

Walt Disney Biography



Choose the correct option.

Walt Disney (1901 – 1966) was a film producer, media magnate and co-founder of the Walt Disney Company. He was an iconic figure in the Twentieth Century media and entertainment industry, who produced many films. With his staff, which was very dedicated, he created famous cartoon characters, such as Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck; his name was also used for the successful Disney Theme Parks. During his lifetime, he received a record 59 Nominations for the Academy

Awards, winning 22 Awards.

Walt Disney was born on 5 December 1901, in Chicago. His parents were of German/English and Irish descent. As a child, the Disney family moved between Marceline in Missouri, Kansas City and back to Chicago. The young Walt Disney developed an interest in art and took lessons at the Kansas City Institute and later Chicago Art Institute. He became the cartoonist for the school magazine.

When America joined the First World War, Walt dropped out of school and tried to enlist in the army where he was rejected for being underage, but he was later able to join the Red Cross which was working in Europe and in late 1918 was sent to France to drive an ambulance.

In 1919, he moved back to Kansas City where he got a series of jobs, before finding employment in his area of greatest interest – the film industry. When at the Kansas City Film Ad company he gained the opportunity to begin working in the relatively new field of animation. Walt used his talent as a cartoonist to start his first great accomplishment.

The success of his early cartoons enabled him to set up his own studio which was called Laugh-O-Gram. However, the popularity of his cartoons was not matched by his ability to run a profitable business. Labor costs which were very high forced the firm to go bankrupt. After his first failure, he decided to move to Hollywood, California which was home to the growing film industry in America.



The Evolution of Mickey Mouse

This ability to overcome adversity was a standard feature of Disney's career.

"All the adversity I've had in my life, all my troubles and obstacles, have strengthened me... You may not realize it when it happens, but a kick in the teeth may be the best thing in the world for you."

With his brother, Roy, Walt set up another company which became the distributor for his new film – Alice Comedies – based on the adventures of Alice in Wonderland.

QUESTIONS

1- How many award nominations did Walt Disney received and how many did he win?

- A 59 nominations, winning 22 of them
- B 57 nominations, winning 22 of them
- C 54 nominations, winning 22 of them

2- Where and when was Walt Disney born?

- A Las Vegas , Illinois 5 December 1901
- B New York, Chicago , 5 December 1901
- C Chicago, Illinois 5 December 1901.



3- Why was Walt Disney rejected from joining the American Army in WW1?

- A Because he was under 18 years of age
- B Because he was over 18 years of age
- C Because he was 18 years of age

4- When did Walt Disney start working for the Kansas City Film Ad company?

A In 1918 when he moved back to Kansas City

B In 1919 when he moved back to Kansas City.

C In 1910 when he moved back to Kansas City.

5- What was Walt Disney's most important strength?

A His resilience to overcome illness.

B His resilience to overcome economic situation.

C His resilience to overcome obstacles