



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

Politics: Barack Obama 政治：巴拉克·奥巴马



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A Historic Election 历史性选举

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习：

After a **hard-fought campaign**, **Democratic Senator** Barack Obama has won the US presidential election, and will become the 44th President of the United States – the first **African-American** in the country's history to do so.

President-elect Obama **marked his victory** with a speech to a crowd of tens of thousands of people in his hometown of Chicago.

Obama described his election as a "**defining moment**" in the history of the United States, saying that "change has come to America".

The BBC's **correspondent** in Washington says that in electing Barack Obama, the American people have expressed their unhappiness with the **status quo** and rejected their country's historical **racial divisions**.

The **Australian Prime Minister summed up** how many people felt when he congratulated President-elect Obama.

"Forty-five years ago **Martin Luther King** had a dream of an America where men and women would be judged not on the colour of their skin but on the content of their character. Today what America has done is turn that dream into a reality," said Prime Minister Kevin Rudd.

President-elect Obama will not **take office** until 20 January next year. However, when he does become president, he will face many **serious challenges**, including two foreign wars, **climate change** and what he has described as "the worst **financial crisis** in a century".

But the **mood** of the country is **optimistic**, according to most commentators, and Obama himself appears to **relish the challenge**.

"The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be **steep**. We may not get there in one year or even in one term, but America - I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there," said the next President of the United States.

Glossary 词汇表

hard-fought campaign 艰苦拼搏的竞选运动	Democratic senator 民主党参议员
African-American 非裔美国人	President-elect 当选总统
marked his victory 庆贺他的胜利	defining moment 决定性的时刻
correspondent 记者	status quo 现状
racial divisions 种族分划	Australian Prime Minister 澳大利亚总理
summed up 概括/归纳	Martin Luther King 马丁·路德·金
take office 上任	serious challenges 严峻的挑战
climate change 气候变化	financial crisis 金融危机
mood 心情/情绪	optimistic 乐观的
relish the challenge 喜欢这种挑战	steep 陡峭的/艰险的

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. Barack Obama will be the first black President of the United States.
True / False
2. A multitude of people gathered in Chicago to hear his victory speech.
True / False
3. America is a country with a long history of racial equality.
True / False
4. President Obama will take executive power immediately.
True / False
5. Most Americans have a pessimistic view of the future. **True / False**

2. Jumbled Sentences 打乱词序的句子

Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列，组成一个正确的句子。

1. Barack president first American Obama is the to elected black be.
_____.

2. He McCain the Republican beat John candidate.
_____.

3. supporters Obama addressed in President-elect of Chicago thousands.
_____.

4. presidency promised Barack make his Obama has to change part of.
_____.

5. USA The segregation has a slavery history of and racial.
_____.

6. as challenges serious America problems economic such war and faces.
_____.

3. Adjectives with -ic and -ical 含有-ic 和-ical 的形容词

有些形容词会以 **-ic** 或 **-ical** 结尾，不过其意思不同。比如：**historic** 和 **historical**。

一次 **historic election** 意思是一次历史性的选举。但是 **historical novel** 则是一本以过去为背景的历史小说。

判断下列句子中应该填写哪个词最合适。

1. Latin is a **classic/classical** language.
2. I think Gone with the Wind is a **classic/classical** film.
3. **Electric/electrical** guitars sound much louder than acoustic guitars.
4. He has a degree in **electric/electrical** engineering.
5. The way he was wearing that silly hat made him look **comic/comical**.
6. Mr Bean is a **comic/comical** genius.
7. Many countries are experiencing **economic/economical** problems at the moment.
8. It would be more **economic/economical** to buy the cheaper jeans.

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。

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

president	elect	senator	congress	Washington
state	Capitol	White House	vote	race

Answers 答案

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2. A multitude of people gathered in Chicago to hear his victory speech. **True**
3. America is a country with a long history of racial equality. **False**
4. President Obama will take executive power immediately. **False**
5. Most Americans have a pessimistic view of the future. **False**

3. Adjectives with -ic and -ical 含有-ic 和-ical 的形容词

1. Latin is a **classical** language.
2. I think Gone with the Wind is a **classic** film.
3. **Electric** guitars sound much louder than acoustic guitars.
4. He has a degree in **electrical** engineering.
5. The way he was wearing that silly hat made him look **comical**.
6. Mr Bean is a **comic** genius.
7. Many countries are experiencing **economic** problems at the moment.
- 8.
9. It would be more **economical** to buy the cheaper jeans.

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Rearrange the words in the sentences below to make correct sentences.

请将下列句子中的单词重新排列, 组成一个正确的句子。

1. Barack Obama is the first black American to be elected president.
2. He beat the Republican candidate John McCain.
3. President-elect Obama addressed thousands of supporters in Chicago.
4. Barack Obama has promised to make change part of his presidency.
5. The USA has a history of racial segregation and slavery.
6. America faces serious challenges such as war and economic problems.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

w	a	s	h	i	n	g	t	o	n		
h											
i		p									
t		r		s	e	n	a	t	o	r	
e	l	e	c	t							
h		s		a							
o		i		t		r	a	c	e		
u		d		e							
s		e							v		
e		n		c	a	p	i	t	o	l	
		t							t		
c	o	n	g	r	e	s	s		e		