

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WH- Questions Book



Barack Obama (1961-present)

Barack Obama was the first African-American President of the United States of America! Barack Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1961. After he went to college to become a lawyer, he taught law in Chicago, Illinois. Then, he was the senator for Illinois for many years. Finally, he was *elected* to be the president in 2008 and got re-elected to be the president for another four years. After being the president, he has *campaigned* for other people running for offices and become an *author* of three books.



WHO was the first African-American president of the United States?

- (A) Barack Obama (B) Robert Abbott

WHERE was Barack Obama born?

- (A) Honolulu, Hawaii (B) Chicago, Illinois



Oprah Winfrey (1954-present)

Oprah Winfrey is well-known for her talk show, *The Oprah Winfrey Show*. It was the highest-rated television talk show in history and ran for 25 years. On her show, she was known to give away exciting gifts, such as cars and vacations! She was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only Black billionaire. She is now a *philanthropist* and helps run the television channel she started in 2008.



WHO started the highest-rated television talk show in history?

- (A) Barack Obama (B) Oprah Winfrey

HOW MANY years did Oprah Winfrey's show run?

- (A) 10 years (B) 25 years



Bessie Coleman (1892-1926)

Bessie Coleman was the first licensed black pilot in the world! She could not get her training in the United States, so she went to flight school in France in 1919. She came back to the United States when she finished school two years later, and began doing tricks and *performances* in Chicago. She did not get a chance to reach her goal of opening a flying school for African Americans before she *perished* during one of her shows. Each year on the anniversary of her death, African American pilots fly over her grave in Chicago to drop flowers in her honor.



WHO became the first black pilot with a license?

- (A) Oprah Winfrey (B) Bessie Coleman

WHERE did Bessie Coleman go to become a pilot?

- (A) France (B) Spain



Jesse Owens (1913-1980)

Jesse Owens was a track-and-field *athlete* who set a world record in the long jump at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin. He won four gold medals at the Olympics that year in the 100- and 200-meter dashes, along with the 100-meter relay and other events off the track. After that, no one beat his record for 25 years! In 1976, Jesse Owens was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom and was *posthumously* given the Congressional Gold Medal in 1990.



WHO set a world record for the long jump at the Olympics in Berlin?

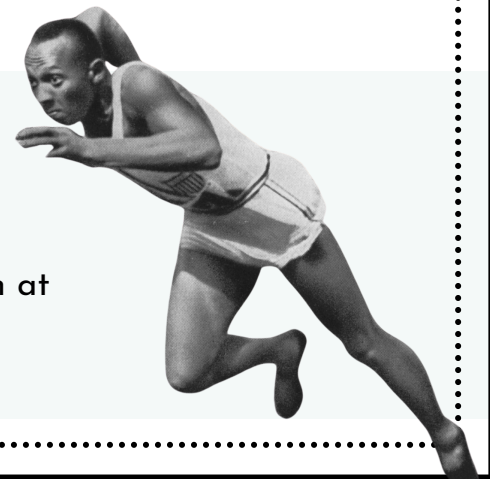
(A) Jesse Owens

(B) Barack Obama

HOW MANY gold medals did Jesse Owens win at the Olympics in 1936?

(A) Three

(B) Four



Ethel Waters (1896-1977)

Ethel Waters first became famous for singing the blues, but she made history on television! She frequently performed jazz, swing, and pop music during her concerts and on Broadway. She became the first African American to be the star of her own show in 1939, called “The Ethel Waters Show”. She was also nominated for an Emmy award for her show in 1962. She was also inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1973, the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1983, and the Christian Music Hall of Fame in 2007.



WHO was the first African American to star in her own show?

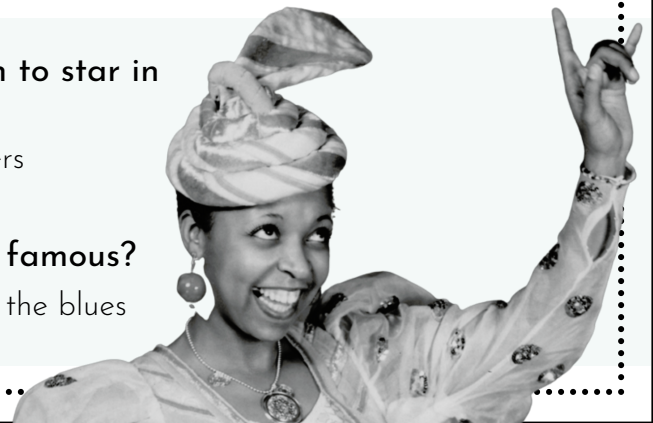
(A) Bessie Coleman

(B) Ethel Waters

WHY did Ethel Waters first become famous?

(A) For tap dancing

(B) For singing the blues



Robert Sengstacke Abbot (1870-1940)

Robert Abbott founded the Chicago Defender weekly newspaper in 1905. It grew from being a four-page pamphlet, and spread farther and farther every time he made a new *publication*. His newspaper helped encourage African Americans to *migrate* from the South to new places for different opportunities to make money. His creativity *inspired* many of the Black magazines we have today—such as Ebony, Essence, Black Enterprise, and Upscale!

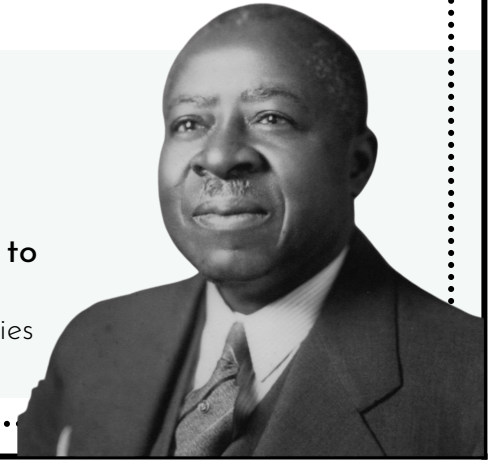


WHO made famous newspapers in Chicago?

- (A) Robert Abbot (B) Jesse Owens

WHY did Robert encourage African Americans to move to new places?

- (A) To be closer to their families (B) To have new opportunities to make money



Mae Jemison (1956-present)

Mae Jemison was the first African American woman to travel into space as an astronaut with NASA on the Space Shuttle Endeavour. Before she became an astronaut, she went to college to become a chemical engineer and a physician! When she left NASA, she started her own technology research company. She also wrote children's books and even appeared on television a few times!



WHO was the first African American woman to travel into space?

- (A) Ethel Waters (B) Mae Jemison

WHAT Space Shuttle did Mae travel on?

- (A) Endeavour (B) Discovery

