

The 7 Steps -
December



Female Political Leaders

1. CONTEXT

Mindmap anything you know about the topic, including vocabulary. Do some research online to help.

2. QUESTIONS

Read the listening questions to check your understanding. Look up any new vocabulary.

Listening Questions 1

- When did Kamala Harris make history and in what way?
_____.
- In what city was she born and where are her parents from?
_____.
- How many female vice-presidential nominees had there been before Harris and in what years were they nominated?
_____.
- What was Harris' political history from 2010-2019?
_____.
- What happened to Harris in December 2019?
_____.

Listening Questions 2

- When was Jacinda Ardern born and in what year did she become New Zealand's prime minister?
_____.
- How many female prime ministers has New Zealand had as of 2021?
_____.
- What event did Ardern celebrate in 2018 and what did she do after it?
_____.
- What 2 other major events has Ardern had to deal with?
_____.
- When did Ardern start her political career and what party was it with?
_____.

3. LISTEN

Listen and answer the questions using full sentences. Circle the number of times and % you understood.

Listening 1				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Listening 2				
1	2	3	4	5
%	%	%	%	%

Discussion Questions

- Who are some prominent women in Japanese society? Who is a woman you admire?
- Why is diversity important in politics and business?

4. CHECK ANSWERS

Read through the transcript and underline the answers. Check them against your own answers.

5. CHECK VOCABULARY

Read the transcript and circle any new vocabulary you find. Look them up and add them to your list.

6. READ ALOUD

Read the transcript aloud at least 5 times, focusing on intonation and pronunciation.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

7. SHADOWING

Say the transcript aloud at the same time as the audio without reading it. Circle how many times below.

1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5

TRANSCRIPT 1

When she was **sworn in** on January 20, 2021, Kamala Harris made history by becoming the first female Vice President of the United States. Harris was born on October 20, 1964 in Oakland, California to immigrant parents. Her mother was originally from India and her father is from Jamaica. Harris has been married to Douglas Emhoff, the second gentleman, since 2014 and the couple are a blended family.

Prior to Harris, there had been only two other female vice-presidential **nominees** for a major party, Geraldine Ferraro and Sarah Palin. Ferraro was Walter Mondale's running mate in 1984 while Palin was John McCain's choice for vice president in 2008.

Harris graduated from the University of California Hastings College of the Law in 1989. In 2010 she was **elected** California's attorney general, and six years later she won a seat in the United States Senate.

Kamala Harris was one of the candidates for president in the Democratic **field** in the 2020 election cycle, but she ended her campaign in December 2019. In August 2020, Joe Biden picked Harris as his running mate.

MATCH THE SYNONYMS BY DRAWING LINES BELOW:

Swear in	Leading
Nominee	Group
Elect	Contender
Prominent	Attention
Publicity	Instate
Field	Appoint

TRANSCRIPT 2

Another **prominent** female politician is Jacinda Ardern, the prime minister of New Zealand. Ardern, who was born in 1980, has been New Zealand's prime minister since 2017 and was elected to a second term in 2020. In New Zealand, general elections occur every 3 years. Ardern is New Zealand's third female prime minister.

Ardern has gotten a significant amount of international **publicity** in recent years. In 2018 she gave birth while in office and returned to her duties after a 6-week maternity leave. The first elected leader to give birth while in office was Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto in 1990, but unlike Ardern she did not take any time off. Ardern also made headlines for her handling of the mass shootings in Christchurch in 2019 that took the lives of 51 people, as well as New Zealand's response to COVID-19.

Ardern was born in Hamilton, a city approximately 100 kilometers south of Auckland. According to her profile on her party's website, she graduated from the University of Waikato with a degree in International Relations and Professional Communication, and joined the New Zealand Labour Party when she was 18.