

Crosstalk

November CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2004

ELECTIONS

After a long campaign full of heated debates, nasty **accusations** and aspiring promises by both **frontrunners**, the American people decided to re-elect George W. Bush as their president. America has always had **influential** presidents throughout its history.

John Hanson was the first unofficial president of America. He came from a patriotic family. He was self-educated and took a great interest in reading and familiarizing himself with the juridical system. He was elected in 1781. During his time in office he established many departments, including the Treasury Department and the Foreign Affairs Department.

Abraham Lincoln was a strong and fair leader, who tried to **bridge** the North and South of the United States. He came into power during the Civil War. On 1 January 1863 he issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an **unprecedented** bill **abolishing** slavery.

He was assassinated in April 1865 by a **disgruntled** Southerner who was against the unification of America.

As a president of America, Richard Nixon met with many foreign diplomats both at home and overseas and helped to **ease** tensions between different countries. Perhaps Nixon is most famously known for the "Nixon Tapes", which involved breaking into the Democratic offices during the Elections. He denied this and a great scandal followed which led to his **resignation** in 1973.



Lastly, Jimmy Carter also played an important role in American history. Carter who continues to do good in society was a believer of human rights

and supported environmental issues. When he was president, he created many jobs, appointed minorities to his government, expanded national parks and created the Department of Education.

So, who's your favourite American President of all time?

Story by Grace

Glossary

(These words are in color in the story)

accusation 告発

front runners 最有力候補者

influential 大きな影響力を及ぼす

bridge 繋ぐ

unprecedented 前例のない

abolishing 廃止する

disgruntled . . . に不満をい込む

ease 緩和する

resignation 辞任

A Word From Us



Joshua Says: It's time to say "goodbye" to one of our teachers again. Grace is heading home to reunite with her family and friends in Canada after a year teaching with us. The Crossroads staff and I wish her a speedy and safe journey home. I know that her students will miss her too. Good luck in your future, Grace!

Junko Says: Last month's Halloween party was one of the best parties we have had in a long time. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves very much and there was a lot of fun all round. The highlight was Steven and Magnolia (and Winter)'s songs. Have a look at some of the photos from the party on page 3. Let's have another party like this for Christmas this year!



Grace Says: After sixteen unforgettable months of living and teaching in Japan, I've decided to return to Canada. I really long to be with my family and friends once again. I sure will miss my students and want to thank them, my co-workers, friends and staff for all their help. I wish you all the best of luck with your future endeavours!! Good-bye everyone and Japan.....!!!!

Adam Says: The month of November is a special one in Canada. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Canadians are asked to pause and remember the thousands of men and women who sacrificed their lives fighting for freedom and democracy during the First World War, the Second World War, the Korean War and during peacekeeping missions. Please take a moment and remember.



Greg says: Well once again another year has zipped by leaving us one month to prepare for the silly season (December). Some stores have already begun to hang decorations up to lure in the customers looking to purchase early gifts. It's strange to think that when I first arrived in Japan (Miyagi) many years ago there weren't any decorations to be seen at Christmas time. Now you can see them in November!!!

Natacha Says: Bonjour! I am a new teacher at Crossroads. I come from New Brunswick, Canada. My hometown is one of the five cultural capitals in Canada. It is a small town of 4,000 people, but for the summer festival, it grows to 30,000. We have great seafood such as lobster, crab and shrimp. If you have a chance, visit the web site, www.ville.caraquet.nb.ca and check-out "tourisme", and Enjoy!!



Magnolia and Steven Say: Hello everyone! We are from Australia. We have recently joined the Crossroads team and would like to thank all of our new friends at Crossroads for making us feel so welcome. If you see us around, please don't be shy and come and introduce yourselves!



Natasha Says: On Nov. 2nd, I attended the 100th anniversary of Japan-Russian War (1904) at the Russian cemetery in Matsuyama. The Russian ambassador in Tokyo, Mr. Alexander LOSYUKOV, the Matsuyama city Mayor, many Orthodox Priests and Christians (from Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto...etc) were there. We held a Panihida ceremony (45 min) for the spirits of the 98 soldiers who died in the Matsuyama POW camps. The ambassador expressed his deepest appreciation to Matsuyama's citizens; SO DID I."

Yuka Says: Autumn is a good season to enjoy art, so I went to see an exhibition of Western Art the other day. I usually find pictures of impressionists very attractive, but this time, I really liked Picasso's work. It was a small picture of a white dove, simple black and white, not too abstract, sending us a message of peace. No wonder there are so many people who love Picasso's works.



A Word From You



Kazia Says: I visited New Zealand and I was simply overwhelmed with the beautiful nature and the large number of sheep. I quickly began to like NZ. I met Vanessa (Rachael's sister) and Alan, her husband. We had dinner together and talked about many things, so I had a pleasant time. Anyway, my trip was a great experience for me and broadened my mind. I hope to go abroad again in the near future.



Etsuko Says: I went to Taiwan from the 21st September to 23rd with my friend. I ate lots of Chinese food and enjoyed it. In addition, I got a foot massage. It was so painful that I screeched! But, the Taiwanese are very open-hearted and friendly. I would like to go there again some day!!



Notice Board



Net News Easy English Lesson

NET LESSONS:

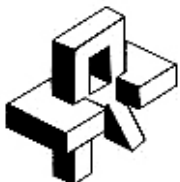
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NET SITE OF THE MONTH: You can read the American Constitution at this website:
www.midnightbeach.com/jon/US-Constitution.htm

Don't forget to take a look at the **NET NOTEBOOK** in our Open-house lounge. You'll find games, news and English study sites.

Brrr!! It's getting cold. Here are some "cool" idioms to use for this fresh season.

1. to get **COLD FEET** → to become frightened of doing something:
Marcia got **cold feet** the night before her wedding.
2. **ICE-COLD** → extremely cold:
Tom's hands were **ice-cold** when he returned from a walk in the snow.
3. a **COLD FISH** → a person who does not seem very friendly:
Bob is like a **cold fish**. He never shows his emotions to anyone.



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