

# Presidents and Important Events

The following historical events occurred on their watch. Find out which president was in office during each event in U.S. history. Write a brief summary defining each event.

<b>14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b>	Andrew Johnson - The 14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment gave citizenship to all people born in the United States, including Native Americans and former slaves.
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b>	Ulysses S. Grant - The 15 <sup>th</sup> Amendment granted African American men (all male citizens) the right to vote.
<b>9/11 Terrorist Attacks</b>	George W. Bush was president when terrorists crash landed four hijacked airplanes into the Pentagon, World Trade Center buildings, and Pennsylvania landscape.
<b>Hawaiian Islands Annexation</b>	William McKinley wanted the US to have a base in the Pacific to help with trade to China. Islands were annexed in 1898
<b>Fall of the Berlin Wall</b>	Ronald Reagan was president when a wall built in WWII in the city of Berlin separated free Germans of West Berlin from those in East Berlin. Signaled an end to the cold war in Europe.
<b>British soldiers set fire to the White House, the Capital, and other buildings in Washington, DC.</b>	James Madison - It is said his wife Dolly rescued the portrait of George Washington from a burning White House.
<b>California Gold Rush</b>	James Knox Polk - Gold was discovered in California in 1848. Many men left their homes to seek a fortune as miners.
<b>Camp David Accords</b>	Jimmy Carter hosted leaders from Israel and Egypt at the presidential retreat of Camp David. The peace treaty signed there is called the Camp David Accords.
<b>Chinese Exclusion Act</b>	Chester Arthur signed this federal law in 1882. The law stopped Chinese immigration into the United States.
<b>Establishment of Civil Service Commission</b>	Chester A. Arthur created the Civil Service commission and exam to make sure workers chosen were the best candidates for government jobs.
<b>Compromise of 1850</b>	A set of five bills Millard Fillmore signed into law. 1. Admit California as a free state. 2. Settle the Texas boundary and pay compensation for it. 3. Grant territorial status to New Mexico. 4. Place federal officers at the disposal of slaveholders seeking fugitives. 5. Abolish slave trade in DC.
<b>Compromise of 1877</b>	The 1876 election was so close there was no clear winner. Republican leaders made a deal with Democratic leaders to put Rutherford B Hayes in the White House. In return, all Federal troops would withdraw from the South, marking the end of the Reconstruction Era.
<b>Construction of Panama Canal</b>	Theodore Roosevelt was successful in buying the Canal Zone from the newly formed country of Panama. Construction took about ten years and cost about \$375,000,000.
<b>Dedication of the Statue of Liberty</b>	Grover Cleveland dedicated the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor on October 28, 1886. The statue was a gift from France to honor the French-American alliance during the Revolutionary War.
<b>Emancipation Proclamation</b>	Abraham Lincoln issued this proclamation on January 1, 1863. The proclamation declared "that all persons held as slaves within the rebellious states are, and henceforward shall be, free."
<b>Establishment of Trade with Japan</b>	Millard Fillmore sent Commodore

<b>Matthew Perry to Japan</b>	to speak with Japanese rulers to open trade.
<b>Exxon Valdez Disaster</b>	The Exxon Valdez oil tanker ran aground in Alaska spilling oil and causing the worst environmental disaster during the watch of George H. W. Bush
<b>Fair Deal</b>	Harry S. Truman's plan for the country to expand Social Security, create new wage and hour laws, provide public housing, and change hiring practices to prevent racial discrimination.
<b>Kansas-Nebraska Act</b>	Franklin Pierce signed the Kansas-Nebraska Act which repealed the Missouri Compromise, allowing slavery in the territories north of the 36° 30' latitude
<b>Formation of League of Nations</b>	After WWI, Woodrow Wilson met with other European nations to create the League of Nations. The goal of this organization was to create a plan for lasting world peace.
<b>Lewis and Clark Expedition</b>	Thomas Jefferson commissioned explorers Merriweather Lewis and William Clark to find a water and land route across America for the purpose of commerce.
<b>Louisiana Purchase</b>	In 1803, Thomas Jefferson bought the Louisiana Territory from the French. Buying the land almost doubled the size of the United States.
<b>Manifest Destiny</b>	Manifest Destiny was the belief that the United States should expand its borders from coast to coast. During his term, James Knox Polk increased the size of the US by two thirds.
<b>Missouri Compromise</b>	The Missouri Compromise allowed Missouri to enter the union as a slave state while Maine entered as a free state. James Monroe was the president at the time.
<b>Establishment of National Parks</b>	Ulysses S. Grant established the first National Park, called Yellowstone, in 1872.
<b>Formation of NATO</b>	Harry S. Truman helped form NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), which united governments from the United States, Western Europe, and Canada.
<b>Oregon Trail</b>	James K. Polk was president during the time of the Oregon Trail. Families left the east traveling overland to the Oregon Territory to homestead.
<b>Establishment of Peace Corps</b>	John F. Kenney signed the executive order establishing the Peace Corps.
<b>Purchase of Panama Canal Lands</b>	Theodore Roosevelt bought the Panama canal lands in 1902.
<b>Seward's Folly</b>	Andrew Johnson was president when the United States bought Alaska from Russia in 1867. Many people thought it was foolish and called it "Seward's Folly" after the Secretary of State who signed the treaty.
<b>Sherman Anti-Trust Act</b>	Benjamin Harrison passed the Sherman Anti-Trust Act in 1890. It outlawed the practice of one company controlling an entire industry.
<b>Teapot Dome Scandal</b>	After Warren G. Harding died in office, it was discovered that one of his cabinet members had taken a bribe to allow private drilling of oil on public lands in the Teapot Dome area of Wyoming.
<b>The Dred Scott Affair</b>	James Buchanan was president when Dred Scott, a slave in Missouri, moved to free state Illinois and tried to sue for his freedom. Supreme Court ruled he was property and not a citizen.

<b>The Great Depression</b>	The Great Depression was a severe economic slump beginning in 1929 during President Herbert Hoover's time in office. Many people lost their jobs, homes, and endured severe famine.
<b>The Monroe Doctrine</b>	The Monroe Doctrine is a declaration made by President James Monroe warning other countries that efforts to colonize in North America would be considered an act of aggression.
<b>The New Deal</b>	The New Deal was a program created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt ,which created jobs and helped regulate the banking industry.
<b>The Panic of 1837</b>	Shortly after Martin Van Buren took office, banks closed, businesses closed, and people lost their jobs. This recession was the first in American history and lasted three years.
<b>The Trail of Tears</b>	While Martin Van Buren was president, Federal troops forced thousands of Cherokee Indians to relocate from Georgia to what is now Oklahoma. Many Cherokees died during the trip. Their route is called the Trail of Tears.
<b>The XYZ Affair</b>	President John Adams sent leaders to discuss a peace treaty with France. The French demanded a bribe. The Frenchmen were identified only as "X", "Y" and "Z".
<b>Treaty of Ghent</b>	James Madison ended the War of 1812 by signing the Treaty of Ghent with the British. One result of the treaty established a boundary or border between the United States and Canada.
<b>Treaty of Versailles</b>	President Woodrow Wilson's efforts on the Treaty of Versailles helped him earn a Nobel Peace Prize. Ultimately rejected by the US Congress, the Treaty was created to stabilize Europe after WWI.
<b>Truman Doctrine</b>	A policy set forth by President Harry S. Truman which called for the US to help any country fighting to remain a free from Communist rule.
<b>U.S. Lunar Mission</b>	On July 29, 1969, during Richard M. Nixon's first term, American astronauts landed on the moon.
<b>United Nations established</b>	On October 24 1945, Harry S. Truman helped establish the United Nations. This organization is designed to prevent wars, protect people's rights and give economic aid to countries in need.
<b>Watergate Scandal</b>	Richard Nixon lied to Congress and was impeached over his role in the cover up of a burglary at the Democratic Party National Committee offices located in the Watergate Hotel.