

SARAH PALIN

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Sarah Palin (born 1964) is the first woman to be selected by America's Republican Party as vice-presidential nominee. She is also governor of Alaska. Although she was little-known by most Americans, those in her party have taken her to their hearts. Her simple hockey mom image, humble background and Christian values are very popular with the Republican faithful.

Palin was born in Idaho to a school secretary mother and a science teacher father. Her family moved to Alaska when she was a baby. She loved the outdoor Alaskan life and got into moose hunting, fishing and long-distance running. She went to school in a small town called Wasilla, where she later became mayor. In 1984, she won her town's beauty contest.

Palin graduated from university in 1987 with a degree in journalism and got a job as a sports reporter for an Alaskan TV channel. She entered politics as a member of the Wasilla city council in 1992 and became mayor in 1996. Her no-nonsense approach to politics saw her rise further. In 2006, she was elected the first ever female governor of Alaska.

In August 2008, Senator John McCain announced Palin as his running mate. She gave her 40-minute acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention. Republicans hope she will help win the votes of Christian conservatives, women and those in favour of firearms. Little is known of her views. The McCain team is restricting press access to Palin so she rarely gives interviews or engages in debates.

249 words

Flesch Kinkaid 9.8

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. selected | a. simple |
| 2. nominee | b. relocated |
| 3. humble | c. candidate |
| 4. moved | d. chosen |
| 5. got into | e. competition |
| 6. contest | f. became interested in |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 7. channel | g. style |
| 8. entered | h. limiting |
| 9. approach | i. station |
| 10. running mate | j. guns |
| 11. firearms | k. got into |
| 12. restricting | l. partner |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. she was little- | a. faithful |
| 2. ... have taken her to | b. of her views |
| 3. very popular with the Republican | c. outdoor Alaskan life |
| 4. She loved the | d. in journalism |
| 5. she won her town's | e. their hearts |
| 6. a degree | f. interviews |
| 7. Her no-nonsense | g. known by most Americans |
| 8. his running | h. beauty contest |
| 9. Little is known | i. approach to politics |
| 10. she rarely gives | j. mate |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Sarah Palin (born 1964) is the first woman to _____ America's Republican Party as vice-presidential nominee. She is also governor of Alaska. Although she was _____ most Americans, those in her party have _____ hearts. Her simple hockey mom image, humble background and Christian values _____ the Republican faithful.

Palin was born _____ school secretary mother and a science teacher father. Her family moved to Alaska when she was a baby. She loved the outdoor Alaskan _____ moose hunting, fishing and long-distance running. She went to school in a small town called Wasilla, _____ became mayor. In 1984, _____ beauty contest.

Palin graduated from university in 1987 _____ journalism and got a job as a sports reporter for an Alaskan TV channel. She entered _____ of the Wasilla city council in 1992 and became mayor in 1996. Her _____ to politics saw her rise further. In 2006, she was _____ female governor of Alaska.

In August 2008, Senator John McCain announced Palin _____ mate. She gave her 40-minute _____ the Republican National Convention. Republicans hope she _____ votes of Christian conservatives, women and those in favour of firearms. Little is known of her views. The McCain team is restricting press access to Palin _____ interviews or engages in debates.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

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

Sarah Palin (born 1964) is the first woman to be *selection / selected* by America's Republican Party as vice-presidential nominee. She is also governor of Alaska. Although she was *little-knowing / known* by most Americans, those in her party have *taken / put* her to their hearts. Her simple hockey mom image, humble background and Christian values are very *popular / popularity* with the Republican faithful.

Palin was born in Idaho *to / for* a school secretary mother and a science teacher father. Her family *removed / moved* to Alaska when she was a baby. She loved the outdoor Alaskan life and got *into / onto* moose hunting, fishing and long-distance running. She went to school in a small town called Wasilla, where she later became mayor. In 1984, she *beat / won* her town's beauty contest.

Palin graduated *at / from* university in 1987 with a degree in journalism and got a job as a sports reporter for an Alaskan TV channel. She entered politics *as / was* a member of the Wasilla city council in 1992 and became mayor in 1996. Her no-nonsense approach to politics saw her rise *future / further*. In 2006, she was elected the first *never / ever* female governor of Alaska.

In August 2008, Senator John McCain announced Palin as his running *mate / friend*. She gave her 40-minute acceptance *speaking / speech* at the Republican National Convention. Republicans hope she will help win the votes of Christian conservatives, women and those in favour of *firearms / fires*. Little is known of her views. The McCain team is restricting press access to Palin so she *really / rarely* gives interviews or engages in debates.

SPELLING:

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

Paragraph 1

1. the first woman to be etsedecl
2. vice-presidential nemieon
3. Christian uvesla
4. popular with the Republican flutaifh

Paragraph 2

5. school ayteerrcs
6. She loved the ouodrot Alaskan life
7. long-tenacsdi running
8. betuya contest

Paragraph 3

9. a degree in numjairlso
10. an Alaskan TV nhlaenc
11. Her no-nonsense parochap to politics
12. ... she was eetdcle the first ever female governor

Paragraph 4

13. nuringn mate
14. acceptance ehcsp
15. those in favour of rerifmas
16. she rarely gives sweeintivr

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () became mayor. In 1984, she won her town's beauty contest.
- () In August 2008, Senator John McCain announced Palin as his running mate. She gave her 40-minute acceptance
- () Palin was born in Idaho to a school secretary mother and a science teacher
- () hunting, fishing and long-distance running. She went to school in a small town called Wasilla, where she later
- () party have taken her to their hearts. Her simple hockey mom image, humble
- () press access to Palin so she rarely gives interviews or engages in debates.
- () further. In 2006, she was elected the first ever female governor of Alaska.
- () father. Her family moved to Alaska when she was a baby. She loved the outdoor Alaskan life and got into moose
- () speech at the Republican National Convention. Republicans hope she will help win the votes of Christian
- () background and Christian values are very popular with the Republican faithful.
- () Palin graduated from university in 1987 with a degree in journalism and got a job as a sports
- () mayor in 1996. Her no-nonsense approach to politics saw her rise
- () presidential nominee. She is also governor of Alaska. Although she was little-known by most Americans, those in her
- () conservatives, women and those in favour of firearms. Little is known of her views. The McCain team is restricting
- (**1**) Sarah Palin (born 1964) is the first woman to be selected by America's Republican Party as vice-
- () reporter for an Alaskan TV channel. She entered politics as a member of the Wasilla city council in 1992 and became

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. selected be to woman first the

2. known most was - by Americans little

3. very faithful Republican the with popular

4. she baby moved when a family Alaska was Her to

5. , beauty she contest won In her 1984 town's

6. reporter for an Alaskan TV channel a job as a sports

7. - approach politics no nonsense to Her

8. mate announced as running McCain Palin his

9. acceptance gave 40 minute speech her -

10. engages or interviews gives rarely she debates in

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

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

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

DISCUSSION (Write your questions):

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

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

THE SARAH PALIN SURVEY:

Write five questions about Sarah Palin 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 Sarah Palin. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SARAH PALIN POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Sarah Palin. 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 Sarah Palin. Include an imaginary interview with her. Write about what she does every day and what she 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 Sarah Palin. Ask her three questions about her life. Give her three suggestions on what she should do in her future. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your "Sarah Palin expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1. selected | a. chosen |
| 2. nominee | b. candidate |
| 3. humble | c. simple |
| 4. moved | d. relocated |
| 5. got into | e. became interested in |
| 6. contest | f. competition |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 7. channel | g. station |
| 8. entered | h. got into |
| 9. approach | i. style |
| 10. running mate | j. partner |
| 11. firearms | k. guns |
| 12. restricting | l. limiting |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. she was little- | a. known by most Americans |
| 2. ... have taken her to | b. their hearts |
| 3. very popular with the Republican | c. faithful |
| 4. She loved the | d. outdoor Alaskan life |
| 5. she won her town's | e. beauty contest |
| 6. a degree | f. in journalism |
| 7. Her no-nonsense | g. approach to politics |
| 8. his running | h. mate |
| 9. Little is known | i. of her views |
| 10. she rarely gives | j. interviews |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES:

Look at the text on page 2.