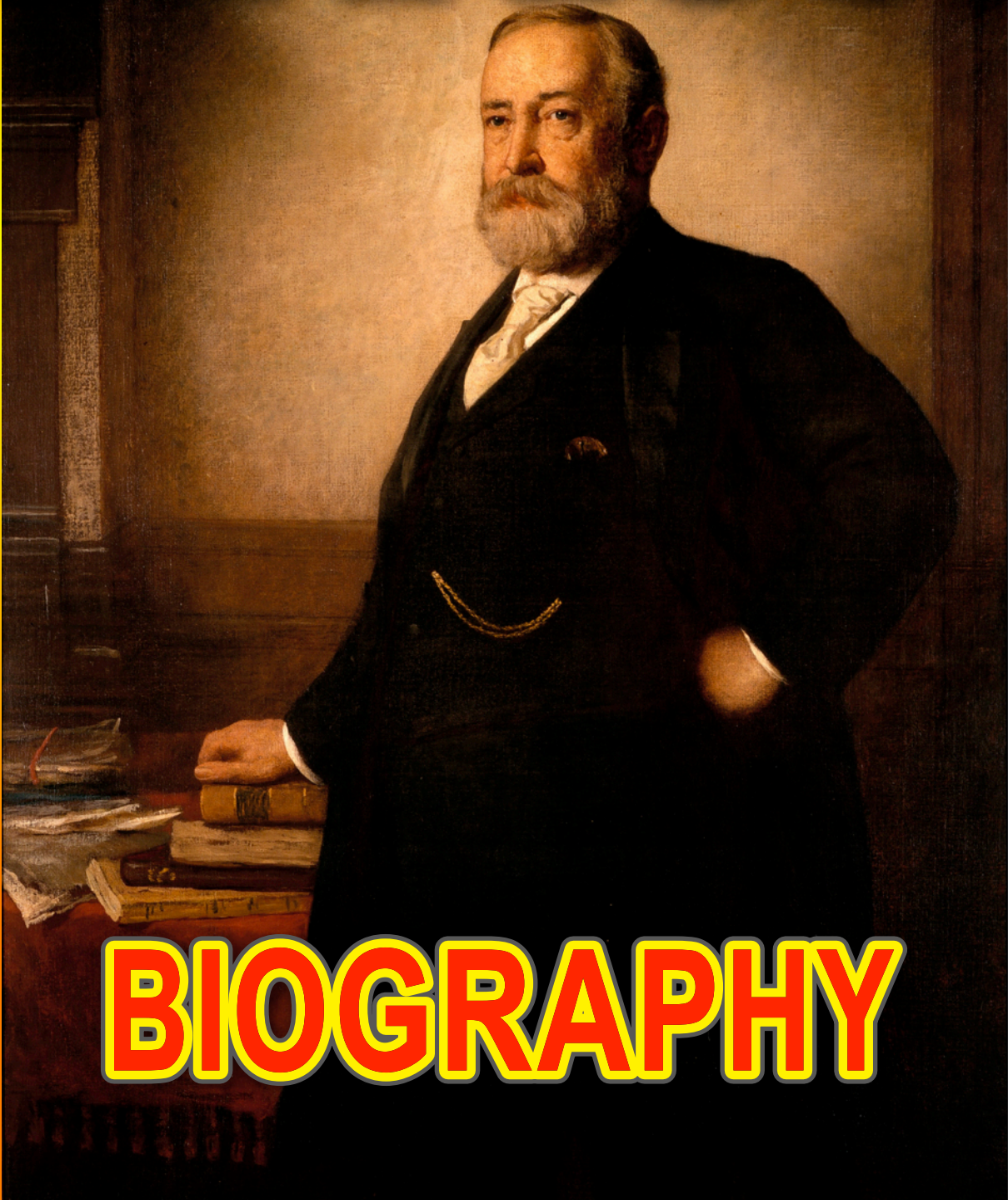


BENJAMIN HARRISON



BIOGRAPHY

BENJAMIN HARRISON

Benjamin Harrison (August 20, 1833 – March 13, 1901) was the grandson of the ninth President, William Henry Harrison. He was born in Ohio.

Harrison was a lawyer in Indiana and served the Union in the Civil War. He was elected to the Senate for Indiana. Harrison was a Republican. He was strongly in favour of protection barriers (tariffs) which Grover Cleveland had been against. That is how he defeated Grover Cleveland.

When elected he soon set about raising high trade barriers against the outside world. In other matters he began to establish National Forests and was keen on education being funded by the federal government as well as improving African-Americans' voting rights, but he made limited progress.

In 1890, the Battle of Wounded Knee took place, in which federal troops fought against the Sioux Native Americans, leaving 150 Sioux people dead.

While Harrison was president, the United States gained several states, including Montana, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota. He also pushed for the annexation of Hawaii.

But then the tide turned and high barriers to trade became unpopular, so he lost the next election and Grover Cleveland returned. Later on, Harrison taught at Stanford University in San Francisco, California. In 1901, Harrison died of pneumonia in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'limited'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'limited' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'limited'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'limited'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'limited' means.

Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: establish	set up

Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

Harrison was on the Union's side in the Civil War.

This meant that Harrison lost the next election.

Later on, people were against trade barriers.

As president, Harrison established National Forests.

Benjamin Harrison was born in Ohio in 1833.

Harrison also raised trade barriers against other countries.

Later, Harrison was elected to the Senate for Indiana.

Get to the facts

1 Who was Benjamin Harrison's grandfather?

2 Who did Harrison defeat to become president?

3 Which battle took place in 1890?

4 Who defeated Harrison at the next election?

5 Where did Harrison die?

Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

Young Benjamin Harrison

I was just seven years old when my grandfather, William Henry Harrison, became president. I remember when I found out... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'limited'.
- b From that sentence, suggest what 'limited' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'limited'.
- d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'limited'.
- e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'limited' means.

Finding key words:

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym).

For example:

Key word – establish Synonym – set up

Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

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