

NAME _____ DATE _____



JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
(1917-1963)



John Fitzgerald Kennedy was America's 35th President. He was born on May 29, 1917 in Brookline, Massachusetts to Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy and Joseph Patrick Kennedy. John was one of nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy. John was called Jack by his family. As a child he suffered frequent illnesses, including whooping cough and measles. He had scarlet fever when he was only two years old. Jack attended boarding school at Choate in Connecticut. He graduated from high school in 1938 and entered Harvard University. He joined his brother Joe on the football team and injured his back while playing in a game. He never fully recovered from this injury. Jack Kennedy joined the Navy upon graduation from college and was assigned as commander of the PT-109. He was hailed as a hero in an attack by a Japanese warship rammed into the PT-109 and was able to help his men to safety during this attack. Jack was elected to the United States House of Representatives and served three terms before being elected to the United States Senate. Jack married Jacqueline Bouvier soon after he was elected to the Senate. They became the parents of two children, Caroline and John, Jr.

Jack Kennedy ran for President of the United States in 1960 and became President at the young age of forty-three. He was the youngest person to ever be elected President of the United States and the first Catholic president. President Kennedy created the Peace Corps, which is a program where Americans can volunteer where help is needed. This program still exists in America today. President Kennedy is remembered for his work in space exploration and in the Civil Rights Movement in America.

President Kennedy and his wife were in Dallas, Texas on November 22, 1963 when President Kennedy was shot and killed in a motorcade. His death caused much sadness in America and around the world. President Kennedy is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. He is remembered for his excellent speeches, aid to the poor and his love for the American people.

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ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

1. Which of the following would be the BEST title for this writing?
 - a. John Kennedy, A War Hero
 - b. John Kennedy, Our 35th President
 - c. The Kennedy Family
 - d. Our Friends in Washington

2. Kennedy received his back injury
 - a. playing football with his family
 - b. on the PT-109
 - c. while he was President
 - d. none of these

3. The Peace Corp was created _____.
 - a. after Kennedy's death
 - b. while he was in the Senate
 - c. during Kennedy's presidency
 - d. by Kennedy's mother

4. Which of the following is NOT true?
 - a. Kennedy was the only child of his parents.
 - b. Kennedy attended Harvard University.
 - c. Kennedy married Jacqueline Bouvier.
 - d. Kennedy had two children.

5. What was Kennedy's first political office?
 - a. The United States Senate
 - b. The Presidency
 - c. The United States House of Representatives
 - d. Commander of the Army

6. Where was Kennedy when he was shot?
 - a. in Washington
 - b. in Houston
 - c. in Atlanta
 - d. in Dallas

7. What illness did Kennedy have at the age of two?
 - a. chicken pox
 - b. scarlet fever
 - c. polio
 - d. a spine injury

8. Kennedy is remembered for _____.
 - a. his love of the American people.
 - b. his aid to the poor
 - c. his excellent speeches
 - d. all of these