

Name: _____

Date: _____

Marks: /20

Special Comprehension Feature:

Joe Biden's Inauguration Speech, 20 January 2021

Marking Scheme:

Questions are based on the **F.I.A.E. Competency Level** created by the Education Professionals at Learnintt:

Fundamental Awareness – having **basic knowledge** of the text

Intermediate – able to **answer independently**, with a good Vocabulary foundation

Advanced – requires **Critical Thinking and Analysis Skills**, while using and applying information from the text

Expert – **Critical Thinking, Analysis and the ability to form one's opinion** is highly required, hence student is trained to have **Excellent Judgement skills** needed for Secondary and Tertiary Education

☺ **This helps you to assess your Competency Level in Comprehension. You can identify the weak areas and work on them, while maintaining your strengths at the same time.**

Note: These are extracts from Joe Biden’s Inauguration Speech on 20 January 2021. Some parts have been edited to make it easier for 10-13 year old students to understand and answer the Comprehension questions that follow:

“Chief Justice Roberts, Vice President Harris, Speaker Pelosi, Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Vice President Pence, distinguished guests, and my fellow Americans.

This is America’s day. The will of the people has been heard and the will of the people has been heeded. We have learned again that democracy is precious. Democracy is fragile. And at this hour, my friends, democracy has prevailed. 5

So now, on this hallowed ground where just days ago violence sought to shake this Capitol’s very foundation, we come together as one nation to carry out the peaceful transfer of power. Few periods in our nation’s history have been more challenging or difficult than the one we’re in now.

A once-in-a-century virus silently stalks the country. It’s taken as many lives in one year as America lost in all of World War II. Millions of jobs have been lost. Hundreds of thousands of businesses closed. To overcome these challenges – to restore the soul and to secure the future of America – requires more than words. 10

Unity.

Unity. 15

Bringing America together. Uniting to fight the common foes we face. With unity we can do great things. Important things. We can right wrongs. We can teach our children in safe schools. We can overcome this deadly virus.

And, we can do so now.”

Joe Biden, 46th President of USA

Inauguration speech (extract)

Washington DC

Answer the following questions in full, complete sentences. (2m each)

Fundamental Awareness Level Questions:

1. Who is the speaker? (2m)

2. When did the speech take place? (2m)

Intermediate Level Questions:

3. Who were some of the guests present? (2m)

4. What is the meaning of “prevailed” in line 5 of the speech? (2m)

5. What does “foundation” in line 7 refers to? (2m)

Advanced Level Questions:

6. Based on the speech, what are two characteristics of democracy? (2m)

7. Based on Joe Biden's speech,

	True/False	Reason
Democracy has won.		

(2m)

8. Fill in the blanks below:

Before	After
Violence in the Capitol (Washington)	

(2m)

Expert Level Questions:

9.

Cause	Effect
A once-in-a-century virus	

(2m)

10. What is the solution mentioned towards the end of the speech? Do you think it will work? Answer based on your own thinking and experience. (2m)

Answer Key

1. Joe Biden is the speaker.

2. It took place on 20 January 2021.

3. They were Chief Justice Roberts/ Vice President Harris/ Speaker Pelosi/ Leader Schumer/ Leader McConnell and Vice President Pence. (*choose any two*)

4. It means to have won.

5. It refers to the foundation of the Capitol/ government/ American government.

6. Democracy is precious and/ but fragile.

7. Based on Joe Biden’s speech,

	True/False	Reason
Democracy has won.	True	The will of the people has been heard and heeded./ America has come together as a nation to carry out the peaceful transfer of power. (<i>choose one</i>)

(2m)

8.

Before	After
Violence in the Capitol (Washington)	Joe Biden’s inauguration speech at the Capitol

(2m)

9.

Cause	Effect
A once-in-a-century virus	The virus took as many lives in one year as America had lost in World War II./ Millions of jobs have been lost./ Hundreds of thousands of businesses closed. <i>(choose one)</i>

(2m)

10. The solution is unity/ united as a nation. I think it will work as Singapore has stayed united as one to fight the virus and we have been successful. *(any suitable answer)*/ I think it will not work as it is hard to work as one together sometimes, like one of my school projects which ended poorly. *(any suitable answer)*

For video and transcript of Joe Biden's full speech, scan the QR code below to view them:



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