

Read the selection. Then answer the questions that follow.

The White House

Home of the President

The White House has survived fire, war, and more than two hundred years of use. 4
John Adams was the first President to live there. In 1800, he and his wife moved in 19
before the building was even finished. Work went on all around them. 36
48

Destroyed by Fire

During the War of 1812, the White House was burned by British troops. Some 65
people thought it should be replaced with a new building, but President James 78
Madison wanted the White House to remain unchanged. He wanted Americans to 90
know their government was still strong. Since the outside walls were mostly still 103
standing, the White House was rebuilt on the inside. Few changes were made to the 118
outside. 119

The West Wing

In 1901, Theodore Roosevelt moved in with his wife and six children. At that 136
time, the second floor held offices and living quarters for the First Family. The large 151
Roosevelt family needed more room, so a new wing was built to hold offices. On 166
the second floor of the old White House, the Roosevelt family slept, played with 180
their many pets, and did homework. 186

Much Needed Repairs

By the time Harry Truman was elected President in 1945, the nearly 150-year- 202
old White House desperately needed repairs. In fact, the President felt that the 215
entire inside should be torn out and rebuilt. President Truman and his family lived 229
in a building across the street, while bulldozers dug out a new basement for the 244
White House. Air conditioning and heating equipment were added, as well as fire 257
protection. Four years later, a new White House stood inside those old, old walls. 271

Turn the page.

Answer the questions below.

1 The inside of the White House has been rebuilt twice. What was the reason the first time?

- A** A fire had destroyed the inside.
- B** President Adams needed more office space.
- C** The Roosevelt family needed more living space.
- D** The building contained poor quality materials.

2 Why did the author include paragraph headings in this selection?

- F** to show the reader when important events happened
- G** to let the reader know what each section is about
- H** to convince the reader that the author knows about the White House
- J** to encourage the reader to read more slowly

3 What is the most likely reason the author wrote this selection?

- A** to entertain readers with a sad story
- B** to express love for the United States
- C** to encourage readers to study history
- D** to present facts about the White House

4 In more than two hundred years much has happened at the White House. Why did the author choose to include only these four events?

These events show the major changes in the White House's 200-year history.

5 Why do you think the author organized information in chronological order?

Answers may vary. Possible responses: Telling events in the order they happened helps the reader keep history straight while reading. Any other order might be confusing.