

## MLAG Sample Presidents Questions 2011-12

Range: 1-11

3pt.) Even though this president was central to the Revolution, as a lawyer, he defended the British soldiers in the Boston Massacre.

2pt.) During his presidency, the United State's relations with France were at an all time low. To try and resolve their differences, this president sent three men to see the French Foreign Minister. But, however, the minister sent three men of his own to meet this president's ambassadors and demanded a bribe of \$250,000. This president was enraged and released a document substituting the letters, X, Y, and Z, for the names of the French agents. This affair became known as the XYZ affair, and gave rise to the slogan, "Millions for defense, but not one penny for tribute."

1pt.) Born in a town that now bares his son's name, this president was one of two to die on the fourth of July exactly 50 years after the Declaration of independence was signed.

Answer # 2-John Adams

Range: 5-15

3pt) One week after this president took office, the Caroline crisis arose. The British demanded that a Canadian man taken prisoner by the U.S. for killing the American crew of a steamboat be released on the threat of war.

2pt) One of the promotions used during this president's campaign was a huge paper ball, six feet in diameter inscribed with political slogans. His supporters rolled it from city to city shouting, "Keep the ball rolling." This is where the modern day phrase comes from.

1pt) This president caught a cold while giving his inaugural address and died two months later.

Answer # 9-William Henry Harrison

Range: 6-16

3 pt) Elected on a platform of expansion with the slogan, "54'-40" or Fight", this president presided over an unprecedented period of territorial growth for the U.S., with the nation expanding to the Pacific Ocean as a result of the Oregon Treaty with Britain and the military successes of the Mexican War

2 pt) The first "dark horse" candidate to be elected, this president was nominated on the ninth ballot of his party's convention after the southern wing of the party refused to nominate another candidate for a second time.

1 pt) Nicknamed "Young Hickory," because of his support of Andrew Jackson, this southerner was preceded and succeeded by presidents that were not of the same political party as he was.

Answer #11- James Polk

## MLAG Sample Presidents Questions 2011-12

Range: 12-22

3 pt) As a youth he served briefly in the Blackhawk war. His service was uneventful, except for the fact that he was elected leader of his company, an experience that would open him up to the possibilities of politics later in life. After he left the war, he became a lawyer and eventually ran his own law practice. The job would help develop his public speaking, a skill that would serve him well as president.

2 pt) He first came to national prominence in a series of debates with Stephen Douglas in the race for the U.S. senate seat from Illinois. During these debates he argued fervently against Douglas' idea of popular sovereignty, saying, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Although he lost the Senate race to Douglas, his performance in the debates would eventually earn him a presidential nomination.

1 pt) In his campaign for re-election, his supporters urged voters, "Don't change horses in mid-stream." The voters listened and re-elected the president. He didn't get to finish his term, however, as he was shot and killed just weeks after his second inauguration.

Answer # 16 - Abraham Lincoln

Range: 16- 26

3 pt) During his term the president was rocked by the Whiskey Ring scandal. The scandal involved a conspiracy among whiskey distillers, revenue collectors, and high federal officials to avoid taxation through fraudulent reports on whiskey production. It was just one of many scandals to affect the president, causing many observers to note that his friends were more damaging to him than his enemies.

2 pt) When he died, he was penniless. Yet his personal memoirs which he completed only days before he died would make nearly half a million dollars for his family after his death.

1 pt) He first came to national prominence as general during the Civil War. His campaign for president took advantage of that fact, encouraging voters to "Vote as you shot".

Answer # 18- Ulysses S. Grant

Range 20-30

3pt) During his terms in office, the labor movement in the U.S. began to pick up steam. The American Federation of Labor (A.F.L) was formed. In Chicago a labor protest turned violent when a bomb was exploded in a crowd of policemen. The event became known as the Haymarket Riot.

2pt) As a young lawyer, the future president had admitted to fathering an illegitimate child. In his first campaign for president his opponent's supporters made use of that fact with the campaign slogan, "Ma, ma, where's my pa"? After he won the presidency, his supporters answered back by adding a line to the taunt, "Gone to the White House, ha ha ha!"

1pt) He was the first president to win a plurality of the popular vote in 3 consecutive elections. He was also the only president to have been married in the White House, having married 22 year old Frances Folsom during his first term.

Answer #22or#24 - Grover Cleveland