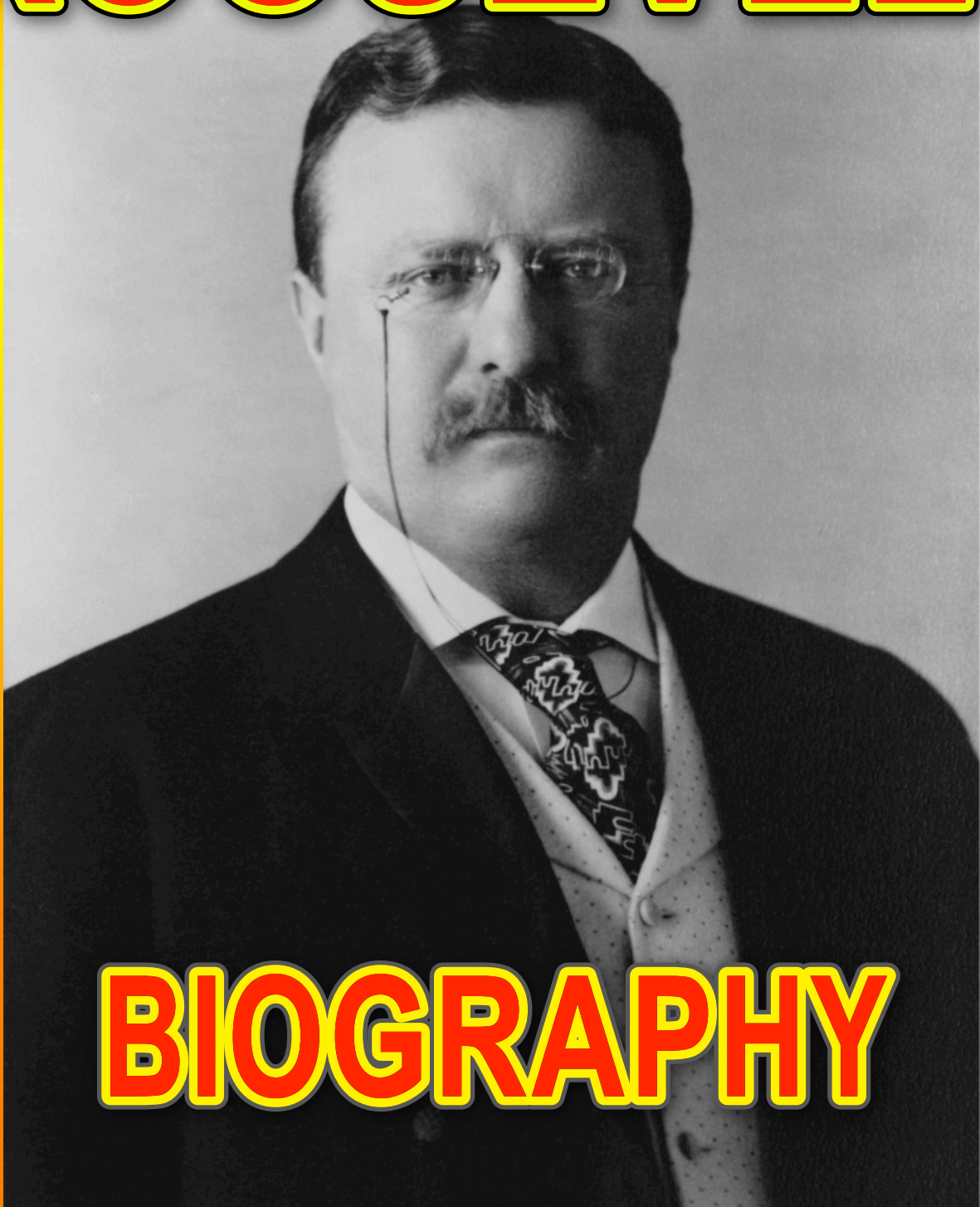


THEODORE ROOSEVELT



BIOGRAPHY

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Theodore "T.R." Roosevelt, Jr. (October 27, 1858 – January 6, 1919) was a leader of the Republican Party and founder of the Progressive Party. He is remembered for a wide range of interests, not just politics, but history, nature and sport. He is often thought of as having a "cowboy" personality.

Roosevelt was born to a wealthy family in New York. However, he was often ill as a child and suffered from asthma. To try to overcome this he went in for great fitness and sportsmanship, and then developed a love of nature. He studied biology at Harvard.

In the 1890s he became New York City Police Commissioner, then ran the Navy Department during the Spanish-American War of 1898. He became Governor of New York. Roosevelt became President after McKinley was assassinated. Roosevelt called his domestic policies a "Square Deal", promising a fair deal to the average citizen while breaking up large corporations.

He greatly expanded the system of national parks and national forests. He was responsible for building the Panama Canal. He negotiated an end to the Russo-Japanese War, for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize.

From 1914 to 1917 he campaigned for American entry into World War I. He is on Mount Rushmore together with George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Abraham Lincoln.

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 'personality'.

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

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

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

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'personality' 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: wealthy	rich

Sequencing

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

As president, Roosevelt oversaw the building of the Panama Canal.

Then Roosevelt ran the Navy Department during the Spanish-American War.

As a child, Roosevelt had asthma, and he became sporty to overcome this.

Roosevelt was born in New York in 1858.

Between 1914-1917, Roosevelt campaigned for America to take part in World War I.

In the 1890s, Roosevelt became New York City Police Commissioner.

After President McKinley was assassinated, Roosevelt became president.

Get to the facts

1 Which party did Roosevelt found?

2 Where was Roosevelt born?

3 Which department did Roosevelt run in 1898?

4 What did Roosevelt call his domestic policies?

5 Name the three people on Mount Rushmore besides Roosevelt.

Make a story...

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

A love of nature

Imagine you are visiting a national park that Roosevelt set up. Write a letter to President Roosevelt saying how you are enjoying the park... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

- a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'personality'.
- b From that sentence, suggest what 'personality' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'personality'.
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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 – wealthy Synonym – rich

Sequencing:

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