Name:

Harry S. Truman

“Truman Talks About Why He Ran in ’48”

1. What reason does Pres. Truman give as to why he ran for reelection in 1948?
2. His favorability numbers were high, so he felt his reelection was imminent.
3. The failed economy was still a problem.
4. He cited “unfinished business” that could only be completed if he were reelected.
5. He referenced the Cold War, claiming that only under his leadership could the United States defeat the Soviet Union in issues like the Space Race and arms development.
6. Since Truman was a pronounced opponent of someone serving as President of the United States more than two terms, why did he support Franklin Roosevelt for a fourth term in 1944?
7. Truman actually voted against Franklin Roosevelt in 1944.
8. He was concerned a Republican president would destroy FDR’s New Deal program and change the direction of America’s fights against Germany and Japan.
9. He was offered the position of Vice President in a bribe by members of the Democratic National Committee.
10. His family faced economic hardship before FDR was elected in 1932, therefore felt like he owed FDR his vote.
11. In the sixth paragraph, Truman refers to a number of countries “with revolution stalking most of the ‘have-not’ nations “. What does he mean by “have-not nations”?
12. He was saying that poor economic conditions of the 1930s resulted in dictators taking control of several European countries.
13. Truman suggested that unless he were elected, countries throughout the world would remain poor.
14. A “have-not nation” refers to those countries without a democratically elected president.
15. The outbreak of World War II left many countries economically unstable.
16. What kind of document is this?
17. Some form of a diary entry made by Harry Truman.
18. This is the text Truman wanted used in a campaign commercial.
19. A book written by a Harry Truman biographer.
20. This source is a recorded made in the President’s Oval Office.
21. (Short Answer) What values does this document have for someone studying history?
22. (Short Answer) What limitations does this document have for someone studying history?