

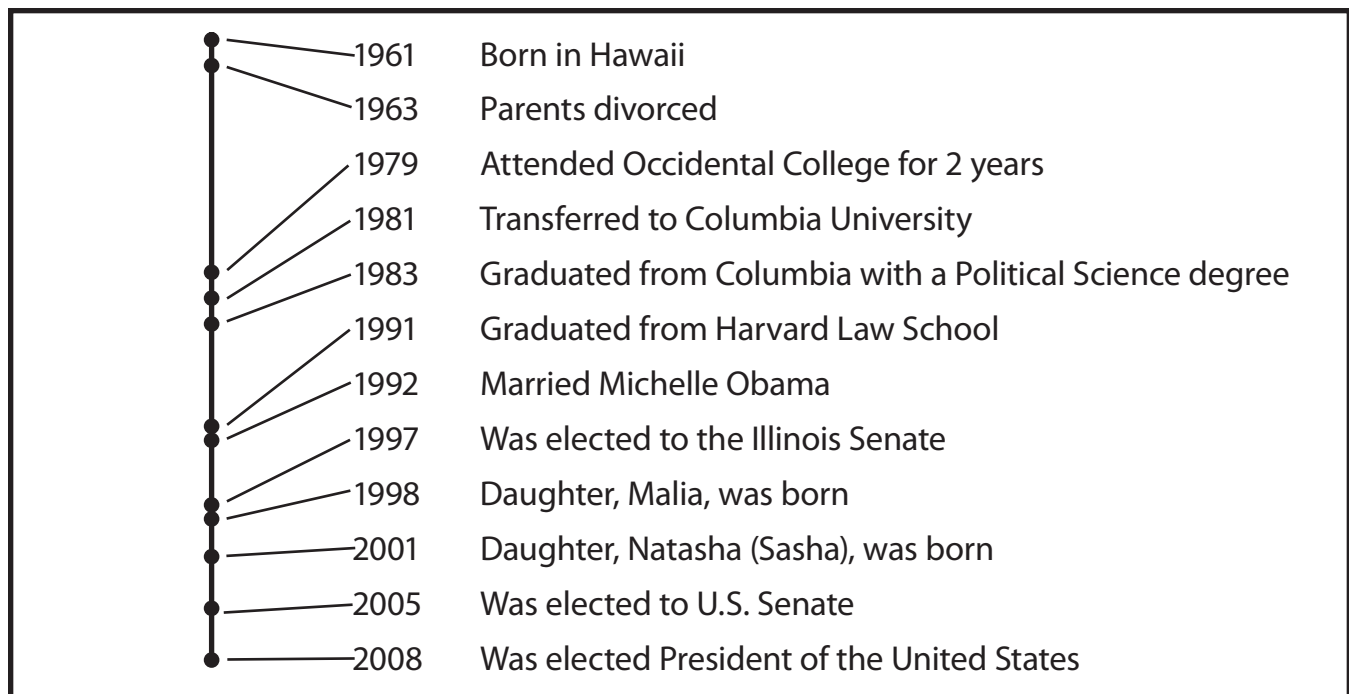
Sample Lesson #1

Timelines

A timeline is a great way to organize events and dates. When you put information on a timeline, you can easily see how much time passed between events. There are two basic styles of timelines. On a **horizontal timeline**, you read from left to right. On a **vertical timeline**, you'll find the earliest event at one end and the newest event at the other end while reading up and down. Be sure to read the title for important information about the chart. The title usually tells you the main idea of a chart, graph, or timeline.

Look at the timeline below. The title tells us that the timeline will deal with important dates and events in the life of the 44th president, Barack Obama. We can see that Mr. Obama was 30 years old when he graduated from law school (1991 minus 1961 = 30 years). He was only two years old when his parents divorced (1961 to 1963 is two years).

The Life of Barack Obama



1. At what age did Barack Obama become the 44th President of the United States? _____

2. Which came first in Barack Obama's life?

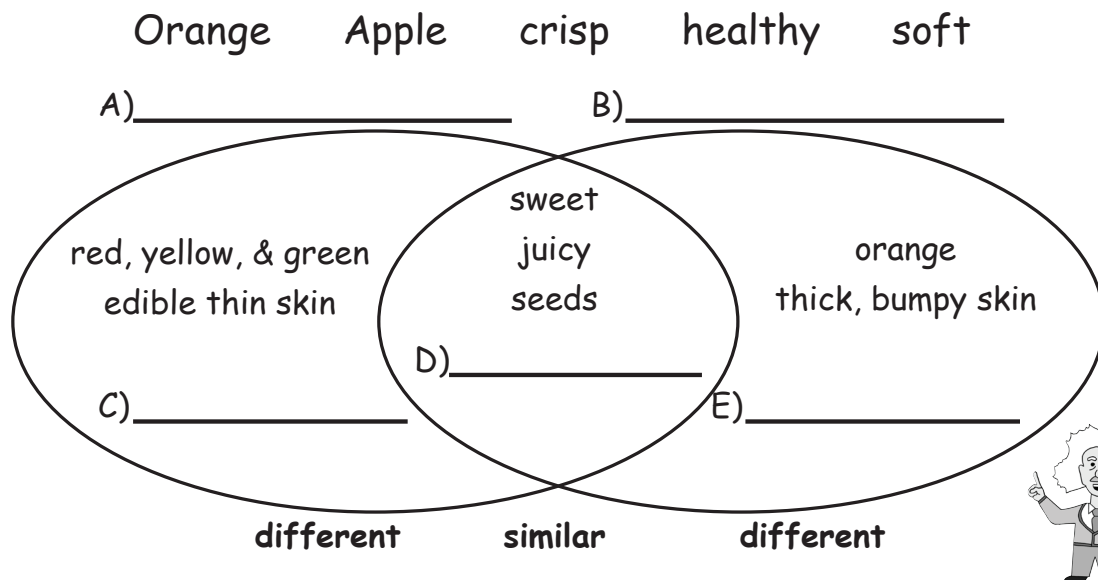
graduating from a university

getting married

neither

3. How many colleges and universities did President Obama attend? _____
4. For how many years was Barack Obama in the U.S. Senate before he was elected President of the United States? _____
5. Which of these did Barack Obama do first?
- A) became an Illinois Senator C) graduated from Law School
B) became a U.S. Senator D) married Michelle Obama

6 – 7. Use this information to complete the Venn diagram below.



Study Strategy You can use a Venn diagram to organize information when writing an essay that compares two things. You would write a paragraph about each of the items listed and one paragraph about their similarities. So, you will have at least three paragraphs to start.

8. Which of these would be a good **topic sentence** for a paragraph about information shown in the Venn diagram above?
- A) An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
B) Eat five to seven servings of fruits and vegetables each day.
C) There are many differences between an apple and an orange.
D) Fruits are both colorful and delicious.