

What do you know about William Howard Taft? . . . Besides giving his name to a Northwest Chicago High School that opened in 1939? TWENTY-EIGHT QUESTIONS researched and prepared by Fred Allegetti

| QUESTIONS | MULTIPLE CHOICE ANSWERS | What major public career positions did he hold and when? | |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1. When was Taft born? | <input type="checkbox"/> July 4, 1865 <input type="checkbox"/> April 15, 1858 <input type="checkbox"/> September 15, 1857 <input type="checkbox"/> December 12, 1880 | 13. Was he a United States Solicitor General? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. Where was Taft born? | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Springfield, Illinois <input type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Roanoke, Virginia | 14. Was he Governor of Ohio? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. When did Taft die? | <input type="checkbox"/> April 11, 1931 <input type="checkbox"/> October 15, 1929 <input type="checkbox"/> March 11, 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> December 20, 1933 | 15. Was he a Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. Where did Taft die? | <input type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Hartford, Connecticut <input type="checkbox"/> Washington, D.C <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland, Ohio | 16. Was he Governor of the Philippines? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 5. What precedent was established with the death of William Howard Taft? | <input type="checkbox"/> Began the Presidential "lying in State" tradition. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st President to use the Capitol Building Rotunda for "lying in State". <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st President to use an eternal Flame at the gravesite. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st President buried at Arlington National Cemetery. | 17. Was he United States Secretary of War? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 6. What high school did Taft attend? | <input type="checkbox"/> Alphonso Taft HS, (Named after his Father, Secretary of War under President Grant.) <input type="checkbox"/> Woodrow Wilson HS <input type="checkbox"/> William Jennings Bryan HS <input type="checkbox"/> Woodward HS | 18. Was he Governor of Cuba? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 7. What Universities did Taft attend? (Pick Two) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yale University <input type="checkbox"/> Harvard University <input type="checkbox"/> University of Cincinnati <input type="checkbox"/> Penn State University | 19. Was he ever a Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 8. What occupations did he pursue? | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Politician <input type="checkbox"/> Jurist <input type="checkbox"/> All the Above | 20. What number order was his Presidency? | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 th President <input type="checkbox"/> 27 th President <input type="checkbox"/> 28 th President <input type="checkbox"/> 29 th President |
| 9. What was his Religion? | <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Unitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Baptist <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran | 21. What year was he sworn in as President of the United States of America? | <input type="checkbox"/> January 20, 1908 <input type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1909 <input type="checkbox"/> November 4, 1910 <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran |
| 10. Was he married? 11. If yes, +4.5 bonus points if you know his wife's maiden name. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Wife's maiden name: _____ | 22. What year did he leave the office of President? | <input type="checkbox"/> January 4, 1910 <input type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1911 <input type="checkbox"/> January 20, 1912 <input type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1913 |
| 12. What political party was Taft associated with? | <input type="checkbox"/> Democrat Party <input type="checkbox"/> Republican Party <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive Party <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Party | 23. Who preceded him as President? | <input type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Harrison <input type="checkbox"/> Warren G. Harding <input type="checkbox"/> Theodore Roosevelt <input type="checkbox"/> Herbert Hoover |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 24. Who followed him after his Presidency? | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodrow Wilson <input type="checkbox"/> William McKinley <input type="checkbox"/> Warren G. Harding <input type="checkbox"/> Calvin Coolidge | 26. What was his favorite sport to watch? | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf <input type="checkbox"/> Baseball <input type="checkbox"/> Football <input type="checkbox"/> Cribbage |
| 25. How many Supreme Court case opinions were written by Chief Justice Taft during the nine years he held the position? | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 <input type="checkbox"/> 102 <input type="checkbox"/> 256 <input type="checkbox"/> 312 | 27. What sports tradition, still follow today is Taft credited with initiating? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yelling "FOUR" to warn golfers <input type="checkbox"/> The coin flip at football games <input type="checkbox"/> Singing the Star-Spangled Banner before sports events. <input type="checkbox"/> Baseballs 7 th inning stretch |

How did you do?

Give yourself 3.5 points for each correct answer.

Plus an additional 5.5 points for knowing his wife's maiden name.

Maximum score 100 points.

SPECIAL NOTE: Scoring less than 70 WILL NOT require you return to High School to retake American History from Miss Felt!

28. Today, how many High Schools in the U.S. are named after William Howard Taft?

- ☐ One
☐ Two
☐ Three
☐ Four



WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT TEST ANSWER SHEET

| QUESTIONS | CORRECT ANSWERS | ANSWERS & BCKGROUND |
|--|---|---|
| 1. When was Taft born? | <input type="checkbox"/> July 4, 1865 <input type="checkbox"/> April 15, 1858 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> September 15, 1857 <input type="checkbox"/> December 12, 1880 | September 15, 1857 |
| 2. Where was Taft born? | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Springfield, Illinois <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Roanoke, Virginia | Cincinnati, Ohio |
| 3. When did Taft die? | <input type="checkbox"/> April 11, 1931 <input type="checkbox"/> October 15, 1929 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> March 11, 1930 <input type="checkbox"/> December 20, 1933 | March 11, 1930 At age 72. |
| 4. Where did Taft die? | <input type="checkbox"/> Cincinnati, Ohio <input type="checkbox"/> Hartford, Connecticut <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washington, D.C <input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland, Ohio | Washington, D.C. |
| 5. What precedent was established with the death of William Howard Taft? | <input type="checkbox"/> Began the Presidential "lying in state" tradition. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st President to use the Capitol Building Rotunda for "lying in state". <input type="checkbox"/> 1 st President to use an eternal flame at the gravesite. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 st President buried at Arlington National Cemetery. | William Howard Taft became the first president to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. |
| 6. What high school did Taft attend? | <input type="checkbox"/> Alphonso Taft HS, named after his Father, Secretary of War under President Grant. <input type="checkbox"/> Woodrow Wilson HS <input type="checkbox"/> William Jennings Bryan HS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodward HS | Woodward High School |
| 7. What Universities did Taft attend? (Pick Two) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yale University <input type="checkbox"/> Harvard University <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University of Cincinnati <input type="checkbox"/> Penn State University | University of Cincinnati Yale University Law |
| 8. What occupations did he pursue? | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawyer <input type="checkbox"/> Politician <input type="checkbox"/> Jurist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All the Above | Lawyer, Politician, Jurist |
| 9. What was his Religion? | <input type="checkbox"/> Catholic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unitarian <input type="checkbox"/> Baptist <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran | Unitarian |
| 10. Was he married? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| 11. If yes, +4.5 bonus points if you know his wife's maiden name. | Wife's maiden name: | Helen Herron (Taft) |
| 12. What was the name of Taft's political party? | <input type="checkbox"/> Democrat Party <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Republican Party <input type="checkbox"/> Progressive Party <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Party | Republican |

| What major public career positions did he hold and when? | | |
|---|---|---|
| 13. Was he a United States Solicitor General? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - 5th United States Solicitor General. <i>In office: February 1890 – March, 1892 Appointed by President Benjamin Harrison</i> |
| 14. Was he Governor of Ohio? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | No - He went directly to the National scene. |
| 15. Was he a Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit <i>In office: 1892 – 1900</i> |
| 16. Was he Governor of the Philippines? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - 1st Civil Governor of the Philippines <i>In office: July 4, 1901 – December 23, 1903</i> |
| 17. Was he United States Secretary of War? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - 42nd United States Secretary of War <i>In office: February 1, 1904 – June 30, 1908</i> |
| 18. Was he Governor of Cuba? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - 1st Provisional Governor of Cuba <i>In office: September 29, 1906 – October 13, 1906</i> |
| 19. Did Taft ever serve in the United States Supreme Court? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | YES - AFTER his Presidency. He was appointed the 10th Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. <i>In office: July 11, 1921 – February 3, 1930 Nominated by Warren G. Harding</i> |
| When he was President of the United States | | |
| 20. What number order was his Presidency? | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 th President <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 27 th President <input type="checkbox"/> 28 th President <input type="checkbox"/> 29 th President | 27th President of the United States |
| 21. What year was he sworn in as President of the United States of America? | <input type="checkbox"/> January 20, 1908 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1909 <input type="checkbox"/> November 4, 1910 <input type="checkbox"/> Lutheran | March 4, 1909 |
| 22. What year did he leave the office of President? | <input type="checkbox"/> January 4, 1910 <input type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1911 <input type="checkbox"/> January 20, 1912 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> March 4, 1913 | March 4, 1913 |
| 23. Who preceded him as President? | <input type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Harrison <input type="checkbox"/> Warren G. Harding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theodore Roosevelt <input type="checkbox"/> Herbert Hoover | Preceded by Theodore Roosevelt |
| 24. Who followed him after his Presidency? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Woodrow Wilson <input type="checkbox"/> William McKinley <input type="checkbox"/> Warren G. Harding <input type="checkbox"/> Calvin Coolidge | Succeeded by Woodrow Wilson |
| 25. How many Supreme Court case opinions were written by Chief Justice Taft during the nine years he held the position? | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 <input type="checkbox"/> 102 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 256 <input type="checkbox"/> 312 | <i>While Chief Justice, Taft took his role seriously, he wrote the opinion for the Court in 256 cases out of the Court's ever-growing caseload. His judicial philosophy of constitutional interpretation was described as essentially historical contextualism.</i> |

Fun things to know about William Howard Taft

26. What was his favorite sport to watch?

- ☐ Golf
- ☒ Baseball
- ☐ Football
- ☐ Cribbage

Baseball

27. What sports tradition, do we still follow today that Taft is credited with initiating?

- ☐ Yelling "FOUR" to warn golfers
- ☐ The coin flip at football games
- ☐ Singing the Star-Spangled Banner before sports events.
- ☒ 7th Inning Stretch

According to legend the traditional 7th inning stretch at baseball games is owed to Taft. The president was watching a game and, in the 7th inning, got up to stretch. The crowd, out of respect for the president, also rose to their feet. Since then, people have stretched during the 7th inning.

28. Today, how many High Schools in the U.S. are named after William Howard Taft?

- ☐ One
- ☐ Two
- ☐ Three
- ☒ Four

FOUR:

1. Bronx, New York
2. Chicago, Illinois,
3. San Antonio, Texas,
4. Woodland Hills, California

