

HOW WOULD YOU DO?

Instructor: Dr. Edrene S. McKay

Name: _____ Location: _____

Students Flunk U.S. History Test: Congress Calls on Teachers to 'Redouble Efforts'

A report released last month revealed that 65 percent of college seniors surveyed failed to pass a high-school level American history test.

In a recent American history survey, only 23 percent of college seniors correctly identified James Madison as the "Father of the Constitution".... The survey, conducted by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis (CSRA) at the University of Connecticut, at the request of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA), was designed to measure students' knowledge of American history and government....Sixty-five percent of the students -- from such schools as Yale, Northwestern, Smith, and Bowdoin -- failed to "pass" the test and only one student answered all 34 questions correctly.

How would you do?

1. *Sputnik* was the name given to the first ...
 - a. Telecommunications system
 - b. Animal to travel into space
 - c. Hydrogen bomb
 - d. Human-made satellite
 - e. Don't know
2. Who said "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country?"
 - a. John F. Kennedy
 - b. Benedict Arnold
 - c. John Brown
 - d. Nathan Hale
 - e. Don't know
3. Which document established the division of powers between the states and the federal government?
 - a. The Marshall Plan
 - b. The Constitution
 - c. The Declaration of Independence
 - d. The Articles of Confederation
 - e. Don't know
4. What is the source of the phrase "Government of the people, by the people, for the people?"
 - a. The "I Have a Dream" speech
 - b. Declaration of Independence
 - c. U.S. Constitution
 - d. Gettysburg Address
 - e. Don't know
5. Who was president when the United States purchased the Panama Canal?
 - a. Theodore Roosevelt
 - b. Jimmy Carter
 - c. Franklin D. Roosevelt
 - d. Woodrow Wilson
 - e. Don't know
6. The Battle of the Bulge occurred during ...
 - a. The Vietnam War
 - b. World War II
 - c. World War I
 - d. The Civil War
 - e. Don't know

ON THE REVERSE SIDE, GIVE AS MANY REASONS AS YOU CAN FOR WHY SO FEW STUDENTS GOT THESE ANSWERS RIGHT.