

## China's leadership change begins

9<sup>th</sup> November, 2012



China's President Hu Jintao opened the Chinese Communist Party meeting on Wednesday in Beijing. The president and his team will choose the new leaders that will

rule China for the next ten years. China selects its leaders, unlike many other countries, which elect them. The meeting will last for a week and will look at many issues that are important in China today. Perhaps the biggest topic at the meeting will be the economy. Ten years ago, China's economy was not so big. However, an economic miracle in the past decade means the country is now the second biggest economy in the world. Its leaders are a little worried though, because the economy is slowing down. It is still growing 6 times faster than the rest of the world.

One of the big messages that was talked about in the meeting was corruption. Mr Hu Jintao said the Party must work hard in the next decade to remove corruption from Chinese society. He warned that the Party could die if corruption continued. He said: "If we fail to handle this issue well, it could [be the end of] the party, and even cause the collapse of the party and the fall of the state." Mr Hu told Party members at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing that China had to change because of a changing world. He said: "We must aim higher and work harder and continue to [go after] development in a scientific way." He added the Party should "promote social harmony and improve the people's lives".

Sources: Sky News / BBC News

### Writing

China should choose its leaders using elections - like the USA. Discuss.

### Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

Communist Party / new leader / important issues / economic miracle / the past decade / corruption / the next decade / a changing world / aim higher / work harder / harmony

### True / False

- China's deputy president opened the Communist Party meeting. T / F
- The meeting will continue for the next seven days. T / F
- The biggest topic to be discussed at the meeting is the economy. T / F
- China's economy is growing 6 times faster than that of most countries. T / F
- President Hu Jintao is trying to avoid talking about corruption. T / F
- Hu Jintao warned that the Communist Party could disappear. T / F
- The meeting is taking place in the Great Building of Beijing. T / F
- Hu Jintao said China should develop in a non-scientific way. T / F

### Synonym Match

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. choose     | a. concerned      |
| 2. rule       | b. wonder         |
| 3. unlike     | c. balance        |
| 4. miracle    | d. be in power    |
| 5. worried    | e. get rid of     |
| 6. corruption | f. manage         |
| 7. remove     | g. select         |
| 8. handle     | h. work toward    |
| 9. aim        | i. dishonesty     |
| 10. harmony   | j. different from |

### Discussion – Student A

- How can we remove corruption from society?
- What would happen to China if the Communist Party died?
- What would happen to the world if China collapsed?
- How does China get people to aim higher and work harder?
- What can the rest of the world learn from China?
- When do you think China will become the number one world superpower?
- Chinese could become the world's number one language one day. What do you think about this?
- What questions would you like to ask President Hu Jintao?

## Phrase Match

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. new leaders that will rule China     | a. miracle                |
| 2. The meeting will last                | b. of the party           |
| 3. an economic                          | c. of the world           |
| 4. the economy is                       | d. people's lives         |
| 5. growing 6 times faster than the rest | e. for a week             |
| 6. remove corruption                    | f. work harder            |
| 7. If we fail to handle                 | g. slowing down           |
| 8. cause the collapse                   | h. for the next ten years |
| 9. We must aim higher and               | i. this issue well...     |
| 10. improve the                         | j. from Chinese society   |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you know about China changing its leaders?
- Do you think the Chinese system of choosing leaders is better than the American system?
- What kind of person do you think the new leader will be?
- What do you know about President Hu Jintao?
- What are the big issues in China today?
- What do you think of China's economic miracle?
- How did China's miracle happen?
- China's economy is growing 6 times faster than the rest of the world. Is this all good for China?

## Spelling

- China eesltcs its leaders
- leuink many other countries
- look at many eisuss
- an economic arelmci
- the second biggest enmocyo in the world
- It is still gigwonr 6 times faster
- One of the big mesgsesa
- Chinese seytioc
- If we fail to hldena this
- cause the loeaslcp of the party
- promote social oahymnr
- ivproem the people's lives

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. a
6. i	7. e	8. f	9. h	10. c

## Role Play

**China's old leader** - You are very happy with what you did as leader. China is a much better country. Think of 3 reasons why. You think China should continue the same. You don't like the new leader. His/Her ideas are dangerous and will end China. You think poor people must wait for a better life.

**China's new leader** - You want China to be stronger. You think there are too many poor people who are unhappy. This is dangerous for China. Think of 3 reasons why. China should make many big changes to help poor people. Rich people have to pay more to help poor people. You don't like rich people.

**A poor person** - You have a poor, unhappy life. You have no money. You are angry. You have seen people in the tall apartment blocks get lots of money, cars, nice clothes, etc. You want change. Think of three reasons why. You want the new leader to help you. You don't like rich people.

**A rich person** - You were a poor farmer once. You became rich because you worked hard. If someone is poor in China, it is because they didn't work hard. You want the old leader to stay. You like him/her. If you have to pay money to poor people, you will leave China. All rich people will leave and China will be poor.

## Speaking

What do you like best about Chinese culture? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often.

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| • food       | • movies       |
| • opera      | • martial arts |
| • literature | • fashion      |
| • philosophy | • lifestyle    |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.