

Hello, President



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Meet the President

Meet Barack Obama—the 44th president of the United States. He is the first African American to become a U.S. president. Obama was elected in November 2008. In January 2009, he began a four-year term as president. In November 2012, Obama was reelected for a second term.

The president has an important job. He or she is the leader of the armed forces. This person executes and enforces United States laws. The president is able to sign bills to become laws. He or she is also able to veto, or reject, laws. In addition, the president works with the leaders of other countries.



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Barack Obama stands with his wife, Michelle, and daughters, Malia (left) and Sasha.

Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, have two daughters. Their names are Malia and Sasha. They all live in the White House during his presidency. It has been home to every president except George Washington.



Charlie Hutton/Shutterstock
The White House is in Washington, D.C.

The White House has 132 rooms and 35 bathrooms! One room is called the Oval Office. That is where the president works. In another room called the Cabinet Room, the president meets with people like the members of Congress and leaders of foreign nations. Here they talk about topics such as national security and energy to help solve national and global problems.

But the White House isn't just for serious work. The White House also has a tennis court, a jogging track, a swimming pool, a movie theater, and a bowling lane to entertain the president, his family, and their guests.



Brooks Kraft/Corbis
The Oval Office is a room in the White House where the president works.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Who is the 44th president of the United States?

- A Barack Obama
- B George Washington
- C Michelle Obama

2. What does the author describe at the beginning of the passage?

- A the rooms in the White House
- B when Obama was elected president
- C the people in Barack Obama's family

3. The White House is a big building. What evidence from the passage supports this conclusion?

- A The Oval Office is in the White House.
- B The president and his family live in the White House.
- C The White House has 132 rooms.

4. "In November 2012, Obama was reelected for a second term." Based on this information, what conclusion can you make?

- A Most Americans wanted Obama to be president again.
- B Most Americans did not want Obama to be president again.
- C Obama did not do a good job during his first term as president.

5. What is this passage mostly about?

- A President Obama
- B the White House
- C Michelle Obama

6. Read the following sentences: "Obama was elected in November 2008. In January 2009, he began a four-year term as president. In November 2012, Obama was **reelected** for a second term."

What does the word "**reelected**" mean?

- A kicked out
- B moved away
- C chosen again

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

The White House has many types of rooms, _____ a movie theater and a bowling alley.

- A but
- B including
- C first

8. Where does the president of the United States live?

9. What was Barack Obama the first African American to do?

10. Name three things that are the president's job.

Teacher Guide & Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 640

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8. Where does the president of the United States live?

Suggested answer: The president lives in the White House.

9. What was Barack Obama the first African American to do?

Suggested answer: Barack Obama was the first African American to be elected president.

10. Name three things that are the president's job.

Suggested answer: The president:

1. is the leader of the armed forces
2. executes and enforces United States laws
3. works with the leaders of other countries