Twitter is a social media website and a “tweet” is an update made on the Twitter site. A tweet is a short message of 140 characters or less that describes whatever the author is doing at the moment, but can also contain personal messages, random thoughts, links to other tweets or websites, or anything of interest to the person who wrote it.

**Below you will find a brief biographical sketch of several individuals important in United States history. Read the bio and then in the exercise that follows, match the tweet to the person to whom it belongs.**

**John Hancock**

(1737-1793)

A merchant, smuggler, statesman, and prominent Patriot of the American Revolution. He served as president of the Second Continental Congress and as the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He is remembered for his large and stylish signature on the United States Declaration of Independence, so much so that the term “John Hancock” has become, in the United States, a synonym for a signature.

**Thomas Jefferson**

(1743-1826)

American Founding Father, the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, and the third President of the United States. He was an ardent proponent of democracy and embraced the principles of republicanism and the rights of the individual with worldwide influence. Jefferson’s wife Martha Jefferson suffered from diabetes and ill health, and frequent childbirth further weakened her. A few months after the birth of her last child, Martha died.

**Aaron Burr, Jr.**

(1756-1836)

The third Vice President of the United States under President Thomas Jefferson. In 1804, the last year of his single term as Vice President, Burr killed his political rival Alexander Hamilton in a famous duel. Burr was never tried for the illegal duel, and all charges against him were eventually dropped, but Hamilton’s death ended Burr’s political career.

**Meriwether Lewis**

(1774-1809)

An American explorer, soldier, politician, and public administrator who is best known for his role as the leader of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, also known as the Corps of Discovery. Their mission was to explore and map the territory of the Louisiana Purchase, establish trade with and sovereignty over the natives near the Missouri River, and claim the Pacific Northwest and Oregon Country for the United States.

**Abraham Lincoln**

(1809-1865)

The 16th President of the United States, Lincoln led the United States through the Civil War - its bloodiest war and its greatest moral, constitutional, and political crisis. In doing so, he preserved the Union, abolished slavery, strengthened the federal government, and modernized the economy. Lincoln was shot on Good Friday, April 14, 1865, while attending the play *Our American Cousin* with his wife at Ford’s Theatre as the Civil War was drawing to a close.

**Harriet Tubman**

(1822-1913)

An African-American abolitionist, humanitarian, and Union spy during the American Civil War. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and made numerous missions to rescue enslaved family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad. She later helped abolitionist John Brown recruit men for his raid on Harpers Ferry, and in the post-war era struggled for women’s suffrage.

**Thomas Alva Edison**

(1847-1931)

An American inventor and businessman who developed many devices that greatly influenced life around the world, including the phonograph, the motion picture camera, and a long-lasting, practical electric light bulb. Dubbed “The Wizard of Menlo Park,” he was one of the first inventors to apply the principles of mass production and large-scale teamwork to the process of invention, and because of that, he is often credited with the creation of the first industrial research laboratory.

**Rosa Parks**

(1913-2005)

An African-American Civil Rights activist who, on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, refused to obey bus driver James F. Blake’s order to give up her seat in the colored section to a white passenger, after the white section was filled. Parks’ act of defiance and the Montgomery Bus Boycott became important symbols of the modern Civil Rights Movement. She became an international icon of resistance to racial segregation.

**John Fitzgerald Kennedy**

(1917-1963)

Commonly known as Jack Kennedy or by his initials JFK, he was an American politician who served as the 35th President of the United States. The Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Police Week, the establishment of the Peace Corps, developments in the Space Race, the building of the Berlin Wall, the Civil Rights Movement, and increased U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War all took place during his presidency. President Kennedy was assassinated on Friday November 22, 1963, while traveling in a presidential motorcade through Dallas, Texas.

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

(1929-1968)

An American Baptist minister, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement who is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience. King’s faith was strongly based in Jesus’ commandment of loving your neighbor, loving your enemies, and praying for and blessing them. His nonviolent thought was also based in the injunction to *turn the other cheek* in the Sermon on the Mount. On August 28, 1963, MLK delivered a speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington in which he improvised from his prepared speech to proclaim “I have a dream.” King described his dreams of freedom and equality arising from a land of slavery and hatred. The speech was ranked the top American speech of the 20th century and a defining moment of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Write the name of the individual from the bank of names below in the blank under the matching tweet.

**Aaron Burr**

Abraham Lincoln

**George Washington**

Harriet Tubman

**John F. Kennedy**

**John Hancock**

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Meriwether Lewis

Rosa Parks

**Thomas Edison**

Thomas Jefferson

**1. Tweet: @ahamilton How about not being such a crybaby. It’s a DUEL not a dance party!**

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Tweet:** Bought a sleep journal. I keep having dreams but forget to write them down.

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Tweet:** Going to the theatre with my main chick @marytodd. Scored kick\*\*\* box seats!

Show’s starting! #brb #presidentperks

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Tweet:** Just invented the lightbulb. Suck it @NikTesla

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Tweet:** Just refused to give my seat to a white person on the bus, wasn’t feeling it today. #YOLO

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Tweet:** So done right now. It’s over! #Independent #’murica #single

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Tweet:** Sorry for the lack of tweets. Wi-Fi sucks underground. #ridingtherails

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**8. Tweet:** they got me a convertible for the parade - mind blown. #Dallasrocks

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Tweet:** Why did everyone write so small? Now I look like a jerk. #gobigorgohome

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Tweet:** @Clark have u seen this? http://maps.google.com ugh. last six months wasted.

Tweet Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_