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| Martin Van Buren (1837 - 1841) Exercises | about-the-world.org/3941 | Video and exercises |

**Match terms**

*Task: Match each term with the appropriate explanation!*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (A) | Inaugurated | (1) | birthplace of Martin Van Buren |
| (E) | Trail of Tears | (2) | Van Buren’s family language |
| (G) | U.S. Senator | (3) | political position held by Van Buren |
| (I) | Dutch-speaking family | (4) | political party formed by Van Buren |
| (N) | Democratic Party | (5) | official start of presidency |
| (R) | Indian Removal Act | (6) | economic depression during Van Buren’s presidency |
| (S) | Kinderhook | (7) | area of foreign policy tension |
| (T) | Panic of 1837 | (8) | policy leading to Native American relocation |
| (U) | Oregon Territory | (9) | forced relocation of Cherokee tribe |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

**Complete sentences**

*Task: Match the beginning of each sentence with the end!*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (E) | He was the first president ... | (1) | ... was born in Kinderhook. |
| (E) | Van Buren’s foreign policy ... | (2) | ... born a U.S. citizen. |
| (I) | His presidency began ... | (3) | ... before his political career. |
| (L) | He served as a U.S. Senator ... | (4) | ... and governor of New York. |
| (P) | Van Buren was a lawyer ... | (5) | ... during an economic crisis. |
| (R) | Martin Van Buren ... | (6) | ... focused on peace in the Americas. |
| (S) | He supported the Indian Removal Act ... | (7) | ... leading to the Trail of Tears. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

**Questions (multiple choice)**

*Task: Answer the questions!*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. | What was Martin Van Buren’s profession before his political career? |
| (D) | Lawyer |
| (R) | Teacher |
| (V) | Doctor |
| 2. | What was the economic crisis during Van Buren’s presidency called? |
| (A) | Recession of 1837 |
| (O) | Panic of 1837 |
| (S) | Great Depression |
| 3. | What policy did Van Buren support that led to the Trail of Tears? |
| (L) | Indian Removal Act |
| (N) | Trail of Tears Act |
| (R) | Native American Relocation Act |
| 4. | What was Van Buren’s marital status after his wife’s death? |
| (L) | Never remarried |
| (R) | Divorced |
| (V) | Remarried |
| 5. | Where did Van Buren return after his presidency? |
| (A) | Kinderhook, New York |
| (B) | Albany, New York |
| (S) | Washington D.C. |
| 6. | When did Martin Van Buren die? |
| (A) | July 24, 1861 |
| (R) | July 24, 1862 |
| (V) | July 25, 1862 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword**: | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

**Right or wrong?**

*Task: State whether the statements are true or false!*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| right | wrong |  |
| (S) | (V) | 1. Martin Van Buren was a lawyer. |
| (F) | (E) | 2. Martin Van Buren was a U.S. Senator. |
| (R) | (M) | 3. Van Buren was born in New York. |
| (M) | (R) | 4. Van Buren was the eighth president. |
| (E) | (T) | 5. His presidency started in 1837. |
| (A) | (L) | 6. The Panic of 1837 happened during his presidency. |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Keyword:** | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ | \_\_\_ |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

**7 Questions about the text**

*Task: Answer the questions in one or two complete sentences!*

What was Martin Van Buren’s birthplace?

What was the family language of Martin Van Buren?

What were some of the political positions Van Buren held before his presidency?

What was the economic crisis during Van Buren’s presidency?

What was a significant foreign policy issue during Van Buren’s presidency?

What controversial policy did Van Buren support?

What did Van Buren do after his presidency?

**Solution sheet 1**

**Martin Van Buren (1837 - 1841)**

**Match terms**

Kinderhook = birthplace of Martin Van Buren

Dutch-speaking family = Van Buren’s family language

U.S. Senator = political position held by Van Buren

Democratic Party = political party formed by Van Buren

Inaugurated = official start of presidency

Panic of 1837 = economic depression during Van Buren’s presidency

Oregon Territory = area of foreign policy tension

Indian Removal Act = policy leading to Native American relocation

Trail of Tears = forced relocation of Cherokee tribe

Keyword: SIGNATURE

**Complete sentences**

Martin Van Buren | was born in Kinderhook.

He was the first president | born a U.S. citizen.

Van Buren was a lawyer | before his political career.

He served as a U.S. Senator | and governor of New York.

His presidency began | during an economic crisis.

Van Buren’s foreign policy | focused on peace in the Americas.

He supported the Indian Removal Act | leading to the Trail of Tears.

Keyword: REPLIES

**Questions**

What was Martin Van Buren’s profession before his political career?

Lawyer

What was the economic crisis during Van Buren’s presidency called?

Panic of 1837

What policy did Van Buren support that led to the Trail of Tears?

Indian Removal Act

What was Van Buren’s marital status after his wife’s death?

Never remarried

Where did Van Buren return after his presidency?

Kinderhook, New York

When did Martin Van Buren die?

July 24, 1862

Keyword: DOLLAR

**Right or wrong?**

right

1. Martin Van Buren was a lawyer.

4. Van Buren was the eighth president.

5. His presidency started in 1837.

wrong

6. The Panic of 1837 happened during his presidency.

2. Martin Van Buren was a U.S. Senator.

3. Van Buren was born in New York.

Keyword: TOMATO

**Solution sheet 2**

**Martin Van Buren (1837 - 1841)**

**Questions and answers**

What was Martin Van Buren’s birthplace?

Martin Van Buren was born in Kinderhook, New York.

What was the family language of Martin Van Buren?

Martin Van Buren grew up in a Dutch-speaking family.

What were some of the political positions Van Buren held before his presidency?

Before his presidency, Van Buren served as a U.S. Senator and the governor of New York.

What was the economic crisis during Van Buren’s presidency?

During Van Buren’s presidency, the United States experienced an economic depression known as the Panic of 1837.

What was a significant foreign policy issue during Van Buren’s presidency?

A significant foreign policy issue during Van Buren’s presidency was the tension with Britain over the Oregon Territory.

What controversial policy did Van Buren support?

Van Buren supported the controversial Indian Removal Act, which led to the forced relocation of Native American tribes.

What did Van Buren do after his presidency?

After his presidency, Van Buren returned to his home in Kinderhook, New York, remained active in politics, and continued to influence the Democratic Party.