



# NEWS SCOPE

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## National News

### Taiwan Welcomes New President

After eight years of DPP rule, Taiwan has recently undergone a peaceful handover of power. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, Ma Ying-jeou replaced Chen Shui-bian as President of Taiwan in an inauguration ceremony in Taipei. (1)

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)

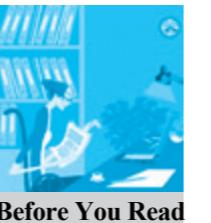
Another major issue facing President Ma is the question of Taiwan’s relationship with China, which was greatly strained under the previous administration. There are forces within his own party that seek a much closer relationship with China than Ma is prepared to accept. (4) Officials with the U.S. government, 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 [ɪnəʊdʒə'refən] n. 就職
3. expectation [ekspɛk'teʃən] n. 期待
4. considerably [kən'sɪdrəblɪ] adv. 相當地
5. decade [dεkəd] n. 十年
6. hardship [hɑrdʃɪp] n. 艱難情況；苦難
7. anxiously ['æŋkʃəslɪ] adv. 憂慮地
8. strike a balance between A and B  
v. phr. 找到折衷辦法；妥協
9. strain [stren] v. 拉緊；繃緊
10. administration [əd'mɪnɪstreʃən] n. 政府；行政
11. strait [stret] n. 海峽
12. transportation [trænsپə'refən] n. 交通運輸
13. cautious [kɔʃəs] adj. 謹慎的；小心的
14. optimism ['ɒptɪmɪzəm] n. 樂觀
15. ally ['ælər] n. 同盟國
16. tension ['tenʃən] n. 緊張的狀態
17. speculation [spɛkju'leʃən] n. 猜測
18. overwhelming [əvə'hweɪlmɪŋ] adj. 巨大的；壓倒性的
19. mandate ['mændet] n. 使命；授權
20. prosperity [prəs'perəti] 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，兩岸關係陷入緊繩。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

## International News

### Myanmar Cyclone Relief Effort Under Fire

Authorities in Myanmar are being criticized by international aid organizations and human rights groups for its failure to **adequately** respond to a **devastating cyclone** that struck on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The storm, which **ravaged** the southern part of the country, destroyed countless buildings and large areas of **arable** farmland and also led to the deaths of tens of thousands of innocent **civilians**. In the days immediately following the cyclone, the government is accused of ignoring the growing **humanitarian** crisis within its **borders** and refusing to allow foreign aid workers with experience in handling disasters of this **magnitude** into the country.

Myanmar, a Southeast Asian country of almost 50 million people known as Burma prior to 1989, has been under military rule of one kind or another since 1962. In 1990, the ruling military **junta** which seized power in 1988 held democratic elections in an attempt to give its government more **legitimacy** in the international community. However, after losing the elections badly to the main **opposition** group, the **regime** refused to give up power and instead tightened its control over the nation. Since then, it has maintained its authority by cracking down heavily on any **dissent**, not allowing any **viable** political opposition to its rule, and controlling all aspects of the lives of its citizens. The government of Myanmar is **infamous** for its human rights abuses and is ranked as one of the most **corrupt** regimes in the world.

Following international **outrage** over the regime's handling of the cyclone **relief** effort, aid workers from Myanmar's Southeast Asian neighbors have since been allowed into the country. However, health experts fear that it may already be too late to save thousands of children and elderly from **succumbing** to disease and **starvation** which would have been preventable if aid had reached the area sooner.

1. According to the passage, which of the following is true?
  - (A) Myanmar has only been under military rule since 1988.
  - (B) Myanmar used to be called Burma.
  - (C) The government of Myanmar allows some political opposition.
  - (D) Myanmar has never held democratic elections.
2. What can be inferred from the article?
  - (A) Myanmar will hold democratic elections soon.
  - (B) The government of Myanmar cares dearly for its citizens.
  - (C) Many more people are expected to die in the disaster.
  - (D) Myanmar is well prepared to handle natural disasters.
3. Which of the following is closest in meaning to **succumbing to**?
  - (A) dying from
  - (B) living with
  - (C) carrying on
  - (D) doing over



Before You Read

- 1. 颶風 (hurricane) 是一種強烈且具破壞力的 (destructive) 热帶風暴，通常在七月至十月間從熱帶海洋生成。颶風在北太平洋西部叫做颱風 (typhoon)，在孟加拉灣則稱為旋風 (cyclone)。
- 2. 颶風 (hurricane)、地震 (earthquake)、水災 (flood) 及旱災 (drought) 等均為天災 (natural disaster)，常造成嚴重傷亡 (heavy casualties)。

### ◆ Vocabulary and Idioms

1. adequately [ə'deɪkəwɪθlɪ] *adv.* 適當地；令人滿意地
2. devastating ['dɛvəst,etɪŋ] *adj.* 毀滅性的
3. cyclone ['saɪklɒn] *n.* 旋風
4. ravage ['rævɪdʒ] *v.* 毀壞
5. arable ['ærəbl] *adj.* 可耕作的
6. civilian [sə'veljen] *n.* 百姓；平民
7. humanitarian [hju,mænə'terɪən] *adj.* 人道主義的
8. border ['bɔːdər] *n.* 邊界
9. magnitude ['mægnətud] *n.* 重要性；量
10. junta ['dʒʌntə] *n.* 軍政府
11. legitimacy [lɪ'dʒɪtɪməsɪ] *n.* 合法
12. opposition [ə'ɒpəzɪʃən] *n.* 敵對
13. regime [rɪ'ʒɪm] *n.* 政權
14. dissent [dɪ'sent] *n.* 異議
15. viable ['vaɪəbl] *adj.* 切實可行的
16. infamous ['ɪnfəməs] *adj.* 惡名昭彰的
17. corrupt [kə'rʌpt] *adj.* 腐敗的
18. outcry ['aut,kraɪ] *n.* 公開強烈抗議
19. relief [rɪ'lif] *n.* 援助
20. succumb [sə'kʌm] *v.* 不再抵抗；屈從
21. starvation [stɑː'veʃən] *n.* 餓荒

### ◆ Patterns

1. In the days immediately following the cyclone, the government is accused of ignoring the growing humanitarian crisis within its borders and refusing to allow foreign aid workers with experience in handling disasters of this magnitude into the country.
2. Since then, it has maintained its authority by cracking down heavily on any dissent, not allowing any viable political opposition to its rule, and controlling all aspects of the lives of its citizens.
3. The government of Myanmar is infamous for its human rights abuses and is ranked as one of the most corrupt regimes in the world.

“and”為最常見的對等連接詞之一。而對等連接詞是用來連接文法作用或性質相同的字詞、片語或句子。本文中就有許多含有“and”的句子。特別要注意的是，連接的字詞或片語若超過3個以上，只要在最後一個之前加上“and”即可。

### ◆ Translation

**緬甸風災救援努力遭受嚴厲批評**

緬甸當局被國際救援組織及人權團體批評未能對五月三日侵襲該國的毀滅性旋風做出適當的回應處理。這個暴風肆虐該國南部，毀壞了無數的房屋及廣大的可耕作農地，並且導致了數萬無辜的百姓死亡。在旋風肆虐之後的幾天中，政府被指控忽略其境內不斷升高的人道危機，並拒絕外國具處理這類嚴重災難經驗的救護人員進入該國。

緬甸，為東南亞國家，人口近五千萬，在1989年之前稱為緬甸聯邦社會主義共和國，自從1962年以來都一直在不同的軍事統治之下。1990年，由從1988年開始執政的軍政府，舉辦了民主的選舉，試圖給予該政府在國際社會中更多的合法性。然而，在選舉中落敗，輸給主要的反對團體之後，這個政權拒絕放棄政權，反而縮緊它對國家的控制。自那時起，它就藉著對異議嚴厲的鎮壓，不允許任何反對黨可行的法令，及控制人民生活各個層面來維持威權。緬甸政府以其對人權的剝削而惡名昭彰，並被列為世界上最腐敗的政權之一。

在國際對該政府對此風災救援處理方式公開抗議之時，來自東南亞鄰國的救援人員已經被准許進入該國。然而，衛生專家擔心對於救援可能死於疾病或飢荒的成千上萬的小孩及老人可能為時已晚。而當初如果可以早一點進入災區的話，這個後果其實是可避免的。

### ◆ Answer

- (1) B (2) C (3) A