

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

The Family Bond

Introduction:

Which presidents are related? A good number of the presidents are distant relatives, being many times removed from direct relationship. But only a handful are directly related. So far, we've had two father-son duos, a grandfather and a grandson, and a couple of cousin combos. Let's take a look at the presidents that are the most closely related.

Questions:

1. What was the first father-son duo to serve as president?
2. What did John Adams mean when he said, "I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy"?
3. What university did both George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush attend?
4. What famous document did William Henry Harrison's father sign?
5. Which president signed the marriage certificate of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt?
6. Which president voted for the first time at his own election?
7. Which president's great-great-grandparents were Pilgrims?
8. How were the political careers of both John and John Quincy Adams similar?
9. What could be an advantage of electing family members into the presidency?
10. Which president would you want to be related to? Why?

Answer Key

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF THE PRESIDENTS™

The Family Bond

Introduction:

Which presidents are related? A good number of the presidents are distant relatives, being many times removed from direct relationship. But only a handful are directly related. So far, we've had two father-son duos, a grandfather and a grandson, and a couple of cousin combos. Let's take a look at the presidents that are the most closely related.

Questions:

1. What was the first father-son duo to serve as president?
John Adams and John Quincy Adams
2. What did John Adams mean when he said, "I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy"?
Answers will vary; possibly, he wanted to create a government in such a way that his children could pursue any career
3. What university did both George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush attend?
Yale University
4. What famous document did William Henry Harrison's father sign?
The Declaration of Independence
5. Which president signed the marriage certificate of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt?
Teddy Roosevelt
6. Which president voted for the first time at his own election?
Zachary Taylor
7. Which president's great-great-grandparents were Pilgrims?
John Adams
8. How were the political careers of both John and John Quincy Adams similar?
Both were lawyers and only elected to one term as president
9. What could be an advantage of electing family members into the presidency?
Answers will vary; possibly, the incoming president would have some first-hand knowledge of the demands of the office
10. Which president would you want to be related to? Why?
Answers will vary