

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

Week 5

#124 Influential Presidents in the World—Ninoy Aquino

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

Qt 1: How much do you know about the fascinating history, culture and people of the Philippines?

Qt 2: Can you name the President of the Philippines?

Qt 3: What do you know about the Philippines' modern-day politics and the U.S. involvement in it?

The answers to Qts 2 and 3 will be provided in the next set of exercises.

Vocabulary

- apostle (noun): someone who strongly supports a particular belief or political movement.
- legacy (noun): something that is a part of your history or that remains from an earlier time.
- contemporary (adjective): existing or happening now.
- authoritarian (adjective): demanding that people obey and refusing to allow them freedom to act as they wish.
- impunity (noun): freedom from punishment.
- rivalry (noun): a situation in which people, businesses, etc. compete with each other.
- (crony) capitalism (noun): capitalism is an economic system that stresses private ownership; *crony* capitalism an economic system in which family members and friends of government officials and business leaders are given unfair advantages.

PART 2: Article for Reading

In the history of the Philippines, there is a family that has seen its father, mother and son elected into high-level public office: namely, one senator and two presidents. Like many stories of the same kind, this one begins with the father:

Foreign correspondent: The legacy of Philippine opposition leader Ninoy Aquino

<https://progressive.org/dispatches/oreign-correspondent-the-legacy-of-Ninoy-Aquino-Jr.-181005/>

PART 3: Listening Comprehension

Listen to the following video clips to learn more about the political family of the Aquinos while practicing your listening skills at the same time:

Speech to a joint session of the U.S. Congress

<https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/corazonaquinoscongressjointsession.htm>

The political saga continues...

Another Aquino in office?

<https://www.rappler.com/nation/politics/elections-2013/7965-another-aquino-in-office>

PART 4: Writing Practice

Did you notice the opening remarks to the main text?

His murder set in motion the People's Power Revolution of 1986. He continues to impact contemporary Philippine politics, as seen in the election of right-wing authoritarian President Rodrigo Duterte.

The expression "to set something in motion" means to start a machine up and running. Metaphorically speaking, it means to start virtually any process. After that they will run on their own. Another example of its use is this:

Once the photocopier has been set in motion it is not easy to stop (literally).

Or--

Fill in this form and you can set the whole application process in motion (metaphorically).

Can you write a sentence of your own using the expression "to set something in motion"? Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk. Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.