

Presidential Inauguration

Skills:

- Can understand straightforward factual texts on subjects related to their field and interests.

Adults/Teens

Group



1 Watch the video and discuss these questions.



1. What does it mean to you to put your country first?
2. How do you think national pride affects a person's identity?
3. What qualities do you think are important for a good leader?

2 Match these words to their definitions.

inauguration

parade

Chief Justice

oath of office

peaceful transfer of power

ball

capitol

1. the highest-ranking judge in a court who leads other judges and makes important decisions.
2. a public celebration with people marching, often featuring music and floats.
3. the smooth change of leadership from one person or group to another without violence or conflict.
4. a promise made by an official to perform their duties and uphold the law.
5. a building where government officials meet to discuss and make laws.
6. a formal ceremony to mark the beginning of a new leader's term in office.
7. a large formal gathering for dancing and socializing, usually held in the evening.

3 Read the following text about the Presidential Inauguration in the US.

Every four years, the United States holds a special event called the presidential inauguration. This ceremony is when the new president officially becomes the leader of the country. It takes place in Washington, D.C., on January 20th, unless the date falls on a Sunday. In that case, the ceremony happens the next day.

The process starts in early January when the president-elect and their team begin preparations. The incoming president, who won the election in November, moves into the official residence called the White House. Before they can move in, a lot of work is done to prepare it.

The White House staff cleans the residence thoroughly and prepares all rooms for the new family. This includes updating any personal items like clothes and photographs. The entire process happens very quickly, usually within a few hours on Inauguration Day itself, because the outgoing president's family leaves in the morning.

On January 20th, the inauguration ceremony takes place outside the U.S. Capitol building. Many important people attend, including members of Congress, former presidents, and other national leaders. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court administers the oath of office, where the new president promises to do their best to protect the Constitution. This moment is the centerpiece of the ceremony.

There are also speeches during the event. The new president gives an inaugural address, where they talk about their goals and hopes for the country. Other people might also speak, including religious leaders who offer prayers. Music is an important part of the ceremony too, with famous singers and bands performing to entertain the crowd.

After the ceremony, people celebrate with a parade. This parade travels from the Capitol to the White House, and it features bands, floats, and military units. It's a festive occasion that brings together people from all over the country. In the evening, formal balls are held in honor of the new president. These events are fancy parties where guests wear evening gowns and tuxedos, dance, and enjoy special performances.

The presidential inauguration is a significant event that marks the peaceful transfer of power. It is a proud moment in American democracy, celebrating the new leadership that will guide the nation for the next four years.

4 Answer the following questions about the text.

1. When and where does the presidential inauguration typically take place?
2. What preparations are made for the new president and their family to move into the White House?
3. Who attends the inauguration ceremony, and what is the main part of the event?
4. How do people celebrate after the ceremony?

5 Fill in the blanks in the text.

Chief Justice

Capitol

ball

oath of office

parade

inauguration

peaceful transfer of power

The U.S. presidential _____(1) is a ceremony marking the start of a new president's term. The ceremony takes place outside the U.S. _____(2) building, where Congress meets.

One of the key traditions of American democracy is the _____(3), where leadership changes without conflict. The _____(4) of the Supreme Court leads the _____(5).

After the ceremony, a _____(6) featuring floats and bands travels to the White House. The _____(7) is a formal celebration where guests wear elegant clothes.

6 Read these newspaper headlines. Choose one of them and write 3-4 sentences to go along with it.

- Inauguration Day Celebrated with Grand Parade Events
- Capitol Welcomes New President for Inauguration
- Exciting Ball Follows Inauguration Ceremony Tonight
- Inauguration Highlights: Unity and Peaceful Transfer of Power
- Thousands Attend Inauguration Parade in Historic City
- Community Celebrates Inauguration with Music and Dance

Correct answers

1

Created in the “Warm-Up Discussion Questions” tools.

2

Created in “Word-Definition Matching” .

1. Chief Justice
2. parade
3. peaceful transfer of power
4. oath of office
5. capitol
6. inauguration
7. ball

3

Created in “Create a Text” .

4

Created in “Open Questions” .

1. The inauguration typically takes place on January 20th in Washington, D.C., unless the date falls on a Sunday, in which case it happens the next day.
2. Before the new president moves into the White House, the staff thoroughly cleans the residence and prepares all rooms for the new family, including updating any personal items like clothes and photographs.
3. The inauguration ceremony is attended by important people like members of Congress, former presidents, and national leaders. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court administers the oath of office, where the new president promises to protect the Constitution.
4. People celebrate with a parade that travels from the Capitol to the White House, featuring bands, floats, and military units. In the evening, formal balls are held in honor of the new president, where guests wear evening gowns and tuxedos, dance, and enjoy special performances.

5

Created in the “Fill in the Gap” tool.

1. inauguration
2. Capitol
3. peaceful transfer of power
4. Chief Justice
5. oath of office
6. parade
7. ball

6

Created in the “Bits and Pieces” tool.