

# Lessons on American Presidents.com

# HARRY S. TRUMAN

http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/harry\_s\_truman.html

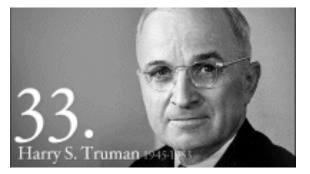


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# **THE READING / LISTENING TAPESCRIPT**

From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/harry\_s\_truman.html

Harry S. Truman was the 33rd President of the United States (1945-1953). Truman was born in Missouri in 1884 and grew up on his family's farm. He went to France during World War I as a captain. Returning, he married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace, and opened a wool shop in Kansas City. Truman was the only president who served after 1897 without a college degree. His poor eyesight halted his studies.

Active in the Democratic Party, Truman was elected a judge of the Jackson County Court (an administrative position) in 1922. He became a Senator in 1934. During World War II he headed the Senate war investigating committee, checking into waste and corruption and saved up to \$15 billion and thousands of lives. His efforts put him on the cover of 'Time' magazine in 1943.

Truman became vice president in 1944. He succeeded to the presidency on April 12, 1945, when President Roosevelt died. He told reporters, "I felt like the moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on me." As President, Truman made some of the most crucial decisions in history, including the nuclear attacks on Japan, the defense of Berlin against communism, and America's entry into the Korean War.

In June 1945 Truman witnessed the signing of the charter of the United Nations and negotiated the alliance that became NATO. After WWII, he presented to Congress his "Fair Deal" to modernize the USA and introduce greater social welfare. He also oversaw the Marshall Plan, which brought economic recovery in war-torn Western Europe. He decided not to run for a third term. He died in 1972 aged 88.

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

## ★ LISTENING GAP FILL

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## **CORRECT THE SPELLING**

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# **UNJUMBLE THE WORDS**

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#### **DISCUSSION** (Write your own questions) <u>STUDENT A's QUESTIONS</u> (Do not show these to student B)

1.	 
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4.	 
5.	 
6.	

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#### **DISCUSSION** (Write your own questions) <u>STUDENT B's QUESTIONS</u> (Do not show these to student A)

1.	 	 
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4.	 	
5.	 	 
6.	 	 

#### **STUDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN SURVEY**

From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/harry\_s\_truman.html

Write five GOOD questions about Harry S. Truman 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.



From: http://www.LessonsOnAmericanPresidents.com/harry\_s\_truman.html

Write about Harry S. Truman for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.





### 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 Harry S. Truman. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. HARRY S. TRUMAN POSTER** Make a poster about Harry S. Truman. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

**5. MY HARRY S. TRUMAN LESSON:** Make your own English lesson on Harry S. Truman. 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 Harry S. Truman. Share your findings with the class.