

AMERICAN HISTORY TRIVIA QUESTIONS



(www.TriviaChamp.com)

1> Populist strongman Huey P Long ran this state as governor and remained its de facto governor, even while serving in the US Senate. What state was this?

- a. Louisiana
- b. Florida
- c. Texas
- d. Georgia

2> In the 1960s, who said this? "Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country."

- a. Abbie Hoffman
- b. Martin Luther King Jr.
- c. John Kennedy
- d. Douglas MacArthur

3> The pirate Jean Lafitte set up his own "kingdom" in Baratavia, near a city he'd later help save in exchange for a pardon during the War of 1812. Which city?

- a. Detroit
- b. Boston
- c. New Orleans
- d. Galveston

4> Whose second inaugural address urged healing "with malice toward none, with charity for all"?

- a. John Kennedy
- b. Woodrow Wilson
- c. Abraham Lincoln
- d. George Washington

5> What president was fatally shot in Washington's Baltimore and Potomac Railroad station while on his way to at a reunion at his alma mater, Williams College in Massachusetts?

- a. William McKinley
- b. WH Harrison
- c. James Garfield
- d. Zachary Taylor

6> Credit Mobilier overcharged which president's administration by millions for work it did building the Union Pacific?

- a. Ronald Reagan
- b. Warren Harding
- c. Ulysses Grant
- d. Andrew Jackson

7> Daniel Inouye, who lost an arm in WWII, became the first Japanese American member of Congress, representing which state?

- a. Washington
- b. California
- c. Hawaii
- d. Alaska

8> Not surprisingly, perhaps, who was the first vice-president who did not go on to become president?

- a. Benjamin Franklin
- b. Aaron Burr
- c. John Jay
- d. Alexander Hamilton

9> What president invented the dumbwaiter and a swivel chair?

- a. Thomas Jefferson
- b. Abraham Lincoln
- c. Herbert Hoover
- d. George Washington

10> While negotiating a treaty with Britain, what Supreme Court chief justice accidentally ended up being elected governor of New York?

- a. John Marshall
- b. Alexander Hamilton
- c. John Jay
- d. Aaron Burr

11> As secretary of the treasury, I helped launch the greenback. But on the Supreme Court, I declared that policy unconstitutional. Who am I?

- a. Alexander Hamilton
- b. Salmon Chase
- c. William Howard Taft
- d. John Jay

12> Senator Nancy Kassebaum from Kansas came from a political family. Her dad ran for president in 1936. Who was he?

- a. Alf Landon
- b. Wendell Wilkie
- c. Adlai Stevenson
- d. Thomas Dewey

13> In 1950, Tennessee senator Estes Kefauver rose to national prominence as chair of a special committee investigating what subject?

- a. Corruption of youth by comic books
- b. Communist infiltration
- c. Organized crime
- d. Civil rights

14> With only one viable political party, the Era of Good Feelings was so-called for its lack of partisan politics. Who was president back then?

- a. Thomas Jefferson
- b. Andrew Jackson
- c. James Monroe
- d. George W Bush

15> The P was for "Pierce", but what was Huey P Long's aquatic nickname?

- a. Tuna
- b. Pelican
- c. Kingfish
- d. Showboat

Answers:

- 1> Louisiana - Long was assassinated on September 8, 1835 by Dr. Carl Weiss.
- 2> John Kennedy - Assassinated in 1963, the US House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA) has concluded that Kennedy was probably assassinated as the result of a conspiracy.
- 3> New Orleans - Lafitte continued attacking merchant ships around Central American ports until he died around 1823.
- 4> Abraham Lincoln - Lincoln was assassinated by a Confederate spy from Maryland named John Wilkes Booth in April of 1865.
- 5> James Garfield - Garfield served as the 20th President of the United States.
- 6> Ulysses Grant - The scandal was introduced to the public in 1872 by the New York City newspaper The Sun.
- 7> Hawaii - As of 2012, Daniel is the second longest serving Senator in US history after Robert Byrd.
- 8> Aaron Burr - Aaron was charged with treason in 1807 only later to be acquitted.
- 9> Thomas Jefferson - Thomas Jefferson was an American Founding Father and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence.
- 10> John Jay - John was the first Chief Justice of the United States from 1789 to 1795.
- 11> Salmon Chase - Salmon was the U.S. Treasury Secretary under President Abraham Lincoln.
- 12> Alf Landon - Landon was elected Governor of Kansas in 1932 and later re-elected in 1934.
- 13> Organized crime - Estes served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1939 to 1949 and in the Senate from 1949 to 1963.
- 14> James Monroe - James Monroe was the fifth President of the United States and the last president who was a Founding Father.
- 15> Kingfish - Kingfish was the 40th Governor of Louisiana from 1928–1932 and a U.S. Senator from 1932 to 1935.