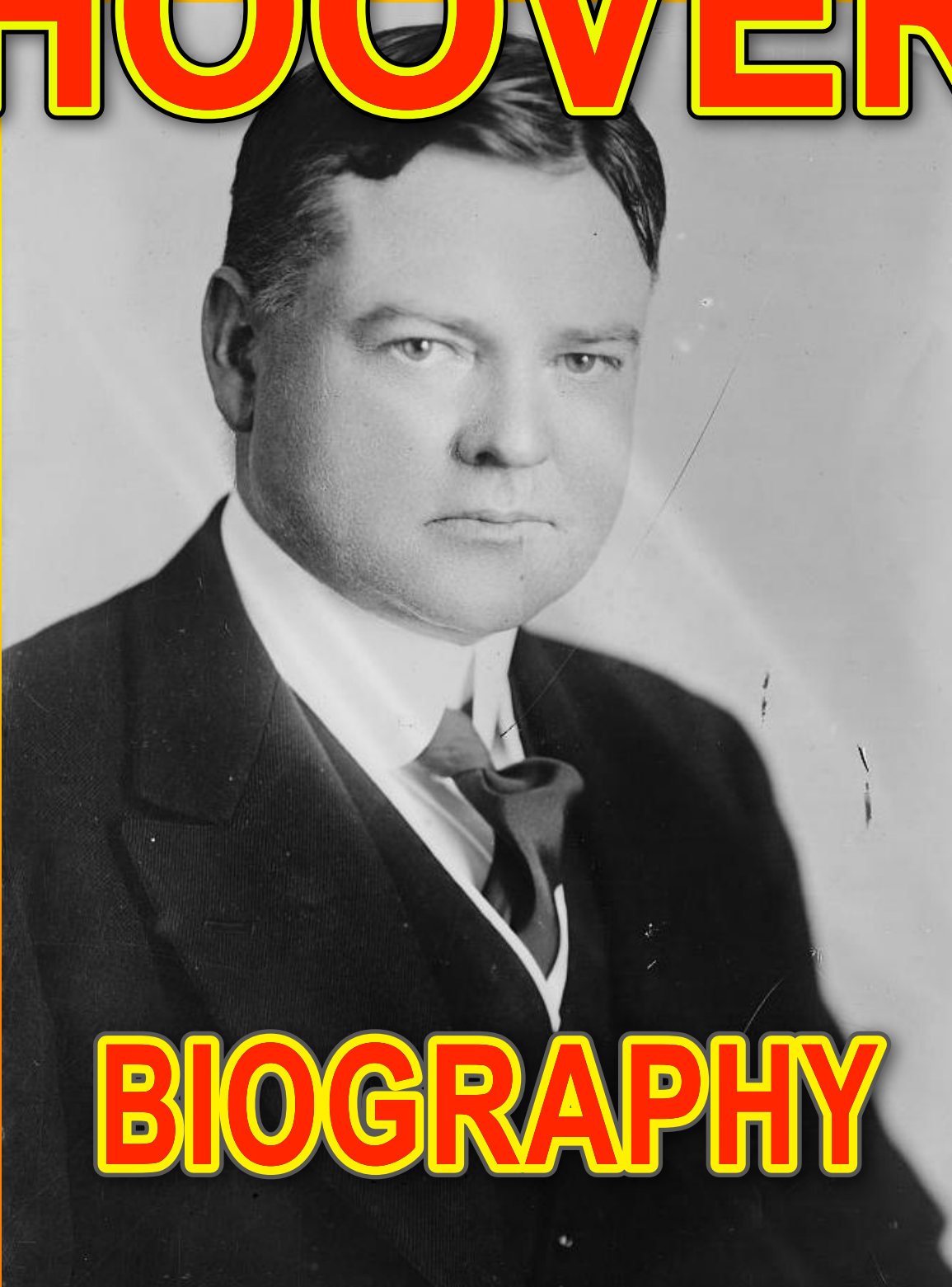


HERBERT HOOVER



BIOGRAPHY

HERBERT HOOVER

Herbert Clark Hoover was born on August 10, 1874, in West Branch, Iowa. But when he was a child, Hoover's parents both died, and he grew up with his uncle and aunt in Oregon. He became a mining engineer.

Hoover easily won the Republican nomination, despite having no elected-office experience or military experience. The problem, that nobody foresaw at the time, was that the country was doing too well. It was all about to crash. When it happened in 1929 it was called the Great Depression.

Hoover had to find a way of dealing with the problem, although he knew it could not be solved in the short term. One of his main ways of getting firms and people back to work was to start huge building projects, including the dam named for him on the Colorado River, on the border between Arizona and Nevada.

He was a strong supporter of stopping public alcohol drinking (prohibition), and this was unpopular. In all, the Depression was something that no president could put right in a single term. But he did lay the foundation for recovery.

Hoover lost out at the next election to Franklin D. Roosevelt. Roosevelt came in with plans like the New Deal to try to recover from the Great Depression, and Hoover attacked these ideas in his writings and speeches. Hoover continued to write and speak out against government plans he opposed until he died on October 20, 1964, in New York.

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 'foundation'.

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

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

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

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'foundation' 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: foresaw	predicted

Sequencing

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

But Hoover also supported prohibition, which made him unpopular.

Herbert Hoover was born in Iowa, and grew up in Oregon.

In the next election, Hoover lost out to Franklin D. Roosevelt.

While he was president, the Great Depression hit America.

Hoover encouraged building projects like the Hoover Dam to keep people in work.

Later, Hoover became president.

Hoover first became a mining engineer.

Get to the facts

1 Where was Hoover born?

2 Which river is the Hoover Dam on?

3 When did the Great Depression start?

4 Who won the next election?

5 When did Hoover die?

Make a story...

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

Visiting the Hoover Dam

Today the Hoover Dam is a tourist attraction. Imagine you have just visited it. Write a postcard to your friend about the trip... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'foundation'.
- b From that sentence, suggest what 'foundation' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'foundation'.
- d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'foundation'.
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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 – foresaw Synonym – predicted

Sequencing:

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