Ultimate Guide to the Presidents: The Changing of the Guard

Warren Harding 00:00-9:08

1. In the election of 1920, why were the American people crying for change?
2. There were many factors that led to the election of Warren Harding. Name at least **two**.
3. According to the video, Harding was a terrible president. What made him so bad?
4. Harding had a few major scandals. All of these scandals have the same basic cause. What was the cause of the scandals?

Calvin Coolidge 9:08-16:55

1. Coolidge was left cleaning up after the scandals of Harding’s administration. What did he do to restore the dignity of the presidency?
2. For what personality trait was Coolidge known?
3. The `20s was an especially prosperous time. According to the video, what led to this prosperous state?

Herbert Hoover 16:55-21:32

1. Herbert Hoover had a different background from most other presidents. What was Hoover’s background?
2. Historian H.W. Brands said, “If he’d been elected in 1920, Herbert Hoover would have been a great president…It was his misfortune to be the right man at the wrong time.” What did Brands mean by this?
3. Why wouldn’t Hoover help the desperate American people during the Depression?
4. How did Depression-era American view Hoover?

Franklin Delano Roosevelt 21:32-44:10

1. How did Roosevelt’s inaugural address help the nation?
2. Roosevelt’s first step was to shut down and restructure the banks. Most notably, he started insuring the banks. When they reopened, what happened?
3. How did Roosevelt control his public image?
4. FDR was frustrated when the Supreme Court ruled against him. What did he do in response?
5. In spite of all of FDR’s New Deal programs, what was the economy of the 1930s like?
6. What role did Eleanor Roosevelt play in the administration?
7. Roosevelt faced an isolationist Congress. Since he knew Congress wouldn’t declare war, what did Roosevelt do?
8. According to historian Michael Flamm, what ended the Great Depression?
9. Roosevelt made a great many changes, especially increasing employees for the war effort. Why did Congress go along with FDR’s plans?
10. What was “one of the great flaws or mistakes” of Roosevelt’s presidency?
11. In what ways did Roosevelt change the American presidency and raise expectations of a president?