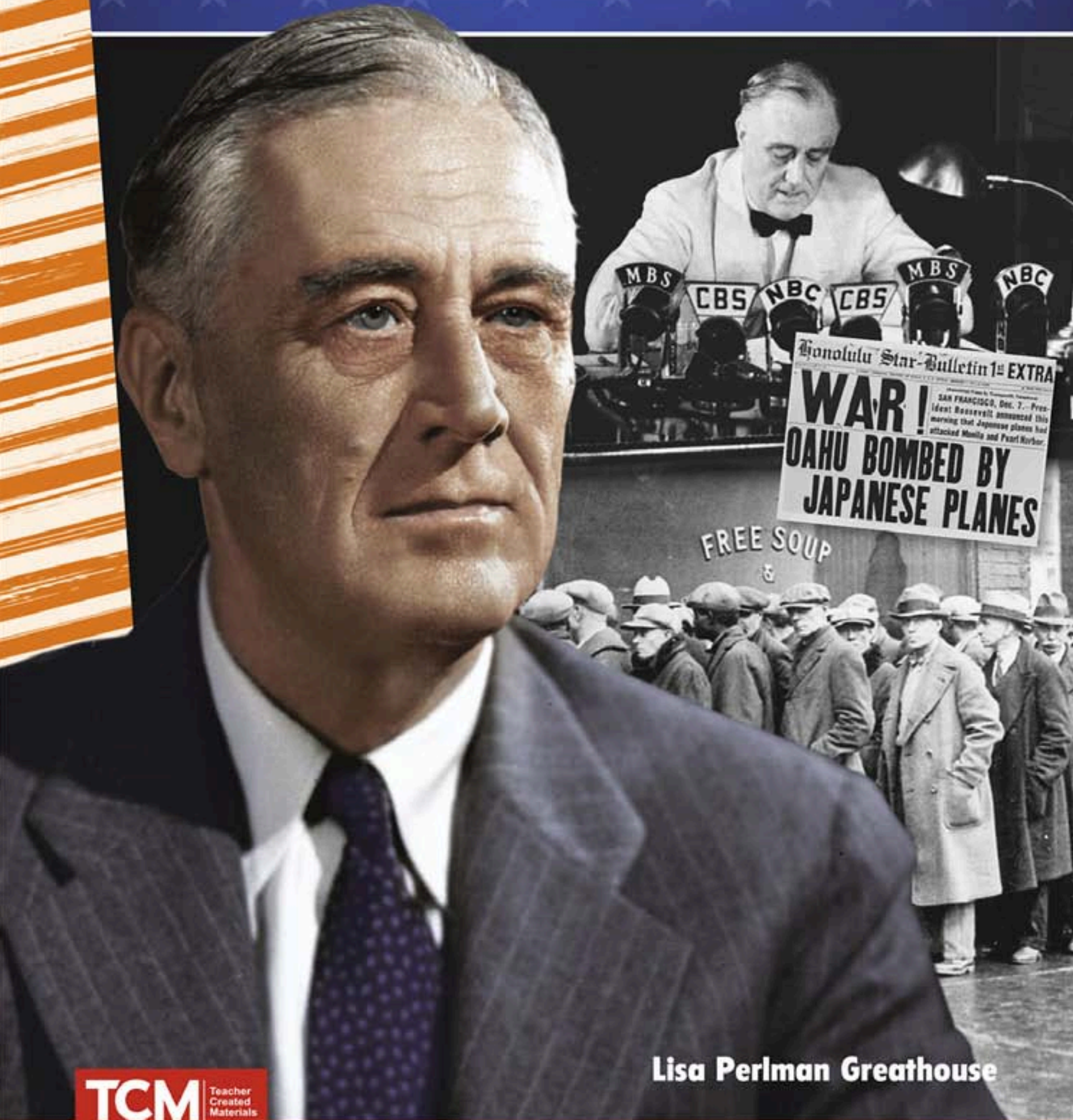


Franklin D. Roosevelt

A Great Leader in Troubled Times



Lisa Perlman Greathouse

Reader's Guide

1. What was FDR's New Deal?
2. In what ways did FDR's childhood shape his future?
3. What might have happened if FDR had decided to leave the public eye after his polio diagnosis?
4. Explain Eleanor Roosevelt's impact on human rights.
5. Explain whether you agree with the following statement: *It is the government's responsibility to make sure its citizens succeed and do not suffer.*
6. Write your own fireside chat, as if you were FDR. Tell the American public how your New Deal programs will help.

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A Great Leader in Troubled Times



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A Strong Leader

Franklin Delano Roosevelt became president of the United States in 1933. At that time, the nation was in deep trouble. Millions of people were out of work. Businesses and banks had closed. Many families had lost their homes and were living on the streets. People could not afford to buy food. This time was known as the **Great Depression**. It was one of the most difficult periods in U.S. history. However Roosevelt—called FDR for short—was up to the challenge. He found solutions to the nation’s problems. Roosevelt also offered words of comfort, which gave Americans hope for the future.

A few years later, FDR faced a new crisis—World War II. The American people had complete faith in FDR. Under FDR’s leadership, the United States survived the war and came out even stronger. Roosevelt did it all while facing serious health problems that left him unable to walk. His determination and strength helped make him one of the nation’s most admired presidents.



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