

MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD

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THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the sixth president of Iran. He was elected to power in 2005. Prior to becoming president, he served as mayor of Teheran for two years and fought in the Iran-Iraq War. Ahmadinejad is rarely out of the news. He has locked horns with the West on numerous occasions over his domestic and foreign policy.

Ahmadinejad was born in 1956 and grew up in Iran's capital Teheran. He studied civil engineering at university and went on to do his PhD. He became a lecturer at the Iran University of Science and Technology. This was cut short by the Iran-Iraq War, in which he served in the intelligence unit of the Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution.

He has had mixed economic success as president of Iran. In 2006, vegetable prices tripled and housing prices doubled. Many called on him to use Iran's oil to help ordinary people survive. The Iranian parliament rejected his project to help young people find jobs, get married and buy their own house. Many say he has big ideas but is "weak on achievement".

Ahmadinejad says Iran is now the strongest country in the world. He has strengthened relations with Russia, Venezuela and many Arab countries. He has caused concern around the world with his nuclear program, which he says is for peaceful purposes. He also caused a major controversy by calling for the destruction of Israel. In 2008, he became the first Iranian president ever to visit Iraq.

247 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. elected | a. stopped |
| 2. prior to | b. division |
| 3. locked horns | c. before |
| 4. went on | d. voted in |
| 5. cut short | e. fought |
| 6. unit | f. continued |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 7. mixed | g. ruin |
| 8. called on | h. success |
| 9. achievement | i. worry |
| 10. strengthened | j. varied |
| 11. concern | k. reinforced |
| 12. destruction | l. asked |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. He was elected to | a. horns with the West |
| 2. Prior to | b. concern around the world |
| 3. He has locked | c. power in 2005 |
| 4. went on to do | d. economic success |
| 5. This was cut | e. relations with Russia |
| 6. He has had mixed | f. his PhD |
| 7. he has big ideas but is weak | g. becoming President |
| 8. He has strengthened | h. purposes |
| 9. He has caused | i. short by the Iran-Iraq War |
| 10. for peaceful | j. on achievement |

LISTENING GAP FILL:

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the sixth president of Iran. He _____ in 2005. Prior to becoming president, he served as mayor of Teheran for two years _____ Iran-Iraq War. Ahmadinejad is rarely out of the news. He _____ the West on _____ his domestic and foreign policy.

Ahmadinejad was born in 1956 and _____ capital Teheran. He studied civil engineering at university _____ PhD. He became a lecturer at the Iran University of Science and Technology. This _____ the Iran-Iraq War, in which he served in the _____ Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution.

He has had _____ as president of Iran. In 2006, vegetable prices tripled and _____. Many called on him to use Iran's oil to help _____. The Iranian parliament rejected his project to help young people find jobs, get married and buy their own house. Many say _____ "weak on achievement".

Ahmadinejad _____ strongest country in the world. He has _____ with Russia, Venezuela and many Arab countries. He has caused concern around the world with his nuclear program, which he says _____. He also caused a major controversy _____ destruction of Israel. In 2008, he became the first Iranian president ever to visit Iraq.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD:

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

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the *sixth* / *six* president of Iran. He was elected to power in 2005. *Prior* / *Before* to becoming president, he served as mayor of Teheran for two years and fought in the Iran-Iraq War. Ahmadinejad is *rare* / *rarely* out of the news. He has locked horns with the West on *numerous* / *numbers* occasions over his domestic and foreign policy.

Ahmadinejad was born in 1956 and *grew* / *grown* up in Iran's capital Teheran. He studied civil engineering at university and went *on* / *only* to do his PhD. He became a lecturer at the Iran University of Science and Technology. This was *sliced* / *cut* short by the Iran-Iraq War, in which he served in the *intelligent* / *intelligence* unit of the Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution.

He has had *mixing* / *mixed* economic success as president of Iran. In 2006, vegetable prices tripled and housing prices doubled. Many called *off* / *on* him to use Iran's oil to help ordinary people survive. The Iranian parliament *rejection* / *rejected* his project to help young people find jobs, get married and buy their own house. Many say he has big *ideas* / *idea* but is "weak on achievement".

Ahmadinejad says Iran is *now* / *know* the strongest country in the world. He has strengthened *relatives* / *relations* with Russia, Venezuela and many Arab countries. He has caused concern around the world with his nuclear program, which he says is for peaceful *on purpose* / *purposes*. He also caused a major controversy by calling for the destruction of Israel. In 2008, he became the first Iranian president *ever* / *even* to visit Iraq.

SPELLING:

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

Paragraph 1

1. He was dcetele to power in 2005
2. he devesr as mayor of Tehran
3. Ahmadinejad is aerrly out of the news
4. mnuesrou occasions

Paragraph 2

5. grew up in Iran's taplaci Teheran
6. He became a eteculrr at the Iran University
7. he served in the intelligence niut
8. the Army of the Guardians of the scaIiml Revolution

Paragraph 3

9. He has had mixed economic cusssce
10. vegetable prices rdlitep
11. help ordinary people viuesrv
12. Many say he has big esdia

Paragraph 4

13. Iran is now the srgttneso country in the world
14. He has caused nerccno around the world
15. peaceful urpsoesp
16. naligcl for the destruction of Israel

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () in the intelligence unit of the Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution.
- () ideas but is “weak on achievement”.
- () which he says is for peaceful purposes. He also caused a major controversy by calling for
- (**1**) Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is the sixth president of Iran. He was elected to
- () Ahmadinejad was born in 1956 and grew up in Iran's capital Teheran. He studied civil engineering
- () Ahmadinejad says Iran is now the strongest country in the world. He has strengthened relations with
- () housing prices doubled. Many called on him to use Iran's oil to help ordinary people survive. The Iranian parliament
- () Russia, Venezuela and many Arab countries. He has caused concern around the world with his nuclear program,
- () rejected his project to help young people find jobs, get married and buy their own house. Many say he has big
- () at university and went on to do his PhD. He became a lecturer at the Iran University of Science and Technology. This was cut short by the Iran-Iraq War, in which he served
- () the destruction of Israel. In 2008, he became the first Iranian president ever to visit Iraq.
- () He has had mixed economic success as president of Iran. In 2006, vegetable prices tripled and
- () in the Iran-Iraq War. Ahmadinejad is rarely out of the news. He has locked
- () horns with the West on numerous occasions over his domestic and foreign policy.
- () power in 2005. Prior to becoming president, he served as mayor of Teheran for two years and fought

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

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

1. is sixth of Ahmadinejad the president Iran

2. for as two mayor years of he Teheran served

3. numerous has with on He horns West occasions locked the

4. on went PhD his do to

5. intelligence the in served he unit

6. prices and prices vegetable tripled housing doubled

7. Iran's use survive people ordinary help to oil

8. big on ideas achievement but he is has weak

9. relations strengthened has He Russia with

10. President visit became Iranian to he first ever Iraq the

MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD DISCUSSION:

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

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

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MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD DISCUSSION:

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

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

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MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD SURVEY:

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

3. MAHMOUD AHMADINEJAD POSTER: Make a poster showing the different stages of the life of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. 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 Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. 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 Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. 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 "Mahmoud Ahmadinejad expert" partner(s) will try and answer your questions.

ANSWERS

SYNONYM MATCH:

Paragraphs 1 and 2

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. elected | a. voted in |
| 2. prior to | b. before |
| 3. locked horns | c. fought |
| 4. went on | d. continued |
| 5. cut short | e. stopped |
| 6. unit | f. division |

Paragraphs 3 and 4

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|------------------|---------------|
| 7. mixed | g. varied |
| 8. called on | h. asked |
| 9. achievement | i. success |
| 10. strengthened | j. reinforced |
| 11. concern | k. worry |
| 12. destruction | l. ruin |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. He was elected to | a. power in 2005 |
| 2. Prior to | b. becoming President |
| 3. He has locked | c. horns with the West |
| 4. went on to do | d. his PhD |
| 5. This was cut | e. short by the Iran-Iraq War |
| 6. He has had mixed | f. economic success |
| 7. he has big ideas but is weak | g. on achievement |
| 8. He has strengthened | h. relations with Russia |
| 9. He has caused | i. concern around the world |
| 10. for peaceful | j. purposes |

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Look at the text on page 2.