

National News

Fire Destroys World-Renowned Taipei Dance Studio

Early on the morning of Monday, February 11th, a fire **gutted** the main studio of the Taipei-based Cloud Gate Dance Theater. It (1) firefighters an hour to bring the blaze under control, and by that time **extensive** damage had been done to the **facility**. The **interior** of the warehouse-sized building was almost completely destroyed with the (2) of a small dance studio. According to authorities at the scene, no deaths or injuries were caused by the accident.

The Cloud Gate Dance Theater, (3) has performed all over the world and is considered to be Taiwan's leading **contemporary** dance group, was founded in 1973 by Lin Hwai-min. It has earned both national and international **recognition** and **acclaim** for its **unconventional** style which combines traditional Asian martial arts with modern dance **techniques**, (4) ballet. Interestingly, its most famous dances are **inspired** by traditional Chinese brush **calligraphy**. Under the leadership of its founder, the group **has been instrumental in** the development of many of Taiwan's most **celebrated** dancers.

Authorities believe that Monday's fire was likely caused by a **short circuit** in the building's electrical system. The studio roof (5) collapsed and all of the walls were blackened by the fire. The blaze (6) the destruction of all of the group's **costumes**, music and **props** as well as over thirty years worth of production **archives**. Lin has claimed that the loss suffered in the fire is (7) great (7) measure and many of the items destroyed are **irreplaceable**. (8) the disaster, Lin has said that their upcoming performance schedule, which includes **engagements** in Taiwan, the United States and Europe, will go on (9) planned. Even though all of the costumes and materials (10) for staging performances were lost in the fire, Lin is **insistent** that the show must go on.

Multiple Choices

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ___ 1. (A) spent | (B) cost | (C) took | (D) made |
| ___ 2. (A) exception | (B) expectation | (C) expression | (D) expansion |
| ___ 3. (A) where | (B) what | (C) that | (D) which |
| ___ 4. (A) including | (B) included | (C) that included | (D) includes |
| ___ 5. (A) reporting | (B) reportedly | (C) reported | (D) was reported |
| ___ 6. (A) resulting in | (B) resulted in | (C) resulting from | (D) resulted from |
| ___ 7. (A) so...that | (B) too...to | (C) so...as to | (D) too...in order to |
| ___ 8. (A) Although | (B) Thanks to | (C) Despite | (D) No matter |
| ___ 9. (A) when | (B) like | (C) as | (D) that |
| ___ 10. (A) require | (B) requiring | (C) being required | (D) required |



Before You Read

►大部分的人都喜歡跳舞，而舞蹈的形式及風格會隨著年代以及當下流行的音樂而有所改變。如：四〇年代所流行的搖擺舞 (swing)，五〇年代所流行的扭扭舞 (twist)，七〇年代的迪斯科 (disco)，及八〇年代的霹靂舞 (break dancing)。然而這些舞蹈都是人們可因樂趣而舞的，至於會讓人們到表演廳正式觀賞的舞蹈絕大部分是現代舞蹈 (modern dance)，像是芭蕾舞 (ballet) 或現代舞 (contemporary dance)。

Vocabulary and Idioms

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. gut [gʌt] v. 毀壞 | 11. calligraphy [kə'liɡrəfi] n. 書法 |
| 2. extensive [ɪk'stensɪv] adj. 廣大的；大量的 | 12. be instrumental in sth./V-ing 作為促成某事物之手段；有幫助 |
| 3. facility [fə'sɪləti] n. 設備 | 13. celebrated ['seɪləbreɪtɪd] adj. 著名的；馳名的 |
| 4. interior [ɪn'tɪəriə] n. 內部 | 14. short circuit [ʃɔrt 'sɜ:kɪt] n. 電路短路 |
| 5. contemporary [kən'tempərəri] adj. 當代的；現代的 | 15. costume ['kɒstəm] n. 服裝 |
| 6. recognition [ˌrɛkəɡ'nɪʃən] n. 認可；褒獎 | 16. props [prɒps] n. 道具 |
| 7. acclaim [ə'kleɪm] n. 稱讚；熱烈歡迎 | 17. archives ['ɑ:kɪvz] n. pl. 檔案 |
| 8. unconventional [ˌʌnkən'venʃənəl] adj. 不依慣例的；不依傳統的 | 18. irreplaceable [ˌɪrɪ'pleɪsəbəl] adj. 無法取代的；獨一無二的 |
| 9. technique [tek'nɪk] n. 技巧；技術 | 19. engagement [ɪn'ɡedʒmənt] n. 約定；安排；承諾 |
| 10. inspire [ɪn'spaɪr] v. 啟發；激勵 | 20. insistent [ɪn'sɪstənt] adj. 堅持的 |

Patterns

Despite the disaster, Lin has said that their upcoming performance schedule, which includes engagements in Taiwan, the United States and Europe, will go on as planned.

= Despite the disaster, Lin has said that their upcoming performance schedule, including engagements in Taiwan, the United States and Europe, will go on as planned.

= Despite the disaster, Lin has said that their upcoming performance schedule, engagements in Taiwan, the United States and Europe included, will go on as planned.

本文中另一個含有 include 的句子，也可以用以上三種不同的方式來表示：

It has earned both national and international recognition and acclaim for its unconventional style which combines traditional Asian martial arts with modern dance techniques, including ballet.

= ...which includes ballet. = ...ballet included.

Translation

大火燒毀享譽國際的雲門舞集臺北練舞場

二月十一日星期一清晨的一場大火，燒毀了雲門舞集位於臺北主要的練舞場。消防隊員花了一個小時才將火勢控制住，而那時火勢早已對練舞場裡的設備造成重大的破壞。這個像倉庫一樣大小的建築物內部，除了一個小的舞蹈教室外，幾乎全毀。根據在場的相關人員指出，這場意外並未造成任何傷亡。

這個已經在全世界各地演出，且被視為居臺灣龍頭地位的現代舞團，在一九七三年由林懷民創立。由於融合傳統亞洲武術和芭蕾舞的現代舞蹈技巧，雲門舞集以非傳統的舞蹈型態，贏得國內以及國際間的褒揚及讚譽。有趣的是，它最著名的舞蹈靈感是來自中國的毛筆書法。在創辦人的領導之下，這個團體造就了臺灣大部分的知名舞者。

有關當局認為星期一的火災有可能是這個建築物的電路系統短路所導致。根據報導，這個練舞場的屋頂倒塌，且所有的牆壁都被火燒得焦黑。這場火導致所有舞團的服裝、音樂、道具以及超過三十年來的作品檔案資料的毀壞。林懷民宣稱火災所造成的損失大得難以估計，且許多被燒毀的東西是無可取代的。儘管發生了這起災難，林懷民已經表示即將到來的演出行程，包括在臺灣、美國及歐洲的表演，都會照計畫進行。雖然舞臺表演所需的服裝及器材都在火災中付之一炬，林懷民仍堅持該做的事還是得做。

Answer

- (1) C (2) A (3) D (4) A (5) B (6) B (7) B (8) C (9) C (10) D

International News

Presidential Candidates Make History

It is election season in the United States again, and this year's contest has already turned into one of the most **unexpected** and surprising in **decades**. The media buzz has **primarily** been focused on the two **remaining** presidential candidates from the Democratic Party—Barak Obama and Hillary Clinton. The **significance** of these two people is that Clinton is a woman and Obama is an African American, and in less than a year one of them could be the President of the United States. This would be **unprecedented** since neither a woman nor an African American has ever held that nation's highest office.

Barak Obama **burst on the** American political **scene** in 2004 when he gave a very **impressive** speech that was seen and heard by people all over the country. Since then he has gone on to become a U.S. **senator** and wildly popular Democratic candidate for president. He is seen as a candidate that inspires people and makes them feel that real change can be **brought about** with him in charge.

Hillary Clinton, on the other hand, is a **veteran** of American politics. Her husband, Bill Clinton, was president from 1993 to 2001, and just before he left office Hillary took a seat in the U.S. Senate **representing** New York State. **Whereas** Obama is seen as an **inspiration**, Hillary is considered a **steady, knowledgeable** candidate who knows what the problems with the country are and has realistic **solutions** to fix them.

The Democratic Party now has a **dilemma**—it has two popular candidates that both have a good chance of winning the presidential election in November, but voters are having a hard time deciding who they prefer. It's quite likely that the Democratic candidate won't be known for a few more months. However, Democrats are very happy to have a choice between two **remarkable** individuals, one of whom is certain to make history by the end of the year.

1. Which of the following can be inferred from the article?
- (A) Hillary Clinton and Barak Obama are good friends.
(B) Hillary Clinton lives in New York.
(C) Barak Obama lives in New York.
(D) Hillary Clinton gives very good speeches.
2. Which of the following is FALSE?
- (A) Hillary Clinton was a senator while her husband was president.
(B) Barak Obama was not very well known five years ago.
(C) A woman has never been President of the United States.
(D) Voters have chosen a Democratic Presidential candidate.
3. Which of these words is closest in meaning to **dilemma**?
- (A) problem (B) candidate (C) solution (D) inspiration



Before You Read

►每隔四年，在十一月的第一個星期二，美國的新任總統會被選出。通常會有來自美國兩個主要政黨（political parties）——民主黨（Democratic Party）及共和黨（Republican Party）——的候選人（candidates）。選舉當年的一月開始，在真正的大選前十一個月，身為兩大黨的黨員——民主黨員（Democrats）及共和黨員（Republicans）會開始一個漫長的過程來決定該黨的總統候選人由誰擔任。在這過程中勝出的人將獲得該黨全部的支持，在總統選舉（presidential election）中來角逐總統的職位。

Vocabulary and Idioms

- unexpected [ˌʌnɪk'spektɪd] *adj.* 意外的；未料到的
- decade ['dekeɪd] *n.* 十年
- primarily ['praɪ,mɪəri] *adv.* 主要地
- remaining [rɪ'meɪnɪŋ] *adj.* 剩下的；剩餘的
- significance [sɪɡ'nɪfəkəns] *n.* 意義；重要性
- unprecedented [ˌʌn'preʃədɪntɪd] *adj.* 前所未有的
- burst on sb./sth. 突然地出現在某人或某事面前
- the scene [ði'siːn] *n.* 某一生活方式或活動範圍的現狀
- impressive [ɪm'preʃɪv] *adj.* 令人印象深刻的
- senator ['senətə] *n.* 參議員
- bring about *v. phr.* 導致；造成
- veteran ['vetərən] *n.* 老手；經驗豐富的人
- represent [ˌreprɪ'zent] *v.* 代表
- whereas [hwɛr'æz] *conj.* 然而
- inspiration [ˌɪnspə'reɪʃən] *n.* 激勵；啟發
- steady ['stɛdi] *adj.* 穩定的；穩固的
- knowledgeable ['nɒlɪdʒəbəl] *adj.* 在行的；消息靈通的
- solution [sə'ljuʃən] *n.* 解決方法
- dilemma [dɪ'lemə] *n.* 進退兩難的窘境
- remarkable [rɪ'mɑ:kəbəl] *adj.* 獨特的；卓越的

Patterns

This would be unprecedented since neither a woman nor an African American has ever held that nation's highest office.

neither A nor B 表「既不是 A 也不是 B」，為片語型的對等連接詞。A 與 B 必須是詞性相同的單字、片語、子句或句子。若用以連接兩個主詞時，動詞應與 B 一致。

⇒ Neither you nor John is wrong. (你和約翰都沒錯。)

Translation

總統候選人寫下歷史新篇章

又到了美國的選舉季節，而今年的選舉已經變成了數十年來最出人意料之外且最令人驚奇的選戰之一。媒體一直將主要的焦點鎖定在民主黨僅剩的兩位候選人身上——巴拉克·歐巴馬及希拉蕊·柯林頓。這兩人的重大意義在於柯林頓是一位女性而歐巴馬是非裔美國人。而在不到一年之內，他們兩人之中有一位可能會成為美國總統，這將是史無前例的，因為從沒有一位女性或非裔美國人曾擔任過該國最高行政首長。

二〇〇四年時巴拉克·歐巴馬在全國人民矚目之下的一場令人印象深刻的演講中，迅速地在美國政壇中崛起。自那時起，他繼續成為一位美國參議員，並成為一位廣受歡迎的民主黨總統候選人。他被視為一位能激勵人心，並使選民們覺得由他執政可帶來真正改變的候選人。

而另一方面，希拉蕊·柯林頓是美國政壇上的經驗老手。她的丈夫比爾·柯林頓，是一九九三年至二〇〇一年的總統。就在他卸下職位之前，希拉蕊代表紐約州在美國參議會占了一個席次。歐巴馬被視為是個激勵人心之選，而希拉蕊被視為是一個穩定且經驗老道的候選人，了解國家的問題所在，並且有符合實際的解決之道。

民主黨如今陷入兩難——它有兩位受歡迎的候選人，在十一月總統大選中都有贏得選戰的勝算，而選民們很難決定他們較偏愛誰。很有可能還需等上幾個月才能知道民主黨的候選人是誰。而民主黨員非常高興能有兩位傑出的人才可以選擇，而當中一位一定能在年底寫下歷史。

Answer

- (1) B (2) D (3) A