

Time for Change

Past presidents will appear on \$1 coin.



U.S. Mint

In time for Presidents' Day on February 19, 2007, the U.S. Mint released new \$1 coins honoring former U.S. presidents. Starting in February 15, 2007, the mint will circulate the first coin, which depicts George Washington-and that's only the start.

The series honors four different presidents per year in the order in which they served in office. On the reverse side of the coin is the Statue of Liberty. The next three coins released feature John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison.

"I believe this program is a great opportunity for educating both children and adults about the history of our country," says lawmaker Michael Castle from Delaware. He helped pass the new coin legislation, or law.

With the exception of Grover Cleveland, each president appears on only one coin. Cleveland was the only president to serve two terms that weren't consecutive, or back-to-back. To be depicted on a coin, a president must have been dead for at least two years.

Past presidents aren't the first people to be depicted on \$1 coins. Female leaders Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea have appeared on the coins. Anthony dedicated her life to fighting for women's rights in the 1800s. Native American guide Sacagawea led explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark on their westward journey to find a route to the Pacific Ocean.

The idea of rotating coin designs comes from the 50 State Quarters Program. Those quarters began circulating in 1999. The State Quarters Program has been very popular, introducing millions of people to coin collecting. The U.S. Mint hopes the presidential coins will be as successful.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. The main idea of this passage is:

- A. four new coins will be introduced this year.
- B. the U.S. mint has started making presidential one-dollar coins.
- C. lawmakers are hoping that the presidential coins will educate children and adults.
- D. most presidents will appear once on a one-dollar coin.

2. Which detail does *not* support the main idea?

- A. Michael Castle helped to pass the new coin law.
- B. Coins will honor four presidents per year.
- C. Only Cleveland did not serve consecutive terms.
- D. Presidents are not the only historical people to be depicted on coins.

3. The author quotes Michael Castle because

- A. he is a coin expert.
- B. he helped to pass the law.
- C. he is from Delaware.
- D. he is a past president.

4. People that will soon be on the presidential coins are

- A. James Madison, Jimmy Carter, Benjamin Franklin.
- B. George Bush, Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt.
- C. John Adams, Calvin Coolidge, Bill Clinton.
- D. John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison.

5. List a detail from the passage that supports the main idea and explain how it supports it.