

**ESCOLA SECUNDÁRIA EÇA DE QUEIRÓS** Departamento de Língua Estrangeira English

READING AND COMPREHENSION

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Class: S - 13

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## 1. Read the following text and pose questions to the data provided in it.

"Barack Hussein Obama II (born on August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1961) is the 44<sup>th</sup> and current President of the United States. He is the first African American to be elected, as well as the first president born in Hawaii. Obama previously served as the junior United States Senator from Illinois from January 2005 until he resigned after his election to the presidency in November 2008.

Obama is a graduate from Columbia University and Harvard Law School, where he was the president of the Harvard Law Review. He worked as a civil rights attorney in Chicago and taught constitutional law at the University of Chicago Law School from 1992 to 2004.



Although his presidency is barely a week old, some of Mr. Obama's work habits are already becoming clear. He shows up at the Oval Office shortly before 9 in the morning, roughly two hours later than his predecessor, George Bush. Mr. Obama likes to have his workout training first thing in the morning, at 6:45. (Mr. Bush slipped away to exercise midday.)

He reads several papers, eats breakfast with his family and helps pack his daughters, Malia, 10, and Sasha, 7, off to school before making the 30-second commute downstairs — a definite perk for a man trying to balance work and family life. In the evening, he eats dinner with his family, then often returns to work; people have seen him in the Oval Office as late as 10 p.m., reading briefing papers for the next day.

*Mr.* Obama enjoys cooking, writing, playing basketball, spending time with his family, dancing, and talking on the phone with his wife, Michelle Obama, but he has little time to cherish these things now.

"Even as he is sober about these challenges, I have never seen him happier," Mr. Axelrod said. "The chance to be under the same roof with his kids, essentially to live over the store, to be able to see them whenever he wants, to wake up with them, have breakfast and dinner with them — that has made him a very happy man."

New York Times, January 28, 2009 (adapted)

## **1.1.** Pose questions to the information in the text.

- a) When was he born?
- b) What did he do before he was elected the President of the U.S.A.?



- c) From which university did he graduate?
- d) What does he normally do in the morning?
- e) What does he like doing?
- **f**) What makes him happy?
- 2. Now work in pairs and make these questions to your partner. Do not forget to write down the answers.
- **a**) She was born on July  $31^{\text{st}}$ , 1970.
- **b**) Before she worked as a sells-assistant at a store.
- c) She didn't graduate.
- d) She normally has breakfast at home with her family and then makes some house chores.
- e) She likes going to the beach, travelling and watching TV.
- f) Travelling around the world makes her really happy.

## 3. Write something about you. Mention the following aspects.

	name surname best quality		hobbies worst flaw	job	nationality dreams	
				family		
	favourite film		favorite song	personal	and professional expectations	

My name is Marco and my Surname is Silva. I'm Portuguese.

I work in a company - Computing Technology and Services, in Sacavém.

My hobbies are watching TV, reading and playing playstation.

I think my best quality is honesty and my worst flaw is laziness.

I love my family and my dream is to travel to Jamaica.

My favorite film is *Braveheart*, and my favorite song is *Fear of the Dark* by Iron Maiden.

My personal and professional expectations are optimistic, so I've been studying to fulfill them.