

Franklin and Eleanor

- 1) Hol és mikor született Franklin Delano Roosevelt? (2 pont)
- 2) Melyik egyetemre járt és milyen órán kívüli tevékenységben vett részt? ... (3 pont)
- 3) Mikor és hogyan lett Theodore Roosevelt elnök? (3 pont)
- 4) Mivel foglalkozott Eleanor Roosevelt mielőtt hozzáment Franklin Roosevelthez? (2 pont)
- 5) Hány éves korában vesztette el Eleanor szüleit? (2 pont)
- 6) Milyen kapcsolat volt Franklin és Theodore Roosevelt között? (3 pont)

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt were more than husband and wife. They were a remarkable married couple whose lives were lived at the centre of great events. But they also formed a unique political partnership, in which Eleanor Roosevelt acted as the liberal conscience of one of the greatest presidents of the United States. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was born in upstate New York, on 30th January 1882, the only son of James and Sarah Delano Roosevelt. He grew up at a time when half the population of the United States was on the move. Vast tracts of the West were waiting to be claimed by land-hungry homesteaders. As the railroad drove westwards across the Great Plains, ramshackle towns mushroomed in its wake. Meanwhile, immigrants poured into the burgeoning cities of the East Coast. The Roosevelts lived in a different world. They were American aristocracy. The style of their home at Hyde Park in upstate New York was more European than American. They bought their suits from Saville Row and took trips to Paris. Franklin was educated at the exclusive private school of Groton in Massachusetts. At this impressionable age, he was already under the spell of his cousin Theodore Roosevelt, then New York City's police commissioner and soon to become Secretary of the Navy. Teddy Roosevelt was a thinker and a man of action. In the Spanish American War of 1898, he had fought his way up San Juan Hill with his rough riders. He was elected US Vice President in 1900 and, on the assassination of President McKinley in 1901, he became President at the age of 42. Franklin attended Harvard University in Boston, where he was an outstanding student. He edited the university newspaper and was a more than useful athlete. Franklin Delano Roosevelt was clearly a young man with a future. Franklin's connection with his famous cousin was strengthened during his final

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year at Harvard when he became engaged to Theodore Roosevelt's niece, Eleanor Roosevelt. Three years younger than Franklin, she was a young woman with a strong personality, already marked by her social work among the poor in New York City. Eleanor had lost her mother at the age of eight. Two years later, her father died a hopeless alcoholic. Hunger for love haunted her life. Eleanor married the debonair Franklin Roosevelt on St Patrick's Day, 1905. She was given away by Teddy Roosevelt. In the early years of their marriage, the spirited Eleanor subordinated her life to those of her dashing husband and formidably demanding mother-in-law, Sarah. By 1908, she had borne Franklin two children, Anna and James. Eleanor was an organiser and doer, which brought her into conflict with Sarah. The independently wealthy Sarah wanted the world to revolve around her son and his family to depend on her. Sarah had not approved of her son's marriage. Thereafter, she and Eleanor waged war for the possession of Franklin. It was a battle which ended only with Sarah's death in 1941.

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