



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Politics: Obama's Speech
政治：奥巴马演讲



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Politics: Obama's Speech 政治：奥巴马演讲

A New Day, a New Dawn 新的一天，新的开始

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

History was made in Washington this week as Barack Obama was **sworn in** as the 44th President of the United States in front of a crowd of two million people.

President Obama made an **impassioned** and emotional speech to the **multitude** of people who had **braved the elements** to witness the **inauguration** of America's first African-American President.

President Obama's speech touched on many subjects of significance to the American people, including the **fragile state** of their economy and security matters such as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But he began by addressing his personal feelings on his election and the **weight of responsibility** he felt in taking on such an important **office**.

"I stand here today **humbled** by the task before us, grateful for the trust you have **bestowed**, mindful of the **sacrifices** borne by our ancestors," said President Obama.

The President went on to talk about the fears that many Americans have that their country is becoming less successful and **diminishing** as a global power.

He spoke of a "**sapping of confidence** across our land - a nagging fear that America's decline is inevitable, and that the next generation must **lower its sights**".

However, President Obama continued to say that America would respond to the challenges before it, and that the nation would **pull together** and overcome its problems by working together in a **spirit of co-operation**.

"On this day, we gather because we have chosen hope over fear, **unity of purpose** over conflict and **discord**," said the President.

After such a **stirring** speech, the world waits to see if America's new president's actions will match his **lofty words** and ideals.



Glossary 词汇表

sworn in – 宣誓就职	impassioned – 慷慨激昂的
multitude – 众多（的人）	braved the elements – 勇敢面对恶劣天气
inauguration – 就职仪式	fragile state - （经济）疲软局势
weight of responsibility – 身上的重任	office - （总统）职务
humbled – 身感责任重大的	bestowed – 授予
sacrifices – 牺牲	diminishing – 逐渐缩小的
sapping of confidence – 逐渐失去了信心	lower its sights – 降低目标
pull together – 齐心协力	spirit of co-operation – 协作精神
unity of purpose – 共同目标	discord – 不和，分歧
stirring – 令人激动地	lofty words – 寓意深厚的演讲

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

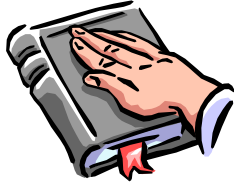
以下句子哪句是真？哪句是假？请圈出正确答案。

1. A handful of people showed up to watch President Obama's inauguration ceremony. **True / False**
2. It was a beautiful warm day for the event. **True / False**
3. President Obama talked about the country's financial situation. **True / False**
4. America has lost some self-belief, according to the President. **True / False**
5. He said that Americans needed to overcome their differences and work in harmony. **True / False**

2. Label the Pictures 标注图片

Look at the pictures below. Do you know what these items are? Write the name of the object underneath the picture.

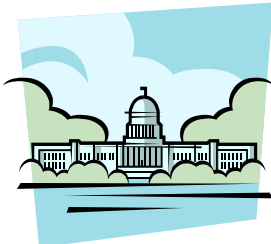
请看下列图片。你知道这些是什么物品吗？请将物品名称写在图片下面。



1. _____



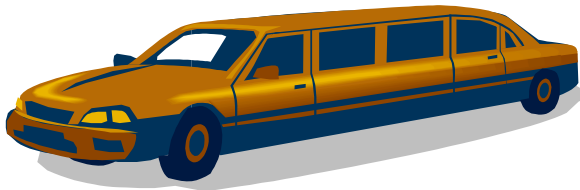
2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

limo	Oval Office	White House	Capitol Hill	oath
Stars and Stripes	Abraham Lincoln statue	Washington Monument		

3. Speech Vocabulary 演讲词汇

Match the vocabulary items with their definitions.

请把以下的单词和其相对应的解释连线。

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. orator | a. a member of the audience who interrupts a speech to make their own views heard |
| 2. rhetorical question | b. a public speaker |
| 3. autocue | c. a technique in public speaking in which the speaker first asks then answers their own question |
| 4. heckler | d. a machine from which public speakers read |

Now complete the sentences below using a word from above.

请用以上的单词来完成下列句子。

1. In the past public speakers had to memorise their speech or rely on notes, but these days most use an _____.
2. "What must we do? We must work harder and make more sacrifices," is an example of a _____.
3. Security guards threw out the _____ after he continued to shout out during the speech.
4. Many historians believe Cicero was ancient Rome's finest _____.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with American politics in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (→), vertically (↓) or diagonally (↘)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与美国政治有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的(→) 垂直的(↓) 或对角的(↘) 形式出现。

a	t	c	o	n	g	r	e	s	s	a	b
p	e	f	l	n	p	e	d	d	a	q	t
r	s	q	d	a	l	o	b	b	y	s	f
e	n	s	o	t	d	u	c	g	b	j	a
s	e	n	a	t	e	m	n	s	l	s	k
i	m	k	t	x	j	t	f	q	c	p	a
d	g	n	h	o	b	i	l	l	p	e	r
e	j	e	k	y	d	l	b	m	a	e	n
n	f	i	n	t	e	r	n	o	p	c	q
t	l	a	k	d	g	f	e	e	c	h	z
s	m	j	i	s	e	r	i	q	p	x	a
b	w	a	s	h	i	n	g	t	o	n	t

president	congress	senate	Washington		
lobby	aide	intern	oath	bill	speech

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真?哪句是假? 请圈出正确答案。

1. A handful of people showed up to watch President Obama's inauguration ceremony. **False**
2. It was a beautiful warm day for the event. **False**
3. President Obama talked about the country's financial situation. **True**
4. America has lost some self-belief, according to the President. **True**
5. He said that Americans needed to overcome their differences and work in harmony. **True**

3. Speech Vocabulary

Match the vocabulary items with their definitions.

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. a

Now complete the sentences below using a word from above.

1. In the past public speakers had to memorise their speech or rely on notes, but these days most use an **autocue**.
2. "What must we do? We must work harder and make more sacrifices," is an example of a **rhetorical question**.
3. Security guards threw out the **heckler** after he continued to shout out during the speech.
4. Many historians believe Cicero was ancient Rome's finest **orator**.

2. Label the Pictures 标注图片

Look at the pictures below. Do you know what these items are? Write the name of the object underneath the picture.

请看下列图片。你知道这些是什么物品吗? 请将物品名称写在图片下面。

1. oath
2. White House
3. Capitol Hill
4. Abraham Lincoln statue
5. limo
6. Oval Office
7. Washington Monument
8. Stars and Stripes

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

		c	o	n	g	r	e	s	s		
p											
r					l	o	b	b	y		
e			o								
s	e	n	a	t	e					s	
i			t							p	
d			h		b	i	l	l		e	
e										e	
n		i	n	t	e	r	n			c	
t										h	
	w	a	s	h	i	n	g	t	o	n	