U.S. Presidential Trivia

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. Which president became the first to live in the Washington, D.C., residence now called the White House?
   - A. John Adams
   - B. George Washington
   - C. Thomas Jefferson
   - D. James Monroe

2. Which U.S. president designed his Virginia home, Monticello, and later oversaw a major rebuilding of it?
   - A. John Quincy Adams
   - B. James Madison
   - C. Thomas Jefferson
   - D. Martin Van Buren

3. Which former president went on to serve as chief justice of the United States?
   - A. Grover Cleveland
   - B. William Howard Taft
   - C. Benjamin Harrison
   - D. Calvin Coolidge

4. Which nineteenth-century president returned to office in 1893, four years after his first term ended?
   - A. William McKinley
   - B. Chester A. Arthur
   - C. Benjamin Harrison
   - D. Grover Cleveland

5. Whose 1925 inauguration was the first U.S. presidential inauguration broadcast on radio?
   - A. Warren G. Harding
   - B. Calvin Coolidge
   - C. Herbert Hoover
   - D. Woodrow Wilson

6. In 1906, Theodore Roosevelt used the Antiquities Act to proclaim the first U.S. national monument. Which landmark did the proclamation protect?

A. Devils Tower
B. Mount Rushmore
C. Yosemite Valley
D. Chimney Rock in Colorado

7. A program records Franklin D. Roosevelt taking the presidential oath at the White House on January 20, 1945. Which of Roosevelt’s presidential inaugurations was it?

A. His first
B. His second
C. His third
D. His fourth

8. Which president signed the 1958 legislation establishing NASA as a civilian agency?

A. John F. Kennedy
B. Harry S. Truman
C. Dwight D. Eisenhower
D. Lyndon B. Johnson

9. Harry Truman kept a sign reading ‘The Buck Stops Here.’ Which explanation matches what he said the motto meant for a president?

A. The president is responsible for making the decisions that reach the office.
B. The president’s main duty is to set the value of the dollar.
C. Every presidential decision goes to a cabinet vote.
D. A departing president can transfer earlier decisions to the next administration.

10. Before his own presidency, Herbert Hoover served in the Cabinets of both Warren G. Harding and Calvin Coolidge. Which post did he hold?

A. Secretary of the Treasury
B. Secretary of State
C. Secretary of Agriculture
D. Secretary of Commerce

11. Roosevelt’s first inaugural program is dated March 4, 1933. His second is dated January 20, 1937. Which constitutional change explains the date on the later program?

A. The Twelfth Amendment assigned the inauguration date to the president-elect.
B. The Twenty-Second Amendment changed the calendar for second terms only.
C. The Twentieth Amendment changed the regular start of presidential terms to January 20.
D. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment moved every president’s oath to the first month in office.

12. A researcher has a recording of Richard Nixon announcing his resignation in August 1974. Which separate item directly documents the formal resignation?

A. An unsigned draft of Nixon’s televised address
B. Nixon’s signed resignation letter to the secretary of state
C. The text of Gerald Ford’s remarks after taking the oath
D. A newspaper’s advance notice of the television broadcast

13. A presidential library preserves a 1963 photograph of Lyndon B. Johnson raising his hand inside a plane. The catalog identifies Judge Sarah T. Hughes and describes the ceremony. Which claim can the photo and catalog support together?

A. The photograph shows Hughes approving Johnson’s election results.
B. Hughes administered the vice-presidential oath to Johnson at the Capitol.
C. Johnson gave his first State of the Union address aboard Air Force One.
D. Hughes administered the presidential oath to Johnson aboard Air Force One.

14. A 1973 record concerns Gerald Ford’s confirmation as vice president. An August 1974 record shows him taking the presidential oath. Which sequence under the Twenty-Fifth Amendment connects the two?

A. Ford was nominated and confirmed as vice president, then succeeded to the presidency after a vacancy.
B. Ford was elected vice president in a 1973 national election, then won a separate presidential election in 1974.
C. Ford first became president by appointment and later moved to the vice presidency.
D. Both records concern the same appointment to the vice presidency.

15. Two fictional accession notes describe otherwise comparable official presidential memos created in 1978 and 1982. Which falls within the period covered by the Presidential Records Act of 1978?

A. Both memos
B. The 1978 memo only
C. The 1982 memo only
D. Neither memo