

Hillary Clinton collapses (Tuesday, February 1, 2005)

WARM UPS

CHAT: Hillary Clinton / making speeches / fainting sticking to schedules / Bill Clinton / first female US president...

FIRST LADY: In pairs list all the advantages and disadvantages of being the First Lady of the USA. Rank which are the best advantages and which the worst disadvantages. Look at the disadvantages and decide whether you would still like to be a superstar.

30-SECOND SPEECHES: Choose one of the speeches the teacher has written on the board. Tell the other students in your group what the speech is. When your group says, 'go', make an impromptu speech for 30 seconds. The group gives you a score from 1 to 10. Next speech-maker. At the end, decide as a group who was the best speechmaker.

Alternative 1: Student 1 sits down, student 2 makes same speech but tries to improve it or radically change it:

Alternative 2: The group chooses a speech for you.

Speech topics:

- (a) Female President of America.
- (b) Local telephone calls should be free.
- (c) This school.
- (d) How to learn vocabulary.
- (e) Michael Jackson.
- (f) The importance of donating money to Tsunami relief.
- (g) Tea.
- (h) Making speeches.
- (i) The usefulness of having two pairs of hands.
- (j) The meaning of life.
- (k) My hairstyle
- (l) Other teacher/student determined speeches.

PRE READING EXERCISES

WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries, or a search engine, to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'stomach', and 'pain'.

TRUE / FALSE: Predict from the headline whether these statements are true or false:

- (a) Hillary Clinton is the Republican senator for New York. T / F
- (b) She is the former First Lady of the United States. T / F
- (c) She collapsed earlier while making a speech. T / F
- (d) She had complained of chest pains and bad headaches. T / F
- (e) Her condition did not seem too serious. T / F
- (f) She needed hospitalization for an hour or so. T / F
- (g) She was able to make it to her next appointment on time. T / F
- (h) She will become the first female president of the United States T / F

PRE-READING EXERCISES

SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

- | | | |
|-----|---------------|-----------|
| (a) | former | virus |
| (b) | collapsed | ex |
| (c) | prior to | woman |
| (d) | stomach | collapsed |
| (e) | bug | champion |
| (f) | fainted | fainted |
| (g) | recovery | abdomen |
| (h) | campaigner | inclusive |
| (i) | comprehensive | revival |
| (j) | female | before |

PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases based on the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------|
| (a) | Democratic Senator | First Lady |
| (b) | former | time |
| (c) | prior | team |
| (d) | she had complained of | for New York |
| (e) | regain | campaigner |
| (f) | short recovery | consciousness |
| (g) | she gave | rights |
| (h) | active | stomach pains |
| (i) | women's' | a speech |
| (j) | husband and wife | to her collapse |

DEFINITIONS: Match the following words with the most likely definitions:

(a) **former** (adj)

- (i) the one or thing that happened or was before the present thing or person
- (ii) somebody who loves filling out questionnaires, surveys

(b) **collapsed** (v)

- (i) to suddenly fall down on the floor
- (ii) to clap your hands very loudly non-stop.

(c) **prior to** (prep)

- (i) before
- (ii) after

(d) **bug** (n)

- (i) a virus that attacks people or computers and makes them ill
- (ii) to really really annoy someone

(e) **fainted** (v)

- (i) pretended to be some else
- (ii) lost consciousness and fell to the floor

(f) **consciousness** (n)

- (i) the condition of being asleep and dreaming
- (ii) the condition of being awake and thinking

(g) **recovery** (n)

- (i) the time needed to return to normal condition
- (ii) to check an area for danger before going hiking

(h) **campaigner** (n)

- (i) a homeless person who lives in a tent
- (ii) someone who raises money, gives speeches and works for a special issue

(i) **comprehensive** (adj)

- (i) something that is so big it covers everything and includes everyone
- (ii) thinking about all opinions and facts equally and fairly

(j) **abortion** (n)

- (i) to really hate something
- (ii) ending a pregnancy by taking out the embryo or fetus before it can survive

GAP-FILL: Put the missing words under each paragraph into the gaps.

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BNE: Hillary Clinton, the Democratic senator for New York, and _____ First Lady of the United States, collapsed earlier while making a _____ in Buffalo, New York. Prior to her collapse she had complained of stomach pains and said she had some _____ of flu bug. In the middle of her speech she sat down, telling her press secretary she felt weak. She then fainted. Her condition did not seem too _____, however, as she was able to regain consciousness, stand up and leave the building unaided after a short recovery time. She said she wanted to _____ to her schedule and didn't need to go to hospital. She was able to make it to her next appointment on time and didn't need to go to hospital, nor see a doctor. Her next appearance was at a Catholic college, where she _____ a speech on healthcare. Ms Clinton is the wife of former US President Bill Clinton and an _____ campaigner for comprehensive healthcare coverage, abortion, and women's rights. She may become the first female president of the United States, and, of course, the first husband and wife _____ to be president.

serious sort active former gave team speech stick

DISCUSSION:

- (a) What do you think of Hillary Clinton?
- (b) Do you think she would be a good US president?
- (c) How does she compare to the 'First Lady (or Husband)' of your country?
- (d) She is an active campaigner for comprehensive healthcare coverage, abortion, and women's rights. What do you think about these?
- (e) Have you ever given a speech?
- (f) Are you good at or do you like making speeches?
- (g) Have you ever fainted or collapsed?
- (h) Do you always stick to your schedule and make it to appointments on time?
- (i) Are female presidents, prime ministers, premieres, chancellors... better than men?
- (j) Who would be a better president, Hillary Clinton or Condoleeza Rice?
- (k) Teacher / Student additional questions

INTERNET / WEB LINKS:

Senator Hillary Clinton web site:

<http://clinton.senate.gov/>

White House biography of Hillary Clinton:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/firstladies/hc42.html>

The Hillary for president web site:

<http://www.hillary.org/>

Hillary Clinton's beliefs:

http://ontheissues.org/Senate/Hillary_Clinton.htm

Buy her autobiography, 'Living History':

<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0743222245/002-4140496-8283223>

Blogs against Hillary:

<http://www.blogsagainsthillary.com/>

HOMEWORK

HILLARY POSTER: Create a campaign poster about why Hillary Clinton should be next US president.

LETTER TO HILLARY: Write a letter to Hillary Clinton telling her your thoughts on her possible bid to become president.

FULL TEXT

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