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CALVIN COOLIDGE

http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/calvin_coolidge.html



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THE READING / LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/calvin_coolidge.html

John Calvin Coolidge, Jr. was the 30th President of the United States, serving between 1923 and 1929. He was born in Plymouth, Vermont, on July 4, 1872, the son of a village storekeeper. He graduated from Amherst College with honors, and entered law and politics in Massachusetts. Slowly, he went up the political ladder from councilman in Northampton to Governor of Massachusetts.

One of his first duties as Governor was to deal with the Boston police strike in 1919. He brought in the National Guard and fired all striking officers. Newspapers across the nation reported on his decisive action and gave him the reputation of a strong leader. He became Vice President in 1921 and attended many of President Warren Harding's cabinet meetings – the first Vice President to do so.

On August 2, 1923, President Harding died suddenly. Coolidge was in Vermont visiting his family. He found out about the President's death via messenger. He took the oath of office in his family's home under the light of a kerosene lamp, as they had no electricity. As President, Coolidge promised to preserve the traditional American ways amid the economic prosperity that many Americans were enjoying.

Coolidge was re-elected in 1924 because of what was known as "Coolidge prosperity." In his inaugural speech he stated that the country had achieved "a state of contentment seldom before seen." He spoke out in favor of the civil rights of African Americans. He became even more popular by lowering taxes. After he left office, he wrote his autobiography in 1929. He died of a heart attack in 1933.

Text adapted from www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/calvincoolidge



LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/calvin_coolidge.html

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One of his first duties as Governor _____ Boston police strike in 1919. He brought in the National Guard and fired all striking officers. Newspapers across the nation _____ action and gave _____ strong leader. He became Vice President in 1921 and attended many of President Warren Harding's cabinet meetings – the first Vice President to do so.

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Coolidge was re-elected in 1924 because of what was known as "Coolidge prosperity." In _____ he stated that the country had achieved "a state of contentment seldom before seen." He _____ the civil rights of African Americans. He became even more popular by lowering taxes. After he left office, he _____ in 1929. He died of a heart attack in 1933.





CORRECT THE SPELLING

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UNJUMBLE THE WORDS

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____





STUDENT CALVIN COOLIDGE SURVEY

From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/calvin_coolidge.html

Write five GOOD questions about Calvin Coolidge in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.



HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET INFO: Search the Internet and find more information about Calvin Coolidge. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Calvin Coolidge. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. CALVIN COOLIDGE POSTER Make a poster about Calvin Coolidge. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

5. MY CALVIN COOLIDGE LESSON: Make your own English lesson on Calvin Coolidge. Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Teach the class / another group when you have finished.

6. ONLINE SHARING: Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, MySpace page, Twitter stream, Del-icio-us / StumbleUpon account, or any other social media tool to get opinions on Calvin Coolidge. Share your findings with the class.

