

# Market House Museum's American First Families Quiz

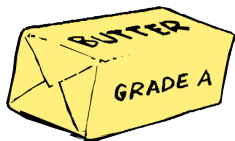
*(Answers are on the bottom of page three)*



1. First lady Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of Franklin D. Roosevelt, was asked by her friend Ms. Hickok to go and see the poverty in certain areas of the United States during the Depression. Eleanor did, and was appalled. She bought land from a family named Arthur, and started planning public housing for the needy families. When many scoffed at her project (which went greatly over budget) she promptly paid for part of the building of the homes herself. One man who lived in the community she fostered and built, said his family woke up in hell one morning, and went to bed in heaven the next night. Eleanor went to the school graduations each year and went to gatherings, dancing square dances with the once destitute coal mining families! What was the name of this community? A. Arthurdale B. Arthurville C. Arthur Valley.



2. President Calvin Coolidge and his wife, Grace, were plain and simple folk. When Coolidge's predecessor, President Harding died, Coolidge was fast asleep at his father's home. He was awakened in the middle of the night and was sworn in as president by his father, who was a judge. Grace Coolidge, clad in a bathrobe, held the coal oil lamp so her father-in-law could read the script of the oath. Immediately after this homely occasion was carried out, what did Coolidge do? A. promptly went back to bed and back to sleep B. took a carriage ride to the train to go to Washington as soon as possible C. went to the local newspaper office and woke up the editor to chat.



3. President Harry Truman's wife, Bess Wallace Truman, was a particular housekeeper who kept a tight ship as far as keeping an eye on the family finances. She was also unhappy with the food in the White House, especially the cold, hard dry dinner rolls they were served every night, along with the hated, hard-as-knots Brussel sprouts. It all came to a head with the housekeeper Henrietta Nesbit, over what? A. Bess asked for a stick of butter to take as her contribution to a gathering and was refused the right to do so B. Ms. Nesbitt balked at the request, and told Bess that she would have to pay for the butter if she wanted to take it with her C. Mrs. Nesbitt told her she would have to select another pantry item to take, the butter was not going anywhere. (Mrs. Nesbitt was also let go after the aforementioned episode took place!)



4. President Dwight D. Eisenhower was married to Mamie Doud Eisenhower. They had two sons, one of whom died at age three of scarlet fever. John, the second child, lived to go on to be a historian for all the White House children of all the presidents. Mamie loved the color pink. One night, the president's nose was dry, and he put Vick's in his nose from off the bedside table. Instead of getting relief, his nose became more irritated and dry. But he went back off to sleep, only to wake up the next morning and discover what had happened during the night. A. He had put black ink in his nose, and he, the first lady, and the pink headboard and spread were splotted and covered in black B. He had used a pot of rubber cement thinking it was Vick's C. He had put Mamie's jelly-like hair pomade, called "Dippity-Do" in his nostrils by accident.



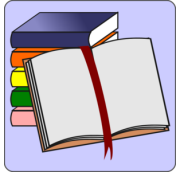
5. President William McKinley, whose favorite flower was the carnation, was a quiet Scotch-Irish diplomat married to Ida Saxton McKinley. Ida was an invalid; she had lost two daughters early in their marriage and was an epileptic. She was well educated and had held the position of cashier at her father's bank for several years at the time of her marriage. McKinley was devoted to her, and loved her very much. She was always seen dressed in the latest fashion; tiny and delicate, her large husband could not stand to see the contortions of her pretty doll-like face when she was having a grand mal seizure. Because of this, what did McKinley do when a spell came upon her in public? A. He would cover her head and face with a large dinner napkin B. He would pick her up and carry her out of the room to their private quarters C. He would call for the doctor to put an oxygen mask over her face.



6. First Lady Eliza McCardle Johnson was the only daughter of a widowed mother, and was teaching school in a mountain village in Tennessee when Andrew Johnson met and married her. She helped educate her husband, who could not read when he met her. He had never been fortunate enough to even attend a day of school. Their daughter, Martha was sent to college and was often a guest during the Polk presidency. She also served as hostess for her father, since her mother was in poor health later in life. What did Johnson do as a profession before becoming president after Lincoln's assassination? A. he was a grocery store owner B. he was a tailor and made suits and clothes for men C. he was a horse trainer for race tracks in Tennessee.



7. General Harrison, the hero of frontier days from the Ohio River to the Great Lakes, came to the White House at 68 years of age. He gave a long winded acceptance speech at his Inauguration on a very cold, windy, blustery day. Later he went back to the White House and ate iced cherries and other fancy, hard to digest foods. That night he went into a chill himself, and ended by dying of pleurisy and pneumonia in about a month. How many children did he and his wife, Anna Semmes Harrison have? A. six sons and four daughters B. seven sons C. They had no children at all, only two devoted nieces.



8. This first lady, Barbara Pierce Bush, was born on June 8, 1925, the daughter of Marvin and Pauline Pierce. She went to Smith College and received several honorary degrees from other colleges as well! She married George Bush in 1945. They had five surviving children. One child, Robin, died of leukemia in 1953. It was during this time that Barbara's hair turned snow white. She was a devout supporter of literacy programs in America. She authored four books, and autobiographical works as well. Mrs. Bush was not only the wife of a former president, but the mother of one as well! What was her father's profession? A. He published Redbook and McCall's magazines B. He was a full time professor C. He was a diplomat in the United States Diplomatic Corps.



9. This charming first lady was well educated at Mrs. Porter's School in Farmington, CT as well as at Vassar, and also attended the Sorbonne in Paris. She returned to America after winning Vogue's Prix de Paris Award for excellence in design and editorial ability. She completed her BA and went to work as the Inquiring Camera Girl for the Washington Times-Herald at the time she and her husband were introduced. After becoming the first couple, she took on the redecoration of the White House, finding true artifacts from previous presidencies. She shared something with Mary Todd Lincoln at the time of her husband's demise. They both were sitting next to their husbands at the time of their assassination. Who was this youthful first lady? A. Lucretia Garfield B. Ida McKinley C. Jacqueline Kennedy.



10. This president, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, could not walk unaided after he was struck with polio. As a result, he could not go everywhere and interview or see things first hand. He and his wife were an astute team of supporters for the American cause however, and she was a travelling investigator for him, taking the train, flying or driving to places to see firsthand what the real situation of the American people was, during the Great Depression as well as in wartime. There was nowhere she would not venture. A cartoon of Eleanor was one long remembered. The cartoon was drawn as she would have been investigating a coal mine. The caption by an astounded coal mine worker, related, A. "My God, she's digging the coal herself!" B. "Oh, my God, It's Eleanor Roosevelt!" C. "She has a black face now like the rest of us poor coal miners!"



11. This first lady, Louisa Catherine Adams, gave wonderful parties and soirees in the White House, to bring together constituents that might help the United States in its diplomatic positions abroad. She played the pianoforte as well as the concert harp. She dressed in the latest fashion. Her son, Charles Francis Adams became Minister to England at President Abraham Lincoln's request. Where was this talented first lady, married to the president son of President John Adams, born? A. Washington B. Paris C. London.

**ANSWERS:** 1-A, 2-A, 3-A, 4-A, 5-A, 6-B, 7-A, 8-A, 9-C, 10-B, 11-C.