

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 9

#141 Five Powerful Women: Park Geun-hye

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: Besides the phenomenal K-pop, what else are you interested in about Korean culture?

Qt 2: Are you interested in Korean politics?

Qt 3: Why do people talk about the two Koreas? Can you tell which is which?

Qt 4: Do you remember Park Geun-hye?

Vocabulary

- disgrace (noun): embarrassment and the loss of other people's respect.
- impeachment (noun): the action of formally accusing a public official of a serious offence in connection with his/her job.
- assassination (noun): the murder of a famous or important person.
- first lady (noun): a woman who is married to the political leader of a country.
- revere (verb): to greatly respect and admire someone or something.
- nostalgia (noun): a feeling of joy and also slight sadness when you think about something that happened in the past.
- mentor (noun): a person who gives a less experienced person help and advice over a period of time.
- coercion (noun): asking someone to do something by force and threat.

PART 2: Article for Reading

Park Geun-hye has a head-of-the-state father who was assassinated. This apparently left a profound influence on her life, and, later, proved to be a motivating force behind her involvement in Korean politics.

With Park Geun-hye, however, the story gets a bit complicated, because it is a life story that tells of her mother (killed by an assassin going after her father instead) and a cult:

Park Geun Hye: Once South Korea's princess and de facto first lady, now dethroned in

disgrace

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/park-geun-hye-once-south-koreas-princess-and-de-facto-first-lady-now-dethroned-in>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following short video clips to learn more about the sorrowful life of Park while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

Who is President Park Geun-hye?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ji35gsWUbRM>

Park Geun-Hye's life shaped by politics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MAAgCcsM2s>

Park Geun-hye, What kind of life has she lived?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WIPtD3KmM-o>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Did you notice the nice description in the concluding sentence to the main text?

Her downfall is a reminder for all South Koreans that now is time to finally say goodbye to our past.

“To say goodbye to something” here means to accept that you will not have something any more. When you do this, you do not necessarily wave your hand and actually say goodbye. To many South Koreans, from Park Chung-hee (father) to Park Geun-hye, they have had enough. Another example of its use is as follows:

Once you have children, you can say goodbye to going out every weekend.

Can you write a sentence of your own using the expression “to say goodbye to something”? Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our **SEE U** teachers are always ready to give you feedback.