**Interviewing Franklin D. Roosevelt – Teacher’s notes**

The students are considering the problems resulting from the Great Depression that face the newly elected Franklin D. Roosevelt.

This activity is completed over two lessons.

Lesson 1 – (15 to 20 minutes)

Students are organised into groups. Each group has a set of large post-it notes.

The teacher shows the first slide and explains that students can use the boxes in the left-hand column and across the top as a grid to draft questions that they would like to ask the president. The grid is a simplified version of Charles Wiederhold’s Question Matrix, developed in 1995. The intention was to move students from asking factual questions that tested their recollection of facts such as:

* What is a Hooverville?

towards more complex, hypothetical questions such as:

* How might people living in Hoovervilles be rehoused?

Some reminders of the challenges facing Roosevelt are included in the slide to remind students of the context in order for them to concentrate on framing their questions.

Students draft their questions and copy them onto post-it notes. The post-it notes are collected in and arranged on the wall in to reflect the type and content of questions.

Students are invited to choose a question to pose to the teacher who answers as though s/he were the president.

**Between lessons, the teacher summarises the questions written on post-it notes by the students and compiles the list of questions that will become slide 2.**

Lesson 2 – (30 minutes)

Students work in threes. The students are reminded of the way they drafted questions for President Roosevelt in the previous lesson. They have the opportunity to quiz their teacher once or twice more before slide 2 is presented. Students now take it in turns to be A: The Reporter, B: The President, C: The President’s Aide. The Reporter asks a question which the president must answer. If the Reporter feels the president’s answer is not good enough, s/he must press him further. The President’s Aide can assist with answers.