

# Unit 8 Writing quiz

**A** Read a student's notes about Abraham Lincoln. Then write notes about an important person in your country's cultural or political history.

Abraham Lincoln . . .

- Born in Kentucky in 1809
- Became the 16th president of the United States in 1861
- Worked hard to eliminate slavery through the Thirteenth Amendment, which was passed in 1865
- Was assassinated in 1865

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**B** Write a historical narrative of the person you chose in A.

Make sure that you:

- order events in the past.
- avoid errors with *in the end* and *at the end*.

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## Sample Answer

Abraham Lincoln, who eventually became president of the United States, was born in a log cabin in Kentucky in 1809. His family was not rich, and Lincoln had to work hard as a child. After his mother died, when he was nine years old, his father remarried. Encouraged by his stepmother, Lincoln started reading a lot. It is believed that he only had about a year of formal education during his life.

Once he turned 22, Lincoln moved out on his own. Working various jobs, Lincoln started developing the social skills that would serve him in his political career. After some time working, he decided to become a lawyer. He taught himself by reading books about the law in England.

In 1842 he married Mary Todd, who came from a wealthy family in Kentucky. The couple subsequently had four boys, but only one son survived into adulthood. One child died from tuberculosis. Then, after battling typhoid fever for two months, their 11-year-old son died. Saddened by this tragedy, Mary apparently never fully recovered from it.

After winning the presidential race in 1860, Lincoln was inaugurated as the 16th president of the U.S. in 1861. Within months, the South seceded from the Union and the Civil War had begun. Lincoln managed to win a second term as president. He worked hard to eliminate slavery in the U.S. Finally, in 1865, Congress passed the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery. On April 14, 1865, just weeks after being inaugurated for his second term, Lincoln was assassinated.