

FIDEL CASTRO

http://www.famouspeoplelessons.com/f/fidel_castro.html

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

Fidel Castro is a Cuban revolutionary leader who became one of the highest profile figures of the twentieth century. He was Cuba's leader from 1959 until his retirement in 2008. For most of his life he has fought the political and commercial influence of the United States in Cuba. He governed his country throughout decades of a US trade embargo.

Castro was born on a sugar plantation in 1926. He had a very poor upbringing. He was an extremely bright student at school and decided to study law. In 1945, Castro entered law school at the University of Havana. He became politically active and wanted to bring social justice to his country. He thought the poverty in Cuba was wholly unnecessary.

Castro graduated from law school in 1950 and began practicing as a lawyer. He became well known for despising American influence in Cuban affairs. He decided revolution was the only way to advance Cuban nationalism. He went to Mexico to plan a guerilla invasion of Cuba. There he met Che Guevara, who helped shape his political beliefs and military plans.

Castro's rebel forces started the revolution in December 1958. They quickly seized power of the whole of Cuba and sent President Batista fleeing. The 32-year-old Castro became prime minister in February 1959. He went to the USA but was denied a meeting with President Eisenhower. He then went to the Soviet Union and became a Soviet ally. He stood firm against the USA for four decades.

248 words
Flesch Kinkaid 9.4

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. figures | a. totally |
| 2. influence | b. people |
| 3. embargo | c. intelligent |
| 4. upbringing | d. ban |
| 5. bright | e. childhood |
| 6. wholly | f. control |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 7. practicing | g. took over |
| 8. despising | h. friend |
| 9. shape | i. hating |
| 10. seized | j. running away |
| 11. fleeing | k. form |
| 12. ally | l. working |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. a Cuban revolutionary | a. active |
| 2. the political and commercial influence | b. power |
| 3. a US trade | c. to his country |
| 4. He became politically | d. against the USA |
| 5. bring social justice | e. of the United States |
| 6. practicing | f. the only way |
| 7. revolution was | g. embargo |
| 8. shape his | h. leader |
| 9. They quickly seized | i. as a lawyer |
| 10. He stood firm | j. political beliefs |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Fidel Castro is a Cuban revolutionary leader _____ of the highest _____ the twentieth century. He was Cuba's leader from 1959 until his retirement in 2008. For most of his life he has fought the political and commercial _____ United States in Cuba. He governed his country throughout decades of a US _____.

Castro was born on a sugar plantation in 1926. He had a very _____. He was an extremely _____ at school and decided to study law. In 1945, Castro entered law school at the University of Havana. He became _____ and wanted to bring social justice to his country. He thought _____ Cuba was wholly unnecessary.

Castro graduated from law school in 1950 and began _____ lawyer. He became _____ despising American influence in Cuban affairs. He decided revolution was the only way to advance Cuban nationalism. He went to Mexico to plan _____ of Cuba. There he met Che Guevara, who helped shape his political beliefs _____.

Castro's _____ started the revolution in December 1958. They quickly _____ the whole of Cuba and sent President Batista fleeing. The 32-year-old Castro became prime minister in February 1959. He went to the USA but _____ with President Eisenhower. He then went to the Soviet Union and became _____. He stood firm against the USA for four decades.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

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

Fidel Castro is a Cuban *revolting* / *revolutionary* leader who became one of the highest profile *figure* / *figures* of the twentieth century. He was Cuba's leader from 1959 until his *retirement* / *retired* in 2008. For most of his life he has fought the political and commercial influence *for* / *of* the United States in Cuba. He governed his country throughout decades of a US trade embargo.

Castro was born *on* / *at* a sugar plantation in 1926. He had a very poor upbringing. He was an *extremely* / *extreme* bright student at school and decided to study law. In 1945, Castro entered law school at the University of Havana. He became politically *active* / *activity* and wanted to bring social justice to his country. He thought the *poor* / *poverty* in Cuba was wholly unnecessary.

Castro graduated from law school in 1950 and *begun* / *began* practicing as a lawyer. He became well known for despising American influence *at* / *in* Cuban affairs. He decided revolution was the only way to advance Cuban nationalism. He went to Mexico to plan a *gorilla* / *guerilla* invasion of Cuba. There he met Che Guevara, who helped shape his political beliefs and military *plants* / *plans*.

Castro's rebel *farces* / *forces* started the revolution in December 1958. They quickly *seizure* / *seized* power of the whole of Cuba and sent President Batista *flee* / *fleeing*. The 32-year-old Castro became prime minister in February 1959. He went to the USA but was denied a meeting with President Eisenhower. He then went to the Soviet Union and became a Soviet *ally* / *rally*. He stood firm against the USA for four decades.

SPELLING:

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

Paragraph 1

1. revolutionary edlear
2. gfresui of the twentieth century
3. He rvneegdo his country
4. ceedads of a US trade embargo

Paragraph 2

5. He had a very poor ngniuirpqb
6. an extremely igtrhb student
7. He became politically vetaci
8. bring social sjecitu to his country

Paragraph 3

9. practicing as a wyaelr
10. He decided ntouvreoli was the only way
11. plan a rllaugei invasion of Cuba
12. atyimilr plans

Paragraph 4

13. rebel cfoesr
14. They quickly dzeise power
15. dindee a meeting with President Eisenhower
16. He stood firm ganitas the USA

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () politically active and wanted to bring social justice to his country. He thought the poverty in Cuba was wholly unnecessary.
- () figures of the twentieth century. He was Cuba's leader from 1959 until his retirement in 2008. For most of his
- () Castro graduated from law school in 1950 and began practicing as a lawyer. He became well known for despising
- () life he has fought the political and commercial influence of the United States in Cuba. He governed
- () power of the whole of Cuba and sent President Batista fleeing. The 32-year-old Castro became prime
- () the Soviet Union and became a Soviet ally. He stood firm against the USA for four decades.
- (**1**) Fidel Castro is a Cuban revolutionary leader who became one of the highest profile
- () student at school and decided to study law. In 1945, Castro entered law school at the University of Havana. He became
- () minister in February 1959. He went to the USA but was denied a meeting with President Eisenhower. He then went to
- () Che Guevara, who helped shape his political beliefs and military plans.
- () nationalism. He went to Mexico to plan a guerilla invasion of Cuba. There he met
- () his country throughout decades of a US trade embargo.
- () Castro's rebel forces started the revolution in December 1958. They quickly seized
- () Castro was born on a sugar plantation in 1926. He had a very poor upbringing. He was an extremely bright
- () American influence in Cuban affairs. He decided revolution was the only way to advance Cuban

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. of century the figures twentieth of profile the one highest

2. political the and United commercial States influence the of

3. school at student bright extremely an was He

4. country his to justice social bring

5. Cuba thought was the wholly poverty unnecessary in He

6. the way decided was only He revolution

7. a plan Cuba of invasion guerilla

8. and beliefs political his shape helped plans military

9. seized of power Cuba of They the quickly whole

10. the He USA stood for firm four against decades

FIDEL CASTRO DISCUSSION:

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

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

Copyright © www.FamousPeopleLessons.com

FIDEL CASTRO DISCUSSION:

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

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

FIDEL CASTRO SURVEY:

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

3. FIDEL CASTRO POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Fidel Castro. 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 Fidel Castro. 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 Fidel Castro. 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 "Fidel Castro expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. figures | a. people |
| 2. influence | b. control |
| 3. embargo | c. ban |
| 4. upbringing | d. childhood |
| 5. bright | e. intelligent |
| 6. wholly | f. totally |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 7. practicing | g. working |
| 8. despising | h. hating |
| 9. shape | i. form |
| 10. seized | j. took over |
| 11. fleeing | k. running away |
| 12. ally | l. friend |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. a Cuban revolutionary | a. leader |
| 2. the political and commercial influence | b. of the United States |
| 3. a US trade | c. embargo |
| 4. He became politically | d. active |
| 5. bring social justice | e. to his country |
| 6. practicing | f. as a lawyer |
| 7. revolution was | g. the only way |
| 8. shape his | h. political beliefs |
| 9. They quickly seized | i. power |
| 10. He stood firm | j. against the USA |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.