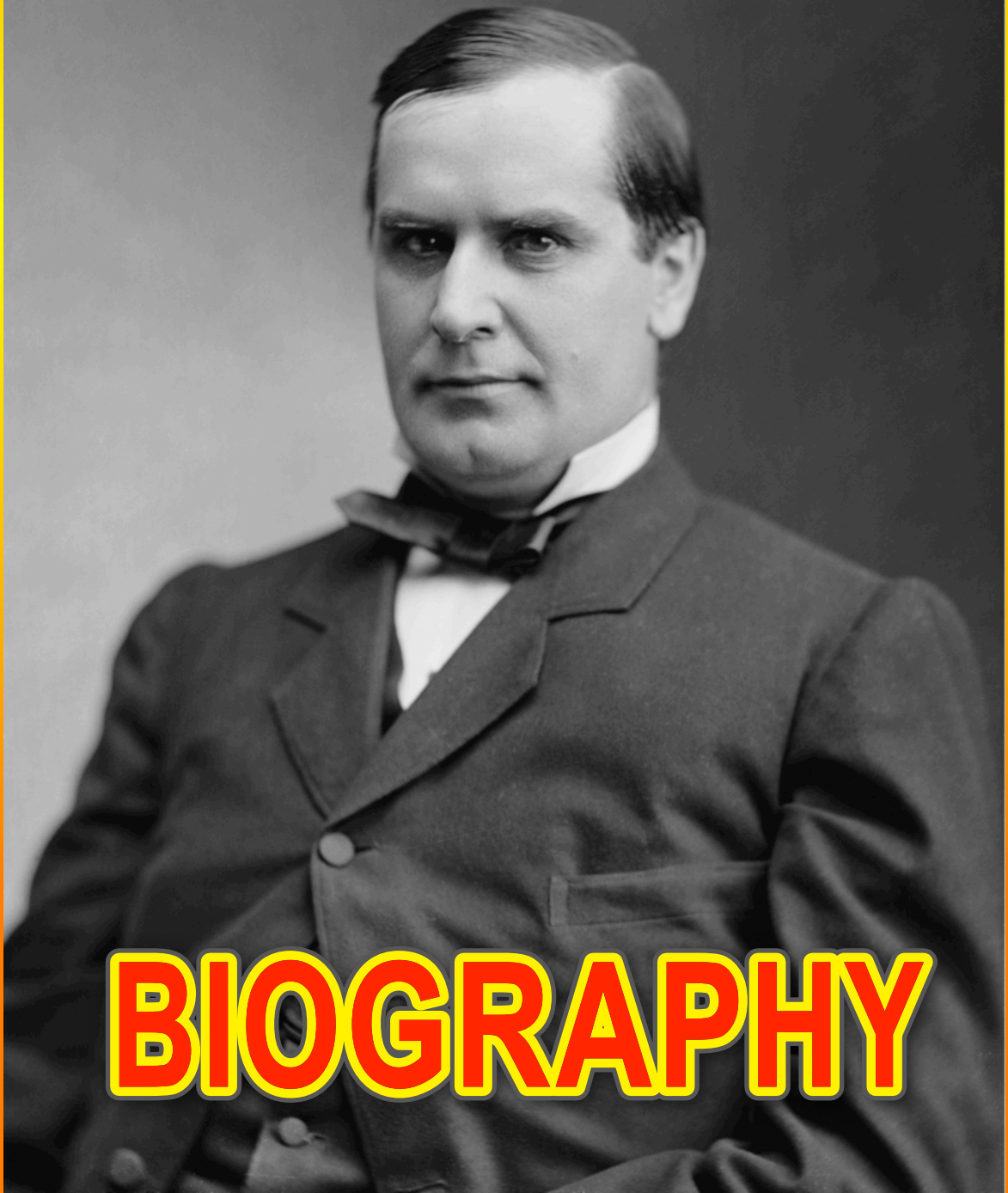


WILLIAM MCKINLEY



BIOGRAPHY

WILLIAM MCKINLEY

William McKinley (January 29, 1843 – September 14, 1901) was assassinated in September 1901, six months into his second term. McKinley was the last president to have served in the Civil War. McKinley was an attorney from Ohio.

Before becoming president, McKinley spent fourteen years in the U.S. Congress, and was Governor of Ohio for two terms.

As public opinion see-sawed over the business of protecting trade, protection became popular again and Grover Cleveland was out, and William McKinley came in with the objective of raising barriers again.

McKinley was president in the Spanish–American War of 1898. That was when America got indefinite colonial authority over Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippine islands from Spain. It turned America into a colonial nation, something originally it had fought to shake itself free from. The United States annexed the independent Republic of Hawaii in 1898 and it became a U.S. territory.

While he was president, trade barriers caused America to prosper. President McKinley was assassinated by Leon Czolgosz, a Polish-American who was an anarchist (someone who believed in no government). McKinley was on tour in Buffalo, New York, at the time.

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 'see-sawed'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'see-sawed' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'see-sawed'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'see-sawed'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'see-sawed' 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: objective	aim

Sequencing

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

While McKinley was president, America took control of Puerto Rico and other areas.

William McKinley was born on January 29, 1843.

The United States also gained the territory of Hawaii.

McKinley became president, and he aimed to raise trade barriers.

This meant that America was now a colonial power.

In 1901, President McKinley was assassinated by an anarchist.

McKinley was in the U.S. Congress and Governor of Ohio.

Get to the facts

1 How long did McKinley spend in Congress?

2 Which war took place in 1898?

3 When was the Republic of Hawaii annexed?

4 Who assassinated McKinley?

5 When was McKinley assassinated?

Make a story...

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

McKinley on tour

Imagine you are in Buffalo, New York to watch McKinley make a speech... (now complete the story)

Below is a plain text version for printing:

Understanding words:

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- b From that sentence, suggest what 'see-sawed' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'see-sawed'.
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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 – objective Synonym – aim

Sequencing:

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

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