

JOHN MCCAIN

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CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Synonym Match and Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Choose the Correct Word	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Student Survey	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

John McCain is the United States Senator for Arizona and the Republican Party's nominee for U.S. President in the 2008 election. He had a distinguished military career and won a Purple Heart medal in Vietnam. He entered politics in 1981 and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986. He is a conservative who has his own views on key issues.

McCain was born in 1936 in Panama to a U.S. naval officer. In 1951, his family returned to the USA and he attended a private school. Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, McCain entered the military. He loved boxing and showed many leadership skills during his training. He graduated from his naval academy in 1958.

McCain's combat duty began in 1967 when he was 30 years old. He was assigned to be a fighter pilot in the Vietnam War. His plane was shot down on his twenty-third bombing mission. Badly injured, he was taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison and tortured. He spent almost six years there, two in solitary confinement. He returned to America as a hero.

McCain retired from the Navy in 1981 and set his sights on a political career. He spent four years in local politics in Arizona before becoming the state's Senator in 1986. He won re-election by large majorities in 1992, 1998, and 2004. He has worked to restore relations with Vietnam during his time in office. Three of his sons have entered the military.

246 words
Flesch Kinkaid 9.3

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the words from the article on the left with their synonyms on the right. Are your answers the same as other students'?

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 1. nominee | a. important |
| 2. distinguished | b. joined |
| 3. key | c. went back |
| 4. returned | d. talents |
| 5. entered | e. great |
| 6. skills | f. candidate |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 7. combat | g. appointed |
| 8. assigned | h. ambitions |
| 9. infamous | i. margins |
| 10. sights | j. repair |
| 11. majorities | k. notorious |
| 12. restore | l. fighting |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. the Republican Party's | a. issues |
| 2. a distinguished | b. on a political career |
| 3. his own views on key | c. skills |
| 4. Following in the | d. duty began in 1967 |
| 5. leadership | e. military career |
| 6. McCain's combat | f. confinement |
| 7. He was assigned to be a fighter | g. footsteps of his father |
| 8. solitary | h. large majorities |
| 9. set his sights | i. nominee for U.S. President |
| 10. He won re-election by | j. pilot in the Vietnam War |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

John McCain is the United States Senator for Arizona and the Republican Party's _____ U.S. President in the 2008 election. He had a distinguished military _____ won a Purple Heart medal in Vietnam. He entered _____ and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986. He is a conservative who has his own views _____.

McCain was born in 1936 in Panama _____ officer. In 1951, his family returned to the USA and _____ private school. Following in _____ his father and grandfather, McCain entered the military. He loved boxing and showed many leadership skills during his training. He graduated from _____ in 1958.

McCain's combat _____ 1967 when he was 30 years old. He was assigned _____ pilot in the Vietnam War. His plane was shot down on his twenty-third _____. Badly injured, he was taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison and tortured. He spent almost six years there, _____ confinement. He returned to America as a hero.

McCain _____ the Navy in 1981 and set his sights on a political career. He spent four years _____ in Arizona before becoming the state's Senator in 1986. He won re-election by _____ in 1992, 1998, and 2004. He has worked to restore relations with Vietnam during _____ office. Three of his sons have entered the military.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs in italics.

John McCain is the United States Senator for Arizona and the Republican Party's nominee *from / for* U.S. President in the 2008 election. He had a distinguished *military / militia* career and won a Purple Heart *medal / medallion* in Vietnam. He entered politics in 1981 and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986. He is a conservative who has his own views on key *issue / issues*.

McCain was born in 1936 in Panama *at / to* a U.S. naval officer. In 1951, his family returned to the USA and he *attention / attended* a private school. Following in the *footsteps / footprints* of his father and grandfather, McCain entered the military. He loved boxing and showed many leadership *skills / skill* during his training. He graduated from his naval academy in 1958.

McCain's combat duty began in 1967 when he was 30 years old. He was assigned to be a *fighter / fighting* pilot in the Vietnam War. His plane was shot *down / under* on his twenty-third bombing mission. Badly injured, he was taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison and *tortured / torturing*. He spent almost six years there, two in *solitary / alone* confinement. He returned to America as a hero.

McCain *retired / quit* from the Navy in 1981 and set his *sites / sights* on a political career. He spent four years in local politics in Arizona before becoming the state's Senator in 1986. He won re-election by large *majority / majorities* in 1992, 1998, and 2004. He has worked to restore relations with Vietnam during his *time / timing* in office. Three of his sons have entered the military.

SPELLING:

These jumbled words are from the text. Spell them correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. nneomei for U.S. President
2. a distinguished tliirmay career
3. eeecdlt to the U.S. Senate
4. key sesusi

Paragraph 2

5. he attended a vrtapie school
6. Following in the ftssopeto of his father
7. showed many leadership kissll
8. aanvl academy

Paragraph 3

9. McCain's tmboca duty began in 1967
10. fighter plait
11. dbaly injured
12. He ernruetd to America as a hero

Paragraph 4

13. McCain dtriree from the Navy in 1981
14. He spent four years in callo politics
15. He won re-election by gerla majorities
16. restore noeiatlrs with Vietnam

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () to be a fighter pilot in the Vietnam War. His plane was shot down on his twenty-third bombing mission. Badly
- () McCain was born in 1936 in Panama to a U.S. naval officer. In 1951, his family returned to the USA and he attended a
- () career. He spent four years in local politics in Arizona before becoming the state's Senator in 1986. He won
- (**1**) John McCain is the United States Senator for Arizona and the Republican Party's nominee for U.S. President in the
- () almost six years there, two in solitary confinement. He returned to America as a hero.
- () politics in 1981 and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1986. He is a conservative who has his own views on key issues.
- () injured, he was taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" prison and tortured. He spent
- () McCain's combat duty began in 1967 when he was 30 years old. He was assigned
- () private school. Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, McCain entered the military. He loved
- () 2008 election. He had a distinguished military career and won a Purple Heart medal in Vietnam. He entered
- () McCain retired from the Navy in 1981 and set his sights on a political
- () boxing and showed many leadership skills during his training. He graduated from his naval academy in 1958.
- () re-election by large majorities in 1992, 1998, and 2004. He has worked to restore
- () relations with Vietnam during his time in office. Three of his sons have entered the military.

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With your partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. a had He career military distinguished

2. his a own conservative views who He has is

3. father the and footsteps grandfather of Following his in

4. during training many skills his showed leadership

5. in academy naval his from graduated He 1958

6. assigned was He pilot fighter a be to

7. returned America a He to as hero

8. political set sights a career his on

9. worked has He Vietnam with relations restore to

10. have sons his of Three military the entered

JOHN MCCAIN DISCUSSION:

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What do you know about John McCain?
2. Would you like to meet John McCain?
3. What would you like to know about John McCain and why?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

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JOHN MCCAIN DISCUSSION:

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. What did you learn from this text about John McCain?
2. What questions would you like to ask John McCain?
3. What would his answers be to those questions?
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

JOHN MCCAIN SURVEY:

Write five questions about John McCain in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about John McCain. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. JOHN MCCAIN POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of John McCain. Show your poster to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all find out similar things?

4. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about John McCain. Include an imaginary interview with him. Write about what he does every day and what he thinks about.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to John McCain. Ask him three questions about his life. Give him three suggestions on what he should do in his future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "John McCain expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| 1. nominee | a. candidate |
| 2. distinguished | b. great |
| 3. key | c. important |
| 4. returned | d. went back |
| 5. entered | e. joined |
| 6. skills | f. talents |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| 7. combat | g. fighting |
| 8. assigned | h. appointed |
| 9. infamous | i. notorious |
| 10. sights | j. ambitions |
| 11. majorities | k. margins |
| 12. restore | l. repair |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. the Republican Party's | a. nominee for U.S. President |
| 2. a distinguished | b. military career |
| 3. his own views on key | c. issues |
| 4. Following in the | d. footsteps of his father |
| 5. leadership | e. skills |
| 6. McCain's combat | f. duty began in 1967 |
| 7. He was assigned to be a fighter | g. pilot in the Vietnam War |
| 8. solitary | h. confinement |
| 9. set his sights | i. on a political career |
| 10. He won re-election by | j. large majorities |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.