

## ORAL QUIZ ON THE SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE AND THE PANAMA CANAL

The points and level of detail given below are more detailed than those that a lower-grammar student might be expected to give. You may use these points to prompt your student to give a full answer.

### The San Francisco Earthquake

1. What was life like in San Francisco in the early 1900's before the earthquake struck?  
*San Francisco was the largest city on the West Coast of the U.S. Most people lived in simple wooden houses and traveled about the city in trolley (or cable) cars. They learned about events in other places mainly through newspapers because television and radio had not yet been invented.*
2. Describe the terrible San Francisco earthquake that occurred on April 18, 1906.  
*In the early morning hours when most people were asleep and without any obvious warning, the earthquake violently shook and jolted San Francisco, causing tremendous damage to the city. A devastating fire raged for three days, leaving the city in ashes.*
3. What kinds of damage resulted in San Francisco from the earthquake?  
*The earthquake wreaked a lot of havoc on the city in numerous ways. Any one or two of the following is acceptable:*
  - *Roads were cracked and unusable.*
  - *Telephone and electric wires were severed and water pipes broken.*
  - *Trees were uprooted.*
  - *Many buildings collapsed.*
  - *Smoke and dust engulfed the city.*
  - *Many people died or were wounded.*
4. Though the earthquake was a tragic event, how did people respond in helpful ways?  
*Any one of the following is acceptable:*
  - *Many people showed bravery and resourcefulness as they tried to help. Our resource, If You Lived at the Time of the Great San Francisco Earthquake, details many rescue stories that your student might mention.*
  - *With the help of the navy and marines, firefighters were able to pump water from the San Francisco Bay to finally extinguish the raging fire.*
  - *President Theodore Roosevelt ordered the military to send tents and blankets to the area. The army also built wooden buildings (barracks and shacks) of different sizes that became shelters.*
  - *Centers called "relief stations" were set up to distribute food, water, and other necessities.*
  - *Newspaper organizations published names and information of people trying to locate one another in the aftermath of the earthquake.*
  - *People from all around the country generously responded to the catastrophe by sending supplies to San Francisco.*

### The Panama Canal

5. Which U.S. president sponsored the construction of the Panama Canal beginning in 1904?  
*President Theodore Roosevelt enthusiastically sponsored the canal project believing it would greatly benefit the U.S.*
6. Where is Panama located, and what country did it belong to in the early 1900's?  
*Panama is located in Central America; in the 1900's, it belonged to the South American country of Colombia.*
7. Name two of the problems that had to be solved during the construction of the canal.  
*Any two of the following are acceptable:*
  - *Diseases like malaria and yellow fever plagued the workers.*
  - *A sea level canal was unrealistic due to the expense, time, and challenges it would cause.*
  - *The Chagres River was turbulent and unpredictable, often flooding the Canal Zone.*
  - *Digging through the earth and rock of the Culebra Cut of the Cordillera Mountains proved to be a huge challenge requiring dynamite and specialized machinery.*

- *Because the sides of the canal were quite steep, during the rainy season mud slides were prevalent.*
  - *The sweltering temperatures added to the danger.*
  - *Accidents caused many injuries and, at times, deaths.*
8. When it was finally completed in 1914, which two oceans did the Panama Canal connect?  
*The completed Panama Canal joined the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.*

1. WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE IN SAN FRANCISCO IN THE EARLY 1900'S BEFORE THE EARTHQUAKE STRUCK?

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2. DESCRIBE THE TERRIBLE SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE THAT OCCURRED ON APRIL 18, 1906.

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3. WHAT KINDS OF DAMAGES RESULTED IN SAN FRANCISCO FROM THE EARTHQUAKE?

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4. THOUGH THE EARTHQUAKE WAS A TRAGIC EVENT, HOW DID PEOPLE RESPOND IN HELPFUL WAYS?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. WHICH U.S. PRESIDENT SPONSORED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PANAMA CANAL BEGINNING IN 1904?

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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6. WHERE IS PANAMA LOCATED, AND WHAT COUNTRY DID IT BELONG TO IN THE EARLY 1900's?

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7. NAME TWO OF THE PROBLEMS THAT HAD TO BE SOLVED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CANAL.

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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8. WHICH TWO OCEANS DID THE PANAMA CANAL CONNECT? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

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**TRUE OR FALSE?**

For each of these questions, read or listen to your teacher read the statements, and then write T (for True) or F (for False) in the space provided.

- \_\_\_\_\_ World War I began after the assassination of an archduke (Archduke Franz Ferdinand).
- \_\_\_\_\_ World War I began in July 1914 and ended by Christmas of that same year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ World War I was not different in any way from other wars in history.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Trenches were deep, twisting, muddy ditches in which soldiers both fought and protected themselves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Soldiers lived very comfortably in the trenches.