



# Lessons on American Presidents.com

## JAMES GARFIELD

[http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james\\_garfield.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james_garfield.html)



Photo from [www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents](http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents)

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## THE READING / LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james\\_garfield.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james_garfield.html)

James Garfield was born in Ohio, in 1831. Fatherless at two, he later drove canal boat teams, somehow earning enough money for an education. He graduated from Williams College in Massachusetts in 1856, and later returned to Ohio as a classics professor. Within a year he was made its president. He served 200 days as the 20th President of the United States before being assassinated in 1881.

Garfield was elected to the Ohio Senate in 1859 as a Republican. During the secession crisis, he argued for strengthening the Union. In 1862, when Union military victories had been few, he successfully led a brigade in Kentucky, against Confederate troops. Ohioans elected him to Congress. He repeatedly won re-election for 18 years (nine terms), and became the leading Republican in the House.

At the 1880 Republican Convention, Garfield became the "dark horse" nominee. In the Presidential election, Garfield defeated the Democratic nominee, Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, by a margin of only 10,000 popular votes. As President, Garfield successfully managed a national debt crisis. He also appointed several African Americans to prominent positions in his administration.

On July 2, 1881, President Garfield was on his way to Williams College, where he was due to make a speech. As he walked through a Washington railway station, he was shot twice by an assassin, Charles J. Guiteau and mortally wounded. He lay in the White House for weeks before dying from an infection and internal bleeding on September 19. He was 49. His final words were: "My work is done."

Text adapted from [www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/jamesgarfield](http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/presidents/jamesgarfield)



## LISTENING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james\\_garfield.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james_garfield.html)

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## 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 JAMES GARFIELD SURVEY

From: [http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james\\_garfield.html](http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/james_garfield.html)

Write five GOOD questions about James Garfield 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 James Garfield. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. JAMES GARFIELD POSTER** Make a poster about James Garfield. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

**5. MY JAMES GARFIELD LESSON:** Make your own English lesson on James Garfield. 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 James Garfield. Share your findings with the class.

