

☐ National News

Taiwan Welcomes New President

After eight years of DPP rule, Taiwan has recently undergone a peaceful **handover** of power. On May 20th, Ma Ying-jeou replaced Chen Shui-bian as President of Taiwan in an **inauguration** ceremony in Taipei.

People will be watching closely to see what measures and policies President Ma will pursue to kick start the Taiwanese economy and get the country back to its former status as one of the “Four Asian Tigers.” (2)

However, expected price increases for everyday consumer goods such as gasoline and food may prove unpopular, especially in areas that have experienced considerable economic **hardship**. (3)

Another major issue facing President Ma is the question of Taiwan's relationship with China, which was greatly **strained** under the previous **administration**. There are forces within his own party that seek a much closer relationship with China than Ma is prepared to accept. (4) Officials with the U.S. government, which is Taiwan's most powerful economic and military **ally**, seem pleased with the plans and measures that Ma has proposed so far. (5)

Regardless of the **speculation** regarding President Ma, the fact remains that he has been given an **overwhelming mandate** by the voters of Taiwan to set the country on a new path to peace and economic **prosperity**. Only time will tell if the voters made the right choice.

◆ Discourse Structure

- (A) Many people are **anxiously** waiting to see how the new government plans to **strike a balance between** rising costs **and** an improved economy.
- (B) **Expectations** for the new president run high in a country that has seen its high-powered, technology-based economy slow down **considerably** in the past **decade**.
- (C) However, his plan to expand cross-**strait** economic, cultural, and **transportation** ties is being met with **cautious optimism**, both at home and abroad.
- (D) Many observers in the international community feel that Ma is the right man to reduce **tensions** between Taiwan and China.
- (E) The two biggest issues facing the new president are the economy and Taiwan's relations with China.

(1)
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)



Before You Read

► 經過了去年年底的立法委員 (legislator) 選舉, 及今年三月的總統選舉 (presidential election), 國民黨 (KMT) 重新贏得了執政黨 (ruling party) 的地位, 而民進黨 (DDP) 則成為最大的在野黨 (opposition party)。馬英九在 520 就職典禮 (inauguration ceremony) 中宣誓就職 (swear in), 正式成為中華民國的總統 (president), 而蕭萬長為副總統 (vice president)。

◆ Vocabulary and Idioms

1. handover ['hændəʊvə] *n.* 移交
2. inauguration [ˌɪn,əʒjə'reɪʃən] *n.* 就職
3. expectation [ˌɛkspek'teɪʃən] *n.* 期待
4. considerably [kən'sɪdərəbly] *adv.* 相當地
5. decade ['dekeɪd] *n.* 十年
6. hardship ['hɑːdʃɪp] *n.* 艱難情況；苦難
7. anxiously ['æŋkʃəsli] *adv.* 憂慮地
8. strike a balance between A and B
v. phr. 找到折衷辦法；妥協
9. strain [streɪn] *v.* 拉緊；繃緊
10. administration [əd,mɪnə'streɪʃən] *n.* 政府；行政
11. strait [streɪt] *n.* 海峽
12. transportation [ˌtræns'pɔː'teɪʃən] *n.* 交通運輸
13. cautious ['kɔːʃəs] *adj.* 謹慎的；小心的
14. optimism ['ɒptə'mɪzəm] *n.* 樂觀
15. ally ['ælaɪ] *n.* 同盟國
16. tension ['tɛnʃən] *n.* 緊張的狀態
17. speculation [ˌspekju'leɪʃən] *n.* 猜測
18. overwhelming [ˌovə'hwelmɪŋ] *adj.* 巨大的；壓倒性的
19. mandate ['mændet] *n.* 使命；授權
20. prosperity [prə'sperəti] *n.* 繁榮

◆ Patterns

Only time will tell if the voters made the right choice.

= Only time will tell whether (or not) the voters made the right choice.

⇒ “if” 在本句中為引導名詞子句的連接詞，意思為「是否」，在句中作為 tell 的受詞，可等於“whether or not”。“if” 最常見的用法為表條件的連接詞，意思為「如果」，其後所連接的副詞子句的動作若發生在未來，則需用現在式代替未來式。

- If he comes to the party tomorrow, I will give him the present.
(如果他明天來派對的話，我就會把這個禮物給他。)

◆ Translation

全臺迎接新總統上任

在民進黨執政八年之後，臺灣最近經歷了一個和平的政權轉移。五月二十日，在臺北的就職典禮中，馬英九取代了陳水扁，成為臺灣的總統。而新總統所面臨的兩個最大的議題是經濟以及臺灣和大陸的關係。

人們將會非常仔細地觀看馬總統會採取什麼樣的措施及政策來振興臺灣的經濟，贏回臺灣以前曾擁有的「亞洲四小龍」之一的稱號。在看著過去十年來一個有著強大能力、且以科技為主的經濟成長大大地緩慢下來，人們對這位新總統更充滿了期待。然而日常消費性商品，像是汽油及食物已經蓄勢待發，價格即將上揚，這一點已經不受人民歡迎，特別是在那些已經遭受到相當大經濟困難的地區。很多人們焦慮地等著看政府如何在物價上漲及經濟改善之間取得平衡點。

另一個馬總統所面臨的重要議題是臺灣與大陸之間關係的問題，因為在前一任政府統治時，兩岸關係陷入緊繃。來自自己黨內，尋求與大陸有更加親密關係的力量已經高過馬英九本身所準備接受的。然而，他要擴展海峽兩岸的經濟、文化和交通運輸關係的計劃，不論在國內或國外，似乎有著謹慎樂觀的態度。來自臺灣最有力的經濟及軍事同盟的美國官員們，似乎對馬英九目前所提出的計劃及措施表示滿意。許多國際社會觀察家覺得馬英九是降低臺灣與大陸緊張情勢的正確人選。

不論對於馬總統的猜測為何，馬英九確實背負著臺灣選民所賦予的巨大使命，將帶領這個國家邁向和平及經濟繁榮之途。也只有時間能證明選民們是否做了正確的決定。

◆ **Answer**

(1) E (2) B (3) A (4) C (5) D

[illegible]