

File III

Activity II

Essay Writing
Student Reading

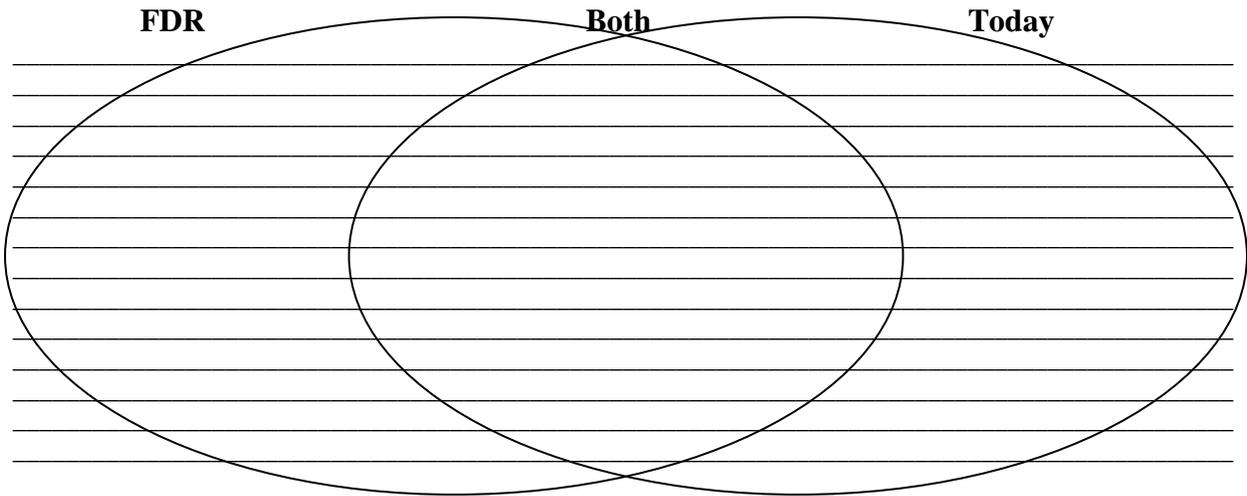
Activity II



Essay Writing

Write an essay on how the life of Franklin Delano Roosevelt was similar and different from a young person's life today.

Use the diagram to help you write your essay. Your essay should include an introduction, body, and conclusion.



A series of horizontal lines provided for writing the essay.

Student Reading



Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Boyhood



**Home of Franklin D. Roosevelt
National Historic Site
Roosevelt's Boyhood**

His Birth:

Franklin Delano Roosevelt was born on January 30, 1882 at Springwood, his family’s estate in Hyde Park, New York. His parents were James and Sara Roosevelt. He was their only child, but his father had a son by his first marriage.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library



“All that is within me cries to go back to my home on the Hudson River” President Roosevelt once declared. FDR often came home to Springwood from Washington D.C. to find peace of mind and rejuvenation.

For young Franklin growing up at Springwood during the late 19th century gave him the opportunity to discover his life-long interests and responsibilities in nature, agriculture and in collecting things of significance. Through his mother and fathers nurturing he learned to love his Springwood home, which he would always hold dear to his heart.

Young Franklin loved his boyhood at Springwood and always thought of the Hyde Park estate as his home. As he grew up, he was allowed to play with children from neighboring estates. Mary Newbold and Archie Edmund Rogers came to play with FDR and very often there were cousins who joined in the fun.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library

However, much of young Franklin's time was spent with his parents.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library

He often rode his horse "Debby" around the estate with his father. His mother played games with him and frequently read to him.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library

Franklin's daily activities were set by his parents. During a normal day he would be up at seven, have breakfast at eight and have lessons from nine until noon. Then he could play for an hour before lunch. After lunch there were lessons until four. Then there was time for play before supper at six and bed at eight o'clock.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library

Young Franklin was taught at home until he went to boarding school where students lived except for holidays. Governesses (young women teachers who lived with the family) and later tutors (young male teachers who also lived with the family) were hired to teach him. His favorite governess, Mademoiselle Sandoz was a French speaking Swedish woman. With Madam Sandoz, he studied the bible, arithmetic, science, geography, poetry, music, history, English and German. However, except for English and German, all other subjects were taught in French. History was his best subject, but Mademoiselle Sandoz said that his conduct was sometimes "mal" (bad)! She had high expectations of Franklin and once said to him "Your father is wasting his money and I am wasting my time, and I shall leave you." Thereafter the two became fast friends.



Photo's Courtesy of FDR Presidential Library

When young Franklin was fourteen years old he went to Groton, a boarding school in Massachusetts. After he graduated from Groton, he went to Harvard University in Massachusetts where he graduated with a degree in history. He later studied to be a lawyer at Columbia University and passed the bar examination in 1907.

In 1905 Franklin Roosevelt married Anna Eleanor Roosevelt on March 17th, St. Patrick's Day. Franklin and Eleanor had six children - Anna, James, Franklin JR (who died the same year he was born), Elliott, Franklin Jr., and John.

Franklin's political career began in 1910 when he was elected New York State Senator. In 1913 President Woodrow Wilson appointed FDR as Assistant Secretary to the Navy. In August of 1921 his political career came to an abrupt halt when he contracted polio. The illness took affect while he was vacationing at his summer home Campobello, in Nova Scotia. FDR was determined to walk again and exercised his legs as he walked from his Springwood home to Albany Post Road and back.

In 1928 he was elected Governor of New York State and in 1932 he was elected President of the United States. On March 4th, 1933 FDR was sworn in as President of the United States. President Roosevelt was elected into office for four terms. He was the only President to ever be elected to four terms.