REPORT 2

<Listening Lesson Plan>

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Apr. 5th, 2015

TESOL Class 110th

Listening Lesson Plan

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| Formal Speech Listening Drills : To be a president…(Listening Obama’s Inaugural Speech) |
| InstructorLee Ho Young | Level:Pre-intermidiate | Age Group:Over 30’s | Students:7 | Length:50`minutes |
| Materials:-Idioms, Obama’s career, and dictation(fill in the blanks) worksheet(7 copies)-Listening the video of Obama’s inaugural speech from [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4VoolvEsyQ)-Listening worksheet(dictating sheet)(7 copies)-White board, board markers |
| Aims:-To learn vocabulary and the expressions from formal speech.-To practice listening to formal speech and different political opinions and sharing it-To participate in some debating talk by sharing opinions and summarizing Obama’s speech and Obama.-To practice speaking by sharing political opinions |
| Language Skills-Reading : Idioms and Obama career Worksheet-Listening : dictating Obama’s inaugural speech and summarizing it-Speaking : sharing opinions and expressing their own political ideas about Obama’s speech and Obama-Writing : dictating and summarizing speech and adding some requirement of government |
| Language Systems-Phonology : Students will focus on accurate pronunciation during sharing opinions to be more effective communcation-Lexis : Students will be focusing on adjective or verb to describe Obama while talking about Obama.-Grammar : To understand Obama’s speech, Students might have to know expression based on grammar like the present perfect tense which are used very often in Obama’s speech.  |
| AssumptionsStudents already know:-How the class is set up and run(there are seating arrangements in circle for 7)-The teacher’s style of teaching and the pace of the course.-Students have already erected their own political positions.-All students are over 30’s so they have had firm lifestyle and also have known what they have needed politically for improving their lives. |
| References-Wikipedia  |
| Lead-in-To explain students why we are going to listen to Obama’s speech and know him, which let them know it could be one way to be familiar with formal expression and also helpful to make them understood of American culture through reviewing Obama’s career. |
| Pre-task Title (Warmer) |
| Aims-To make students be familiar with idioms and expression and understand more effectively before listening Obama speech.-to let students know who is Obama and Obama’s background and his political career so give the time for students to think before debating and listening Obama’s speech. | Materials-Idiom & Obama’s career Worksheet-White board and markers |
| Time | Set up | Students | Teacher |
| 5 | Class | -<Idioms & Words>To read through worksheet in part of Idioms and words.-<Background Knowledge> To guess and make sure Obama’s career and who is Obama is(Teacher can use some questions like this(name, accupation, birth date, place of birty, nickname) | -To elicit information about Obama from students and the meaning of Idioms-To make them fill in the blank of worksheet |
| 7 | Groups | -To share students’ own knowledge and discuss Obama’s career | -To set up task making students use worksheet |
| 5 | Class | To share students own knowledge and political view such as being progressive or conservative | To monitor who have not yet had political position and to make them find out their position |
| Notes -Past or Present Perfect Tense : Make sure the students understand how to construct past or present perfect sentences, and when they are used. Get the students to place the above points in chronological order. As they do this, get them to make sentences in the Past Perfect (e.g.) from speech : because we, the people, have remained faithful to the ideals of our forebearers) |
| Task Realisation Title(informal micro teaching) |
| Aims-To develop listening abilities of formal expressions. | Materials- the video of Obama’s inaugural speech from www.youtube.com(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4VoolvEsyQ) |
| Time | Set up | Students | Teacher |
| 8 | Class | -<Listening for main Idea>-To answer teacher’s questions to get the whole idea from Obama’s speech | -To make students pens down and listen to Obama’s speech to get the whole idea.  |
| 20 | Class | -<Listening for Details>1) First of all, to fill out blanks of Worksheet and summarize after listening carefully.e.g.) humbled → My fellow citizens, I stand here today \_\_\_\_\_ by the task bestowed, ancestors → before us, grateful for the trust you, \_\_\_\_\_ mindful of the sacrifices borne by our \_\_\_\_\_.2) Secondly, to summarize speech using worksheet. 3) Thirdly, let them point out impressive part of speech and expain why. | -To go online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4VoolvEsyQ-To make students listen carefully to Obama’s speech and them fill in the blanks -To confirm students understanding, make them summarize speech in their own words using a Worksheet. |
| Notes -Teacher use some questions for students’ listening for main idea as follows:1) Did he mention about health care? 2) Did he mention about the government's role? 3) Did he mention about Afghanistan? 4) What did he say toward the Muslim world? 5) Did he mention about liberty? and what did he say about? |
| Post Task Title(Worksheet) |
| Aims-To confirm student’s listening activities and understanding the lesson have completed | Materials-Worksheet |
| Time | Set up | Students | Teacher |
| 5 | Class | To feedback answers to confirm understanding | To ask Obama’s personal thing through the information about Obama’s career using Worksheet and answer what he is talking about briefly. |
| Notes -Teacher can ask students any questions from lesson contents to confirm if they can understand the lesson fully as follows.1) What is his political party? 2) What is his birth year? How many children does he have? |

<Listening Worksheet>

<http://www.inaugural.senate.gov/swearing-in/address/address-by-barack-obama-2009> (Address by Barack Obama, 2009)

<Drills to dictate - fill in the blanks>

My 1\_\_\_\_\_\_ citizens, I stand here today 2\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the task before us, grateful for the trust you, 3 \_\_\_\_\_ mindful of the sacrifices borne by our 4\_\_\_\_\_. I thank President Bush for his service to our Nation, as well as the 5\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_he has shown throughout this 6\_\_\_\_\_.

Forty-four Americans have now taken the Presidential 7\_\_\_\_\_\_. The words have been spoken during rising 8\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the still waters of peace. Yet, every so often, the oath is taken 9\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. At these moments, America has carried Son not simply because of 10\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of those in high office, but because we, the people, have remained faithful to the ideals of our 11\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to our founding documents. So it has been. So it must be with this generation of Americans.

That we are 12\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ crisis is now well understood. Our Nation is at war against a far-reaching network of violence and hatred. Our economy is badly weakened, a consequence of 13\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the part of some, but also our 14\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ failure to make hard choices and prepare the Nation for a new age. Homes have been lost; jobs shed; businesses 15\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Our health care is too costly; our schools fail too many; and each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy 16\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. These are the indicators of crisis, subject to data and statistics. Less measurable, but no less profound is a 17\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of confidence across our land, a 18\_\_\_\_\_\_ fear that America's decline is inevitable, that the next generation must lower its sights.

Today I say to you that 19\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. They are serious, and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this, America—they will be met.

On this day, we gather because we 20\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, unity of purpose over conflict and discord. On this day, we come to proclaim an end to the petty grievances and false promises, the 21\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that for far too long have strained our politics. We remain a young Nation, but in the words of Scripture, the time has come to 22\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ childish things. The time has come to 23\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, to choose our better history, to carry forward that precious gift, that noble idea 24\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from generation to generation, the God-given promise that all are equal, all are free, and all deserve a chance to pursue 25\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

26\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the greatness of our Nation, we understand that greatness is never a given. It must be earned. Our journey has never been one of shortcuts or 27\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. It has not been the path for 28\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, for those who prefer leisure over 29\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_only the pleasures of riches and fame. Rather, it has been the risk takers, the doers, the makers of things, some 30\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but more often men and women obscure in their labor who have carried us up 31\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ towards 32\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. For us, they packed up their few worldly possessions and traveled across oceans in search of a new life. For us, they toiled in 33\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and settled the West, endured 34\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and plowed the hard earth. For us, they fought and died in places like Concord and Gettysburg, Normandy and Khe Sahn.

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Thank you. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

1 fellow 2 humbled 3 bestowed 4 ancestors 5 generosity and cooperation 6 transition 7 oath 8 tides of prosperity 9 amidst gathering 10 clouds and raging storms 11 the skill or vision 12 forebearers and true 13 in the midst of greed and irresponsibility 14 collective 13 shuttered 15 strengthen our 16 adversaries and threaten our planet 17 sapping 18 nagging 19 the challenges we face are real 20 have chosen hope over fear 21 recriminations and wornout dogmas 22 set aside 23 reaffirm our enduring spirit 24 passed on 25 their full measure of happiness 26 In reaffirming 27 settling for less 28 the fainthearted 29 work or seek 30 celebrated 31 the long rugged path 32 prosperity and freedom 33 sweatshops 34 the lash of the whip

<Full Script for summarizing>

My fellow citizens, I stand here today humbled by the task before us, grateful for the trust you bestowed, mindful of the sacrifices borne by our ancestors. I thank President Bush for his service to our Nation, as well as the generosity and cooperation he has shown throughout this transition.

Forty-four Americans have now taken the Presidential oath. The words have been spoken during rising tides of prosperity and the still waters of peace. Yet, every so often, the oath is taken amidst gathering clouds and raging storms. At these moments, America has carried on not simply because of the skill or vision of those in high office, but because we, the people, have remained faithful to the ideals of our forebearers and true to our founding documents. So it has been. So it must be with this generation of Americans.

That we are in the midst of crisis is now well understood. Our Nation is at war against a far-reaching network of violence and hatred. Our economy is badly weakened, a consequence of greed and irresponsibility on the part of some, but also our collective failure to make hard choices and prepare the Nation for a new age. Homes have been lost; jobs shed; businesses shuttered. Our health care is too costly; our schools fail too many; and each day brings further evidence that the ways we use energy strengthen our adversaries and threaten our planet. These are the indicators of crisis, subject to data and statistics. Less measurable, but no less profound is a sapping of confidence across our land, a nagging fear that America's decline is inevitable, that the next generation must lower its sights.

Today I say to you that the challenges we face are real. They are serious, and they are many. They will not be met easily or in a short span of time. But know this, America? they will be met.

On this day, we gather because we have chosen hope over fear, unity of purpose over conflict and discord. On this day, we come to proclaim an end to the petty grievances and false promises, the recriminations and wornout dogmas that for far too long have strained our politics. We remain a young Nation, but in the words of Scripture, the time has come to set aside childish things. The time has come to reaffirm our enduring spirit, to choose our better history, to carry forward that precious gift, that noble idea passed on from generation to generation, the God-given promise that all are equal, all are free, and all deserve a chance to pursue their full measure of happiness.

In reaffirming the greatness of our Nation, we understand that greatness is never a given. It must be earned. Our journey has never been one of shortcuts or settling for less. It has not been the path for the fainthearted, for those who prefer leisure over work or seek only the pleasures of riches and fame. Rather, it has been the risk takers, the doers, the makers of things, some celebrated, but more often men and women obscure in their labor who have carried us up the long rugged path towards prosperity and freedom. For us, they packed up their few worldly possessions and traveled across oceans in search of a new life. For us, they toiled in sweatshops and settled the West, endured the lash of the whip, and plowed the hard earth. For us, they fought and died in places like Concord and Gettysburg, Normandy and Khe Sahn.

Time and again, these men and women struggled and sacrificed and worked until their hands were raw so that we might live a better life. They saw America as bigger than the sum of our individual ambitions, greater than all the differences of birth or wealth or faction.

This is the journey we continue today. We remain the most prosperous, powerful Nation on Earth. Our workers are no less productive than when this crisis began. Our minds are no less inventive, our goods and services no less needed than they were last week, or last month, or last year. Our capacity remains undiminished, and our time of standing pat and protecting narrow interests and putting off unpleasant decisions? that time has surely passed. Starting today, we must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off, and begin again the work of remaking America.

For everywhere we look, there is work to be done. The state of our economy calls for action, bold and swift. And we will act, not only to create new jobs, but to lay a new foundation for growth. We will build the roads and bridges, the electric grids and digital lines that feed our commerce and bind us together. We will restore science to its rightful place and wield technology's wonders to raise health care's quality and lower its cost. We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories. And we will transform our schools and colleges and universities to meet the demands of a new age. All this we can do. All this we will do.

Now, there are some who question the scale of our ambitions, who suggest that our system cannot tolerate too many big plans. Their memories are short. For they have forgotten what this country has already done, what free men and women can achieve when imagination is joined to common purpose and necessity to courage. What the cynics fail to understand is that the ground has shifted beneath them, that the stale political arguments that have consumed us for so long no longer apply.

The question we ask today is not whether our government is too big or too small, but whether it works? whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified. Where the answer is yes, we intend to move forward. Where the answer is no, programs will end. Those of us who manage the public's dollars will be held to account? to spend wisely, reform bad habits, and do our business in the light of day? because only then can we restore the vital trust between a people and their government.

Nor is the question before us whether the market is a force for good or ill. Its power to generate wealth and expand freedom is unmatched. But this crisis has reminded us that without a watchful eye, the market can spin out of control and that a nation cannot prosper long when it favors only the prosperous. The success of our economy has always depended not just on the size of our gross domestic product, but on the reach of our prosperity, on the ability to extend opportunity to every willing heart? not out of charity, but because it is the surest route to our common good.

As for our common defense, we reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals. Our Founding Fathers, faced with perils that we can scarcely imagine, drafted a charter to assure the rule of law and the rights of man, a charter expanded by the blood of generations. Those ideals still light the world, and we will not give them up for expedience sake. And so to all the other peoples and governments who are watching today, from the grandest capitals to the small village where my father was born, know that America is a friend of each nation and every man, woman, and child who seeks a future of peace and dignity and that we are ready to lead once more.

Recall that earlier generations faced down fascism and communism, not just with missiles and tanks, but with sturdy alliances and enduring convictions. They understood that our power alone cannot protect us, nor does it entitle us to do as we please. Instead, they knew that our power grows through its prudent use. Our security emanates from the justness of our cause, the force of our example, the tempering qualities of humility and restraint. We are the keepers of this legacy. Guided by these principles once more, we can meet those new threats that demand even greater effort, even greater cooperation and understanding between nations.

We will begin to responsibly leave Iraq to its people and forge a hard-earned peace in Afghanistan. With old friends and former foes, we will work tirelessly to lessen the nuclear threat and roll back the specter of a warming planet. We will not apologize for our way of life, nor will we waiver in its defense. And for those who seek to advance their aims by inducing terror and slaughtering innocents, we say to you now that our spirit is stronger and cannot be broken. You cannot outlast us, and we will defeat you.

For we know that our patchwork heritage is a strength, not a weakness. We are a nation of Christians and Muslims, Jews and Hindus, and nonbelievers. We are shaped by every language and culture, drawn from every end of this Earth. And because we have tasted the bitter swill of civil war and segregation and emerged from that dark chapter stronger and more united, we cannot help but believe that the old hatreds shall someday pass; that the lines of tribe shall soon dissolve; that as the world grows smaller, our common humanity shall reveal itself; and that America must play its role in ushering in a new era of peace.

To the Muslim world, we seek a new way forward based on mutual interest and mutual respect. To those leaders around the globe who seek to sow conflict or blame their society's ills on the West, know that your people will judge you on what you can build, not what you destroy.

To those who claim power through corruption and deceit and the silencing of dissent, know that you are on the wrong side of history, but that we will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist.

To the people of poor nations, we pledge to work alongside you to make your farms flourish and let clean waters flow; to nourish starved bodies and feed hungry minds. And to those nations like ours that enjoy relative plenty, we say we can no longer afford indifference to the suffering outside our borders, nor can we consume the world's resources without regard to effect. For the world has changed, and we must change with it.

As we consider the role that unfolds before us, we will remember with humble gratitude those brave Americans who at this very hour patrol far off deserts and distant mountains. They have something to tell us, just as the fallen heroes who lie in Arlington whisper through the ages. We honor them not only because they are the guardians of our liberty, but because they embody the spirit of service, a willingness to find meaning in something greater than themselves. And yet at this moment? a moment that will define a generation? it is precisely this spirit that must inhabit us all. For as much as government can do and must do, it is ultimately the faith and determination of the American people upon which this Nation relies. It is the kindness to take in a stranger when the levees break, the selflessness of workers who would rather cut their hours than see a friend lose their job which sees us through our darkest hours. It is the firefighter's courage to storm a stairway filled with smoke, but also a parent's willingness to nurture a child that finally decides our fate.

Our challenges may be new. The instruments with which we meet them may be new. But those values upon which our success depends? honesty and hard work, courage and fair play, tolerance and curiosities, loyalty and patriotism? these things are old. These things are true. They have been the quiet force of progress throughout our history. What is demanded, then, is a return to these truths; what is required of us now is a new era of responsibility? a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our Nation, and the world; duties that we do not grudgingly accept but, rather, seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all to a difficult task.

This is the price and the promise of citizenship. This is the source of our confidences? the knowledge that God calls on us to shape an uncertain destiny.

This is the meaning of our liberty and our creed? why men and women and children of every race and every faith can join in celebration across this magnificent Mall, and why a man whose father, less than 60 years ago, might not have been served at a local restaurant can now stand before you to take a most sacred oath.

So let us mark this day with remembrance of who we are and how far we have traveled. In the year of America's birth, in the coldest of months, a small band of patriots huddled by dying campfires on the shores of an icy river. The capital was abandoned. The enemy was advancing. The snow was stained with blood. At a moment when the outcome of our Revolution was most in doubt, the Father of our Nation ordered these words be read to the people:

“Let it be told to the future world…that in the depth of winter, when nothing but hope and virtue could survive…that the city and the country, alarmed at one common danger, came forth to meet [it].”

America: In the face of our common dangers, in this winter of our hardship, let us remember these timeless words. With hope and virtue, let us brave once more the icy currents and endure what storms may come. Let it be said by our children's children that when we were tested, we refused to let this journey end, that we did not turn back, nor did we falter; and with eyes fixed on the horizon and God's grace upon us, we carried forth that great gift of freedom and delivered it safely to future generations.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless the United States of America.

→ In short, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

<Idioms & Words>

<Words>

sap : n. the juice or vital circulating fluid of a plant, especially of a woody plant.

and any vital body fluid.v. to drain the sap from.

nagging : adj. continually faultfinding, complaining, or petulant:

grievances : n. a wrong considered as grounds for complaint, or something believed to cause distress

recrimination : n. the act of recriminating, or countercharging:

faction : n. government, organization, or the like

wield : v. to exercise (power, authority, influence, etc.), as in ruling or dominating.

expedience : nthe quality of being expedient; advantageousness; advisability

emanate : v. to flow out, issue, or proceed, as from a source or origin; come forth; originate

foe : n. a person who feels enmity, hatred, or malice toward another; enemy

waiver : n. an intentional relinquishment of some right, interest, or the like

swill : n. liquid or partly liquid food for animals, especially kitchen refuse given to swine; hogwash

unclench : v. to open or become opened from a clenched state

<Idioms>

in search of : Also, in quest of. Looking for, seeking

call for : to request; summon

out of control : not under management or direction; unmanageable or wild

<Obama’s Career>

Barack Obama, Barack Hussein Obama II (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Barack Hussein Obama II (born August 4, 1961) is the 44th and current President of the United States, and the first African American to hold the office. Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he served as president of the Harvard Law Review. He was a community organizer in Chicago before earning his law degree. He worked as a civil rights attorney and taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 to 2004. He served three terms representing the 13th District in the Illinois Senate from 1997 to 2004, running unsuccessfully for the United States House of Representatives in 2000.

In 2004, Obama received national attention during his campaign to represent Illinois in the United States Senate with his victory in the March Democratic Party primary, his keynote address at the Democratic National Convention in July, and his election to the Senate in November. He began his presidential campaign in 2007 and, after a close primary campaign against Hillary Rodham Clinton in 2008, he won sufficient delegates in the Democratic Party primaries to receive the presidential nomination. He then defeated Republican nominee John McCain in the general election, and was inaugurated as president on January 20, 2009. Nine months after his election, Obama was named the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

During his first two years in office, Obama signed into law economic stimulus legislation in response to the Great Recession in the form of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. Other major domestic initiatives in his first term included the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, often referred to as "Obamacare"; the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act; and the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010. In foreign policy, Obama ended U.S. military involvement in the Iraq War, increased U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan, signed the New START arms control treaty with Russia, ordered U.S. military involvement in Libya, and ordered the military operation that resulted in the death of Osama bin Laden. In January 2011, the Republicans regained control of the House of Representatives as the Democratic Party lost a total of 63 seats; and, after a lengthy debate over federal spending and whether or not to raise the nation's debt limit, Obama signed the Budget Control Act of 2011 and the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012.

Obama was reelected president in November 2012, defeating Republican nominee Mitt Romney, and was sworn in for a second term on January 20, 2013. During his second term, Obama has promoted domestic policies related to gun control in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, and has called for full equality for LGBT Americans, while his administration has filed briefs which urged the Supreme Court to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act of 1996 and California's Proposition 8 as unconstitutional. In foreign policy, Obama ordered U.S. military involvement in Iraq in response to gains made by the Islamic State in Iraq after the 2011 withdrawal from Iraq, continued the process of ending U.S. combat operations in Afghanistan, and has sought to normalize U.S. relations with Cuba.

Obama in the Oval Office in December 2012

44th President of the United States

Incumbent

Assumed office

January 20, 2009

Vice President Joe Biden

Preceded by George W. Bush

United States Senator from Illinois

In office

January 3, 2005 – November 16, 2008

Preceded by Peter Fitzgerald

Succeeded by Roland Burris

Member of the Illinois Senate from the 13th district

In office

January 8, 1997 – November 4, 2004

Preceded by Alice Palmer

Succeeded by Kwame Raoul

Personal details

Born Barack Hussein Obama II

August 4, 1961 (age 53)

Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.

Political party Democratic

Spouse(s) Michelle Robinson (m. 1992–present)

Children Malia Obama (daughter), Sasha Obama (daughter)

Residence White House

Education Punahou School

Alma mater Occidental College

Columbia University

Harvard Law School

Religion Christianity

Signature

Website barackobama.com

This article is part of a series on

Barack Obama

Early life and career

Illinois Senate U.S. Senate Political positions

Public image Family

First term

2008 primaries Obama–Biden campaign

Transition 1st inauguration Electoral history

Presidency Timeline: '09 '10 '11 '12

First 100 days Nobel Peace Prize

Second term

Re-election campaign (International reactions) 2nd inauguration Obamacare Presidency Timeline: '13 '14 '15