

Issue 60 (On 'common' or sets available from DDR) **10th November 2008**

THE GOOD NEWS FROM AMERICA

OBAMA'S VICTORY

On November the 4th 2008 many Elliott students were full of the news of the election of Barack Hussein Obama, to the Presidency of the United States of America.

This day has been seen as a very important day in the history of the world.

Everybody is expecting to see things change for the better.

He said "The true strength of our nation comes not from the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals: democracy, liberty, opportunity and unyielding hope".

Try explaining what this means to your tutor group or to your friend



What does his success mean to you?

We are going to film every student who wants to speak about this historic moment.

We will do this throughout this week. A camera will be set up during lunchtime.

For 6th formers only, Monday Sixth Form block 1.00-1.30pm.

For Years 7 – 11 in Room 169 Tuesday – Friday 1.00-1.30pm.

We are also going to collect your thoughts in written form and make it into a book which we will send to the White House together with our completed film and best wishes. **Please take this opportunity to contribute to history.**

Your Testimony *Before you write look over the page at what Obama said in his speech, it may remind you of why he has impressed so many people.*

What is important to Barack Obama?

Extracts from his victory speech

With your tutor or with your friends talk about these bullet points especially these parts which are printed in bold.

You may find some of this difficult to understand but there is important stuff here. Struggle with it, please.

Note to tutors re: differentiation

We have included a separate sheet with some of the following key phrases. You may like to cut them up and use them as separate tasks, maybe through group work.

If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where **all things are possible**, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions **the power of our democracy**, tonight is your answer but above all, I will never forget who this victory truly belongs to: it belongs to you all and has proved that more than two centuries later, **a government of the people, by the people and for the people** has not perished from the Earth. This is your victory.

So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism; of service and responsibility where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after each other.

As Lincoln said to a nation far more divided than ours, **"We are not enemies, but friends... though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection"**.

And to all those watching tonight from beyond our shores, from parliaments and places to those who are huddled around radios in the forgotten corners of the world, our stories are singular, but **our destiny is shared**, and a new dawn of American leadership is at hand. **To those who would tear the world down, we will defeat you. To those who seek peace and security we support you.**

This is our time, to put our people back to work and **open doors of opportunity for our kids, to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace**; to reclaim the American dream and reaffirm that fundamental truth, **that out of many, we are one**, that while we breathe, we hope and where we are met with cynicism and doubt and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people: **yes, we can.**

Differentiation strategy

Note to tutors

We have included this separate sheet with some of the key phrases from Obama's speech

You may like to cut them up and use them as separate tasks, maybe through group work.

The task is to engage students in understanding something of Obama's vision and why it is important and relevant to all of us.

...all things are possible

...the power of our democracy
...a government of the people, by the people and for the people

So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism;

service and responsibility

where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after each other.

"We are not enemies, but friends... though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection".

...our destiny is shared

To those who would tear the world down, we will defeat you. To those who seek peace and security we support you.

...open doors of opportunity for our kids, to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace;

...that out of many, we are one,

...yes, we can.