Article II, Section 3 of the Constitution, the first was given by George Washington at Federal Hall in 1790. Jefferson thought it too kingly to give it in person, and so began a 112 year tradition of delivering a written message. The event itself was not revived until Woodrow Wilson gave a speech to a joint session of Congress in 1913. FTP, identify this obligation of the President, which current tradition dictates be given at the end of every January.

Answer: State of the Union

11. His supporters most likely killed two cats belonging to a New Hampshire reporter, all because he dared to ask this man "tough questions." In 1982, one of his supporters ran into Henry Kissinger at the Newark Airport and asked him, loudly, "Do you sleep with young boys at the Carlyle Hotel?" In 1988, however, just after losing the presidential race for the 4th time, he got the notoriety he deserved – he was convicted of conspiracy and mail fraud and sentenced to 15 years. FTP, identify this self-described economist and perennial Democratic presidential candidate who will lose his 8th race in 2004.

Answer: Lyndon LaRouche

12. While in the House, he often found himself in the minority – he supported continuation of the Bank of the United States, opposed the annexation of Texas, and voted against war with Mexico. He did, however, successfully lead fights to have the slavery gag rule repealed and to accept the endowment which created the Smithsonian. His one term as President was marked by the installation of a billiards table at the White House, as well as the Tariff of Abominations. FTP, identify this president, whose loss to Andrew Jackson allowed him to become the only ex-president to serve in the House.

Answer: John Quincy Adams (Prompt on a partial answer)

13. Alongside hard cider and the log cabin, these were one of the enduring symbols of W.H. Harrison's 1840 presidential bid. The most famous, from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, was inscribed with the county name along with slogans such as "May Times Improve/As On We Move" and "Farewell Dear Van/Not The Man." A large pole was driven through the center allowing ten men – five on each side – to push it through parades and campaign rallies. FTP, identify this large leather sphere which symbolized Old Tippecanoe's run for the White House.

Answer: Great Ball or Whig Rolling Ball

14. The last major party candidate to be born in a territory, not a state, he was the grandson of a Russian Jewish immigrant whose trading post became a chain of Arizona department stores – a business of which he became president in 1937. He had served two terms in the U.S. Senate when, largely on the view put forth in his book, *Conscience of a Conservative*, he steamrolled to victory at the 1964 Republican convention despite the opposition of most moderate Republicans. FTP, identify this 1964 presidential loser, who was portrayed as an unstable warmonger in LBJ's famous countdown commercial.

Answer: Barry Goldwater

15. The concept was born in 1880, partly because Republicans did not want to remind voters of Garfield's involvement with Credit Mobilier, and partly because President Hayes suggested he keep a low profile. Harrison beat Garfield using the same tactic, allowing James Blaine to go on the stump in his place. William McKinley also used the tactic to win in 1896, but it wasn't used again until Warren Harding won in 1920, marking the last time a candidate did not hit the campaign trail himself. FTP, identify this method of campaigning where delegations came to the candidate's home rather than vice versa.

Answer: Front porch campaign

16. Charles Sumner called this man "an insolent drunken brute in comparison with which Caligula's horse was respectable." At his death, his body was wrapped in an American flag, his head rested on a copy of the Constitution, and he was buried next to a willow tree taken as a shoot from that growing on Napoleon's tomb. The only ex-president to become a senator, he regained a place in the body which had tried him in 1868. FTP, identify this 17th president, who became chief executive upon the death of Abraham Lincoln.

Answer: Andrew Johnson (Prompt on Johnson)

17. During the Civil War, he rose from second lieutenant to brigadier general, although of his service he wrote he was "but a plain Hoosier colonel, with no more relish for a fight than for...breakfast." He considered running for the White House in 1876, but lost a gubernatorial race instead. He served one term in the U.S. Senate, where he supported pensions for Civil War veterans, before making his run for the presidency. FTP, identify this 23rd president, whose single term was sandwiched between a pair of Cleveland's.

Answer: Benjamin Harrison (Prompt on partial answer)

18. Historians trace this movement's origins to Hartford, where a club appeared in early 1860 to escort and protect Cassius M. Clay, a Kentucky abolitionist en route to give a speech. Their military appearance may have been a way to strike back at the hatred directed their way by pro-slavery Democrats. Taking their name from a newspaper article, they gained acclaim by protecting Abraham Lincoln on a Hartford campaign swing, and by the fall of 1860 400,000 Republicans claimed membership. FTP, identify these clubs, famed for their torchlight parades, whose members "never slept."

Answer: Wide Awakes or Wide Awake Club(s)

19. Except for Washington, no other presidential administration saw more Constitutional amendments ratified than this man's. He also saw passage of the Adamson Act, which paved the way for the eight hour work day, and signed bills creating the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Reserve. However, E.M. House called him the most prejudiced man he ever knew, and Clemenceau said "He thinks he is another Jesus Christ come to earth." FTP, identify this 28th president who led us through World War One while segregating the federal government.

Answer: Thomas Woodrow Wilson

20. It was born during the waning days of FDR's third term, although it didn't begin to take on its current image until 1962. There are currently two of them – units 28000 and 29000 – but the designation applies more to the location of the president than the craft itself. Maintained by a small detachment of the Air Mobility Command's 89th Aircraft Wing, this is, FTP, what aircraft, designated VC-25A by the Air Force?

Answer: Air Force One

-----END OF ROUND-----

- (21) While touring the Great Pyramid at Giza, he said he was surprised that a governmental organization could have built it in 20 years. Like Lincoln and J.Q. Adams, he tried his hand at poetry, publishing a collection titled *Always a Reckoning*. His first published work, a campaign book titled *Why Not the Best?*, took its title from a question posed to him by Human Rickover as he tried to get into the nuclear sub program at Annapolis. FTP, identify this one time president, Nobel laureate, and reluctant imbiber of Billy Beer.

Answer: James Earl "Jimmy" Carter

Bonuses

1. The Electoral College. Bastion of our republican form of government. Why, such a mechanism allows people not even on the ballot to earn presidential votes. God bless America! Answer the following about non-candidates receiving electoral votes, 10 each.

A) This senator from Virginia received 15 electoral votes in 1960 despite not appearing on the ballot in any state.

Answer: Harry F. Byrd

B) He received one electoral vote in 1988 when a West Virginia elector flopped the Democratic ticket to avoid voting for Michael Dukakis.

Answer: Lloyd Bentsen

C) John Hospers received one electoral vote from Virginia in 1972 – the only electoral vote this party has ever received.

Answer: Libertarian Party or Libertarians

2. Identify this God fearing Americans unfairly sucked into the hoax the liberals called "Watergate," ten each.

A) He was Nixon's Secretary of Commerce during his first term, and resigned to become finance chairman of CREEP. He plead guilty to five misdemeanor violations of campaign laws.

Answer: Maurice Stans

B) Nixon's attorney general during his first term, he resigned to become head of CREEP. He served 19 months in jail as a result of Watergate.

Answer: John Mitchell

C) In his 1980 book *Go Quietly...or Else*, he claimed he resigned not to avoid prosecution for a kickback and bribery scheme, but because White House chief of staff Alexander Haig was going to have him murdered.

Answer: Spiro Agnew

3. Harry Truman. He was a By-God-Blood-And-Guts American – until he fired good ol' General MacArthur. Then he became a pinko. But that is a tale for another day. Answer the following on H.S.T, 5-10-15.

A) 5: This man, the last national office-holder to be born in a log cabin, was Truman's vice president, and was the first to refer to himself as the "veep."

Answer: Alben Barkley

B) 10: After his wife saw the famed photo of Truman playing the piano with this actress sitting on top of the instrument, she suggested he quit playing altogether.

Answer: Lauren Bacall

C) 15: Truman was the product of the Kansas City Democratic machine, run by this man. Despite his shady background, Truman refused to hear people speak ill of the man.

Answer: Tom Pendergast

4. Given a description of the amendment, give its number – 5 for one, 10 for two, 20 for three, and 30 for all four.

A) Limits the president to two terms.

Answer: Twenty-Second Amendment

B) Sets inauguration day as 20 January, and lays out what happens if the President-elect were to die before being inaugurated.

Answer: Twentieth Amendment

C) Established separate electoral voting for president and veep.

Answer: Twelfth Amendment

D) Affirmed the Vice-President as first in the line of succession and established a process to fill a vacancy in the office of vice president.

Answer: Twenty-fifth Amendment

5. The only thing better than kickin' English tail once is doin' it twice, by God! Answer the following about the War of Canadian Liberation, or the War of 1812, 5-10-15.

A) 5: In 1814, 2070 recruits took a little trip, along with this future president down the mighty Mississipp. Little bacon, umm, beans...uhh...battle of New Orleans.

Answer: Andrew Jackson

B) 10: He became a member of a Lancaster rifle company, helped liberate Baltimore, went back to Pennsylvania, caused a young lady's suicide, and later became president.

Answer: James Buchanan

C) 15: As captain of the Charles City Rifles, he saw no action yet was given 160 acres near present day Sioux City, Iowa. He went on to turn his back on the Union. He sucked.

Answer: John Tyler

6. Identify the following members of the Reagan cabinet who were framed, 5-10-15.

A) 5: Reagan's first Secretary of the Interior, his policies put him at odds with the environmental movement. His description of an advisory panel as, "a black, a woman, two Jews and a cripple" put him in the unemployment line.

Answer: James G. Watt

B) 10: Dogged by reports that he had been part of a bribery scheme and had Mob ties, he resigned as Secretary of Labor in 1985 after becoming the first cabinet member in history to be indicted.

Answer: Raymond J. Donovan

C) 15: The only member of the Reagan cabinet to serve through both terms in the same post, he kept a low profile – so low that after 5 months on the job, he bumped into the President at an official function and Reagan had no idea who he was.

Answer: Samuel R. "Silent Sam" Pierce

7. Vice Presidents drop like flies! That's very funny! Answer the following, 10 each.

A) Nicknamed Smiling Jim, he served nearly a full term as Taft's veep, dying of Bright's Disease days before the 1912 election.

Answer: James S. Sherman (Prompt on Sherman)

B) Born Jeremiah Colbath, he changed his name after reading an obscure biography. A Radical Republican, a pair of strokes felled him in 1875 and left Grant veep-less.

Answer: Henry Wilson

C) His 1885 death as a result of a stroke had potentially horrible consequences – until John Sherman was elected president pro tem of the Senate 12 days later, no one stood behind Cleveland in the line of succession.

Answer: Thomas Hendricks

8. Answer these questions about the administration that no good low down dirty snake in the grass, Bill Clinton, ten each.

A) Slick Willie's first choice for attorney general, she was withdrawn when it was learned she had hired illegal aliens as household employees.

Answer: Zoe Baird

B) Clinton's first Secretary of HUD, his appointment capped a political comeback – as mayor of San Antonio he was run out of office after sleeping with a campaign worker.

Answer: Henry Cisneros

C) The first African-American and first Southerner to head the Department of Agriculture, he was forced to resign under a cloud of scandal involving illegal gifts.

Answer: Mike Espy

9. Great American say great things before their great deaths. Identify the president from last words for 10, or from the date and place of the death for 5.

10: I am just going. Have me decently buried and do not let my body be put in a vault less than two days after I am dead. Do you understand me??

5: 14 December 1799, Mt. Vernon, Virginia.

Answer: George Washington

10: I wish you to understand the principles of the government. I wish them carried out. I ask nothing more.

5: 4 April 1841, Washington, D.C.

Answer: William Henry Harrison

10: Swaim, can't you stop this? Oh, Swaim!

5: 19 September 1881, Elberon, New Jersey.

Answer: James Garfield

10. On a 15-5 basis, answer the following questions which may or may not be related.

15: His first two children having died in infancy, he and his wife were shattered when a train wreck left them unscathed but killed their sole surviving child, Benjamin, just two months before his inauguration.

5: As president, he oversaw the Gadsden Purchase, the Ostend Manifesto, and the Kansas-Nebraska Act.

Answer: Franklin Pierce

15: After attending the inauguration of his successor, the train taking him back to Ohio collided with another – he was unhurt, but 2 were killed and 20 were injured.

5: He oversaw resumption of the Specie Act, the Bland-Allison Act, and the end of Reconstruction.

Answer: Rutherford B. Hayes

11. Identify the person, 30-20-10-5.

30: At age 17, he was sent to Danville, Kentucky, for a then-risky operation to remove gallstones. He was given whiskey to dull the pain. Manly!

20: He is the only Speaker of the House to become president. Manly!

10: He settled for less than 54° 40' (unmanly!), but won the war with Mexico and lowered tariffs while establishing an independent treasury.

5: You might know him as Young Hickory, Napoleon of the Stump.

Answer: James Knox Polk

12. John Adams – our second president. What else can you say? Answer the following, 5-10-15.

A) 5: These four acts, passed in 1798, discriminated against immigrants and threatened the freedom of the press.

Answer: Alien and Sedition Acts

B) 10: It occurred in 1799 in Pennsylvania in protest of the new federal property tax. Its leader was convicted of treason and sentenced to death, but was pardoned the next year.

Answer: Fries' Rebellion

C) 15: In an effort to improve Franco-American relations following the XYZ affair, a Pennsylvania doctor went to Paris to negotiate with the French. He had no authority to do so, and Congress passed this law bearing his name, which forbids private diplomacy.

Answer: Logan Act

13. Damn that Slick Willie. In the good ol' days, presidents had trysts with real hotties. Given such a hottie, identify the president who was allegedly banging her, 5 each with a bonus 5 for getting them all.

- A) Carrie Phillips
- B) Maria Halpin
- C) Lucy Page Mercer
- D) Nan Britton
- E) Kay Summersby

- Warren G. Harding
- Grover Cleveland
- Franklin D. Roosevelt (Prompt on Roosevelt)
- Warren G. Harding
- Dwight D. Eisenhower

14. Iowans have found their way into the executive branch. Any jokes on this topic will be dealt with harshly by an ad hoc committee made up of all the native Iowans at the tournament. Bring your torches and pitchforks.

A) 15: Grant's third Secretary of War, he was impeached by the House in 1876 on charges of accepting bribes from traders at Indian posts. He resigned rather than face a Senate trial.

Answer: William W. Belknap

B) 10: FDR's second vice president, he and his father both served as Secretary of Agriculture. His call for closer relations with the Soviet Union led to his replacement on the '44 ticket.

Answer: Henry A. Wallace

C) 5: The only president born in Iowa, he is buried just 15 minutes from this very spot. And he did NOT cause the Great Depression, 'cuz he was a Quaker.

Answer: Herbert Hoover

15. Abe Lincoln once walked 20 miles barefoot to split rails for an indigent mother who ... I forget how the rest goes. However, he was elected president, and did have a cabinet. Answer the following, 10 each.

A) Lincoln's first Secretary of War, Lincoln said of him, "The only thing he wouldn't steal is a red hot stove." For his part, this man defined an honest politician as "a man who, when he's bought, stays bought."

Answer: Simon Cameron

B) A frequent critic of Lincoln, this Treasury secretary tendered his resignation several times before it was accepted in 1864. Appointed to the Supreme Court that same year, he lives on today as the man on the \$10,000 bill.

Answer: Salmon P. Chase

C) Lincoln's first attorney general, he was also the first cabinet member from west of the Mississippi. He was instrumental in upholding Lincoln's authority to suspend habeas corpus during the war.

Answer: Edward Bates

16. Gerald Ford was a great man, and we learned nothing of it. FTSNOP, answer the following about Mr. Ford.

A) 5/15: 5 for one, 15 for both – in September 1975, two women attempted to assassinate President Ford, one on the 5th in Sacramento, and the other on the 22nd in San Francisco. Both (obviously) failed. Name them.

Answers: Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, Sara Jane Moore

B) 5: Ford wrote *Portrait of an Assassin*, his own personal conclusions reached after serving on this investigative panel in the mid-1960s.

Answer: Warren Commission

C) 10: Ford and the armed forces whipped some Cambodian behind after that nation seized this U.S. merchant ship in May, 1975. 41 Americans were killed during the rescue.

Answer: Mayaguez

17. Assassination. While it's a darned funny word, the results are darned unfunny. Answer the following about an assassination, 5-10-15.

A) 5: This anarchist wrapped a 32 caliber Iver Johnson revolver in his bandaged right hand and shot William McKinley on 6 September 1901.

Answer: Leon Czolgosz [Chol-goes]

B) 10: McKinley was shot while attending the Pan-American Exposition in this city, and died there eight days later.

Answer: Buffalo, New York

C) 15: McKinley was accompanied by this man, his personal secretary, later to hold three different Cabinet positions under Teddy Roosevelt.

Answer: George B. Cortelyou

18. Identify the person from quotes, 30-20-10-5.

30: "A man who has never gone to school may steal from a freight car; but if he has a University education, he may steal the whole railroad."

20: "To announce that there must be no criticism of the President, or that we are to stand by the President, right or wrong, is not only unpatriotic and servile, but is morally treasonable to the American public."

10: "I would rather have lead that charge and earned my colonelcy than served three terms in the United States Senate. It makes me feel as though I could now leave something to my children which will serve as an apology for my having existed."

5: "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far."

Answer: Theodore Roosevelt (Prompt on partial answer)

19. Sometimes people get to thinkin' that being Secretary of State is a stepping stone to the presidency. I say that's phooey and hogwash! Identify the following diplomats with political ambition on one clue for 10, or from the results of one of their runs for the White House for 5.

10: His major failing as Secretary of State was hiring Philip Freneau as a French translator. Freneau edited the *National Gazette*, this man's personal mouthpiece, and his refusal to dismiss Freneau undermined his influence.

5: He won 73 electoral votes, tying him with Aaron Burr and throwing the election into the House.

Answer: Thomas Jefferson

10: He concluded a treaty with Turkey which opened the Black Sea, a treaty with England which reopened the West Indies, and was the only cabinet member to pay courtesy calls on Peggy Eaton.

5: He won 170 electoral votes to 73 for W.H. Harrison, 26 for Hugh White, 14 for Daniel Webster, and 11 for Willie Mangum.

Answer: Martin Van Buren

10: He chaired the First Pan-American Conference, took steps to save the Pribilof Island seals from Canadian hunters, and served two stints as Secretary of State under three different presidents.

5: He won 182 electoral votes to Grover Cleveland's 219, so no, he didn't win.

Answer: James Blaine

20. Some presidents did some mighty traitorous things during that there Civil War we had. Identify them, 5-10-15.

A) 5: He was the only former president to take part in the rebel government, but died before he could take his seat in the Confederate House.

Answer: John Tyler

B) 10: His grandson John served on the *C.S.S. Virginia*, his daughter Sarah was Jefferson Davis's first wife, and his son Dick was the last Confederate general to surrender.

Answer: Zachary Taylor

C) 15: His war views made him so unpopular in New England that he was denounced as a traitor and burned in effigy. When Lincoln was killed, an angry mob almost ransacked his home.

Answer: Franklin Pierce