

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Illinois Legends: Famous People from the Prairie State

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Abraham Lincoln's role in American history is immense. He preserved the Union during the Civil War, ended slavery with the Emancipation Proclamation, and delivered the Gettysburg Address, which emphasized the principles of equality and democracy. His legacy continues to inspire.
2. Walt Disney's influence on the entertainment industry and popular culture is profound. He created beloved animated characters like Mickey Mouse, established the first theme park, and built a global entertainment empire that continues to enchant generations.
3. Jane Addams was a pioneering social reformer and suffragist. She co-founded Hull House, advocated for the rights of immigrants and women, and received the Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts to promote peace and social justice.
4. Barack Obama's journey from an Illinois state senator to the presidency marked a historic moment in American politics. His presidency saw significant legislative achievements, including healthcare reform and the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," and he became a symbol of hope and change for many Americans.

